

# [the loop]

YOUR MONTHLY GUIDE TO CONNECTION AT PDCPC

SEPTEMBER 2019

## **WORSHIP**

Our Summer Worship Service continues Sunday mornings at 9:00 am through September 29. As we move into fall, we begin a new sermon series. We also begin choir rehearsals and other preparations to move toward two worship services beginning October 6 at 8:30 and 10:00am.

// For more information on events related to music & worship, visit page 3.

## **GROW**

This fall, we hope that a majority of our Sunday congregation will prioritize spiritual growth by getting more deeply involved in a mid-week growth opportunity. We have many to choose from—something for everyone!

// For more information on opportunities to grow in your relationship with God and with others visit page 4.

## **SERVE**

Thank you to everyone who donated backpacks and school supplies to support the back-to-school ministry of the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission. September offers us several more opportunities to connect with the world through serving. We hope you will find one that works for you!

// For more information on how you can serve others here and around the world this summer, visit page 14.

# a note from your pastor

---



We are wrapping up the “Desert Places” theme we have been looking at throughout the months of July and August where we have explored together how times in the “desert” can often be difficult, lonely, disorienting, and dangerous. But, interestingly, the “Desert Places” are typically the times when God speaks to us and finally gets our attention.

Thankfully, we don’t always go through “Desert” experiences. There are other seasons of life as well! There are times in the desert, but there are also times of growth and flourishing along the journey.

Peter continually points out that Christians **MUST** grow; they **MUST** flourish. In 2 Peter 3:18, Peter commands us to “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”

During the month of September, we will be looking at stories from the life of Jesus, where people have done just that—grown in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, and we will use them as a model for our growth as well.

We hope you will join us on this journey!

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Dave

**September 8** | Communion Sunday

## SCRIPTURE FOCUS

September 1	John 6
September 8	Matthew 9
September 15	Matthew 8: 34-38; 10:29-31
September 22	Luke 9: 58
September 29	Luke 9: 59 & 61



## IT'S CHOIR TIME!

September 5, 6:30 pm  
Taylor Fine Arts Center

If you love to sing and feel that music connects you with God and with others, we invite you to consider joining the PDCPC Sanctuary Choir. The choir will be involved in the 8:30 am Traditional service beginning October 6 and is open to anyone high school and older who enjoys singing and would like to help lead the congregation in worship each week.

Questions? Contact Scott Anderson at 760-346-8195 x513 or email [scotta@pdpresby.org](mailto:scotta@pdpresby.org).

# worship

---

## ALTAR FLOWERS

Would you like to honor a loved one or commemorate a special occasion with Altar Flowers on an upcoming Sunday? Contact Sara at 760-346-8195 x511 or email [sarab@pdpresby.org](mailto:sarab@pdpresby.org) to secure your date on the calendar.

## BAPTISMS

We have been fortunate to celebrate several baptisms as a church family in the last few months. If you are inspired, and want to be baptized, or a member of your family is ready for baptism, please email [SaraB@pdpresby.org](mailto:SaraB@pdpresby.org). We would be honored to share in this special occasion with you.



Sanderson immersion baptism



Three generations

# grow

---

MEET

THE

PASTOR

September 15, 10:30 am (following worship)  
You are invited to join Pastor Dave and Jessica Ludwig for brunch in their home.

Please stop by the Welcome Table after the service to reserve a spot or RSVP to Kathy Aposhian, Director of Connections, at [kathya@pdpresby.org](mailto:kathya@pdpresby.org) or 760-346-8195 x 530.

Children are welcome!

## **COVENANT PARTNER (NEW MEMBER) SERIES**

Sunday, October 13 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Sunday, October 20 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Take your relationship with PDCPC to the next level: Membership! Become a COVENANT PARTNER! Classes are designed to familiarize participants with the mission, vision, and values of our church, as well as to equip members to discover how they can connect to that mission.

Our next two-part New Membership series starts with our Covenant Partnership class October 13 followed by our GROW & SERVE class, October 20. Brunch will be included, and childcare is available by request. Please RSVP to the church office or Kathy Aposhian, Director of Connections, at [kathya@pdpresby.org](mailto:kathya@pdpresby.org) or 760-346-8195 x530 or stop by the Welcome Table at the main entrance.

## **PastorChat**

Taylor Fine Arts Auditorium

September 8, 10:15 am

It's your chance to ask your most pressing questions, share your feedback, or just enjoy a cup of coffee and donuts with your pastors.

## **SAVE THE DATE: CONNECTION OPPORTUNITY FAIR**

Sunday, October 6

following the 8:30 am and 10:00 am services

Are you looking for ways to use your God given gifts and talents? Or maybe you'd like to get involved in a small group or in a growth opportunity? Come to Miller Hall and learn about all the opportunities that are available for you to SERVE and GROW here at PDCPC. All our Ministry Teams will be available to discuss their ministries, answer your questions and sign you up. We will also have Spiritual Gifts Assessments available for you to learn what ministry area is best suited for your gifting. For more info, please contact Kathy Aposhian at [kathya@pdpresby.org](mailto:kathya@pdpresby.org) or stop by the Welcome Table. Refreshments will be served.



## CAMPUS TIP

Did you know that we have two libraries on our campus that exist to provide relevant resources for adults and children to grow in their relationships with God and with others? Next to Miller Hall is Eisenhower Library and just inside the Family Life Center you will find Our librarian, Denyse, would be happy to help you find something that you will enjoy!

## LADIES LUNCH BUNCH

Thursday, September 26, 11:30 am  
Stuft Pizza, Westfield Mall, Palm Desert

Ladies are invited to this monthly gathering for food and fellowship! RSVP to Diane Arneal 760-200-9812 by September 22. We order from the menu with separate checks.



Growth Group meet up

## GROWTH GROUPS

Growth Groups provide a unique opportunity to connect with God and with others in a casual, smaller group setting. We have groups that meet at various times and in various locations around the valley. For more information on joining a group email Andrew & Denyse at [aandd@mac.com](mailto:aandd@mac.com).

# grow

---

## church *on* wednesday

Here at PDCPC we are on a mission to connect with God, one another, and the world through Christ. While Sunday mornings are a great time to connect with God through our worship services, we wanted to provide a space mid-week for all generations to connect with God and with others.

Take the next step in deepening your faith by intentionally carving out time to connect with God and with others during the week. The evening begins with a shared meal together and ends with classes and programs for all ages.

Dinner: 5:30 pm - 5:55 pm | Classes: 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

KICKOFF DINNER in Miller Hall September 4, 5:30 pm

Join us for a delicious Tri-tip dinner & an overview of the growth opportunities being offered this fall. Everyone welcome!

**CLASSES OFFERED** Programming for ages birth-adult.

//SPROUT'S CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Children (Birth-5th Grade) Sprouts Children's Ministry welcomes RyRy the Bible Guy to Wednesday nights for a fun and engaging mid-week program where children can explore their faith through Bible stories, music, games, and conversation. Dinner is included, free of charge!

//ROOTS STUDENT MINISTRY (6th-12th grade)

Middle School and High School students have the opportunity for deeper connection on Wednesday nights through small groups and serving. Contact [ryans@pdpresby.org](mailto:ryans@pdpresby.org) to find an option that suits your student!

//"PARENT SCHOOL"

Four weeks, beginning September 11 in Miller Hall

Featuring guest, Justin Herman (speaker, author, and podcaster)

Have you ever wondered how you could be a better parent?

grandparent? mentor? aunt? uncle? As adults, we have a huge opportunity to come alongside kids at various phases of their lives and help them grow into flourishing adults. Sometimes though, that can be a tricky road to navigate. Parent School is designed to help us think practically about influencing kids at every stage of life to help them live fully into who God made them to be.

# grow

---



## //WHAT WE BELIEVE & WHY IT MATTERS

Five weeks, beginning September 11 in Eisenhower Library Led by Pastor Floyd Rhoades

This five-week journey through the Essential Tenets of our denomination will teach us about the Christ-centered theology that propels our ministry and mission as a church and will also provide anchor points for our own individual faith as we pursue our life's mission and ministry.

## **BIBLE STUDY**

### **SUNDAY ADULT CLASS**

Every Sunday following the Worship Service, 10:30 - 11:30 am  
Eisenhower Library

Fortify yourself with coffee, a donut, and the Word of God each week as we study the book of Kings. For more details, or if you would like to share in the teaching, please contact Andrew Sanderson 760-702-7646 or [aandd@mac.com](mailto:aandd@mac.com).

### //MEN'S "EARLY-BIRD" BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays, 6:00 am, PDCPC Eisenhower Library  
Beginning October 2. Led by Lloyd Macfadyen 760-346-9769.

### //MEN'S LA QUINTA BIBLE STUDY

Resumes October 1. Please contact Stu Parry at 330-472-1704 for more info.

### //MEN'S BERMUDA DUNES BIBLE STUDY

A year-round Bible study for all men meets Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:00pm, Bermuda Dunes Country Club. Contact Roger Low at 760-345-8986.

### //WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY (CBS)

Wednesdays, 10:00 am-12:00 pm  
Contact Corky Olander, [mc.olander2@verizon.net](mailto:mc.olander2@verizon.net) or 760-200-3120 for questions. Children welcome!

### //WOMEN'S MINISTRY BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays 10:00 -11:30 am, PDCPC Youth Room (FLC downstairs)  
Beginning on October 1 Taught by retired Presbyterian Pastor Joann Brechbill. All ladies are welcome to join us for a study of the book of Matthew; just bring your Bible and come when you can!  
Questions? Call Kathy Kolb 760 564-5904

## **FAMILY MINISTRY**

For questions about any of our current or upcoming activities, feel free to contact our Director of Family Ministries, Ryan Schmall, at [ryans@pdpresby.org](mailto:ryans@pdpresby.org) or call 760-346-8195 x521.



## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

### **NURSERY**

Drop-off nursery care is available during our worship service for children under two years of age. The Nursery is located next to Miller Hall and parents can sign their children in/out before and after the service in that location. We also live stream the service in the Nursery for parents who would like to remain with their infants.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL (Ages 2 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)** Join us every Sunday morning for a special time with Ry-Ry the Bible Guy as he conducts an experiment that helps kids think about what it looks like to follow Jesus with their lives!

Children begin in the Sanctuary with their families and then are dismissed to continue their worship in Sunday School. Following the worship service, parents pick up their children in Room 205/206 in the Family Life Center.

### **LEADERS NEEDED!**

We are looking for more help in our Children's Ministry! If you are interested in helping on Wednesday nights during the season, October – May, please contact Ryan at [ryans@pdpresby.org](mailto:ryans@pdpresby.org) for more info!

### **CHILDREN & STUDENT MINISTRY TRAINING**

September 14 9:00 am - 2:00 pm | Student Ministry Room  
If you currently volunteer in our Children's or Student Ministries, we are providing a training day to talk more about our role as leaders in the lives of children and students. It's going to be an amazing day of connecting and growing together. If you are interested in volunteering, this is a great opportunity for you, as well, to come

## **SCIENCE DAY CAMP WAS AWESOME!**

Thanks to everyone who gave their time and energy to make our first ever Science Day Camp a HUGE success! Throughout the course of our week together, we were able to connect with 25 kids and their families! We spent the week talking all about how big God's love is for us and that we have the opportunity to share that love with the world around us! Check out some of the fun we had in the pictures below!



RyRy the Bible Guy



Storytime



Young Scientist

## **SAVE THE DATES:**

### **FALL FAMILY FEST IS COMING**

Friday October 18, 5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

It's hard to believe Summer has come and gone, and that can only mean one thing - the Fall Family Fest is back! We are already working hard on plans for this year's festivities. If you are interested in helping in any capacity, please contact Ryan at [ryans@pdpresby.org](mailto:ryans@pdpresby.org) for more info on how you can plug in. This event is a huge opportunity for our church community to build relationships with new families, and we hope you can participate!

### **WINTER CAMP (Grades 6 – 12)**

January 31-February 2

Mark your calendars. Winter Camp is coming!

We'll be heading up to Forest Home for another amazing weekend together. More details in October.

Get it on your calendar; you don't miss this incredible trip!



— P D C P C —  
STUDENT MINISTRY

**ROOTS IS BACK!**  
September 8

We are excited to announce that, beginning this fall, Middle School Ministry and High School Ministry will meet at separate times on Sunday evenings.

High School will now meet from 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm, and Middle School will now meet from 6:00 pm - 7:15 pm. If any students need help with transportation on Sunday nights, please don't hesitate to let us know. We hope your student can be a part of the great things we'll be doing together during this new season!

grow

---



# MIDDLE SCHOOL FALL CALENDAR

**SEPTEMBER 6**  
**BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH!**  
**6:00-8:00**

**SEPTEMBER 27**  
**ROOTS LAUNCH NIGHT**

**SEPTEMBER 29**  
**NO ROOTS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**OCTOBER 18**  
**FALL FAMILY FEST**  
**5:00-7:00**

**OCTOBER 25**  
**HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR**  
**6:00-9:00**

**OCTOBER 27**  
**NO ROOTS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**NOVEMBER 24**  
**NO ROOTS MIDDLE SCHOOL**

**ROOTS MIDDLE SCHOOL MEETS**  
**6:00-7:15 SUNDAY NIGHTS**  
**STARTING SEPTEMBER 8**

grow

---



# HIGH SCHOOL FALL CALENDAR

**SEPTEMBER 8**  
**ROOTS LAUNCH NIGHT**  
4:00-5:30

**SEPTEMBER 29**  
**THE OFFICE PARTY**  
4783I PANSY ST  
4:00-8:00

**OCTOBER 18**  
**FALL FAMILY FEST**  
5:00-7:00

**OCTOBER 27**  
**HALLOWEEN PARTY**  
4783I PANSY ST  
5:00-7:00

**NOVEMBER 24**  
**FRIENDSGIVING**  
5:00-7:00

**ROOTS HIGH SCHOOL MEETS**  
**4:00-5:30 SUNDAY NIGHTS**  
**STARTING SEPTEMBER 8**

# serve

---

## CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES

Directed by Sarah Siels 760-409-2385, [sjfmla111@gmail.com](mailto:sjfmla111@gmail.com)

Several groups from the Congregational Ministry are scheduled to return in full force in September. Keep the following in prayer as they each pick up on the missions they have in mind. All groups are open to new members and if you are feeling a call to serve in any of these meaningful missions, please consider attending their upcoming first meeting of the season:

// **Carpentry Guild** meets to accomplish projects on an “as needed” basis. For more information about how to get involved, contact [sjfmla111@gmail.com](mailto:sjfmla111@gmail.com).

// **Mending Hearts** | Thursday, September 12, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm  
Eisenhower Library

// **Pins & Needles** | Thursday, September 5 from 9:00 - 11:30 am  
Room 104 – Family Life Center

// **The Sanctuary Guild** will have its first meeting on Tuesday, September 10, at 2:00 pm in Eisenhower Library. This group is open to anyone who is interested in preparing communion monthly, caring for our sanctuary, and decorating for our high holy days.

// **Christian Education Scholarship Ministry**, thanks to your generosity, is supporting four students for the 2019/2020 academic year.

- >> Kathy Aposhian Beginning third year  
Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA
- >> Lauren Humphreys Sophomore  
United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO
- >> Aidan Murphy Freshman  
Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, AZ
- >>.Tyler Neighbors Freshman- COD, Palm Desert, CA

Scholarship monies are paid half in the fall and half in the spring and are distributed upon receipt of proof of registration.

We are a faith based, non-budgeted committee. We rely on your generous gifts to support our church family who are going on to higher education. Please keep these students in your prayers.

# serve

---

## **DEACONS MINISTRY**

Did you know you have a deacon in our church who is praying for you and is here to support you and to encourage you if you need it? If you'd like more information about how to get connected with your deacon, contact Director, Kathy Kolb at 310-502-4277.

## **DEACONS' CLOSET**

Every Tuesday, 8:30 – 11:30 am

//Care Day is open to any member of the community to assist with bill payment, food and household supplies, and prayer.

The Deacons would like to thank all of those who help to stock the Deacon's Closet and donate funds specifically to support this amazing community outreach program. Without the donations, time and talent of PDCPC members this ministry would not be possible.

Please help us by continuing to stock our Deacons' Closet!

This month we need: canned peas, canned mixed vegetables, canned pinto beans, bags of pinto beans, snacks, canned chicken, instant coffee, pancake mix, canned milk, instant mashed potatoes, sugar, jelly, peanut butter, canned fruit (no applesauce needed), tomato sauce, spaghetti, Band-Aids, razors, canned beets, canned ravioli, toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and deodorant. Please no expired foods.

Items may be dropped off at any time in the church office.

The next curbside collection is Sunday, September 8.

## **LOCAL MISSIONS**

Directed by Jerry Allen

// **Coachella Valley Rescue Mission**, Lary Rogers, Coordinator  
This summer our Congregation supported several Coachella Valley Rescue Mission initiatives including "90 Days of Summer" which provided much needed relief from the sweltering summer heat, the 10th annual "Backpack Bonanza" which distributed 1,500 filled backpacks and 500 free haircuts to Coachella Valley schoolchildren.

# serve

---

PDCPC volunteers have, throughout the last 20 years, been serving meals, mentoring and donating goods and generous financial support to the Mission. And with a 40% increase in services being provided, they need our support now more than ever.

Are you ready to be a part of this stellar mission or take a tour and find out more? Look for the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission information and sign-up booth after Sunday services beginning October 6 or call Lary Rogers at 760-315-1059.

## // **Olive Crest**, Jerry Allen

Transforming the lives of at-risk children through the healing power of family. What they are committed to doing is ending the cycle of abuse and the devastating impact on children and parents in crisis. For more information on how you can get involved, please contact Jerry at [jallen091941@gmail.com](mailto:jallen091941@gmail.com)

## // **Kairos Prison Ministry**, headed by Tim Scott

Kairos' Prison Ministry weekend will take place in November at Ironwood State Prison. This year, we are working on opening a second yard at Ironwood State Prison so that more inmates can experience this important ministry but, to do that, we need volunteers!

There are many ways to support, which include volunteering for the weekend, showing up on Sunday afternoon to support and celebrate what God has done at the closing ceremony, volunteering to serve on the prayer team, making a financial donation, and even by decorating a shield (for the kids!).

For more information on how you can get involved, please contact Tim at [timscott@title24foryou.com](mailto:timscott@title24foryou.com).

## // **Read With Me**

One of the biggest factors in the success of a child is their ability to read. You are invited to make a huge impact in the lives of children in our own valley who are learning to read by traveling to their school each week to read them stories. Registration is open for the program with tutoring to begin in November. If you have questions, or to register, contact Kim at 760-220-2959 or [jksheehy@earthlink.net](mailto:jksheehy@earthlink.net).

# serve

---

## //GriefShare

“Surviving The Loss Of A Spouse,” a two hour stand-alone class for those who are grieving the loss of their spouse will be held in October (date to be determined). Please email Kim at for more information.

The next 13 week session of GriefShare will begin the following week (date to be announced) and will include “Surviving The Holidays” presented in mid-November. We welcome and encourage everyone who has lost a loved one to participate in this Bible-based, compassionate program. GriefShare offers a safe environment to share feelings, talk about your loss and begin the process of moving forward. For more information contact Kim at [kimkershaw@me.com](mailto:kimkershaw@me.com).

## **NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS**

Directed by Molly and Jeff Heusinkveld 760-567-0536, or [houseinthefield5@outlook.com](mailto:houseinthefield5@outlook.com)

// There are 11 different National and International Missions who need our year-round financial and hands-on assistance. For information on how to get involved, email [houseinthefield5@outlook.com](mailto:houseinthefield5@outlook.com).

**PASTORAL CARE** Provided by Pastor David and Pastor Floyd, along with Kathy Aposhian.

Additionally, seven members of our congregation serve in the Chaplaincy Program at Eisenhower Medical Center, coordinated by Barbara While.

// Please let us know if you are admitted to the hospital. Other hospitals contact us if you let them know you are a Covenant Partner (member) at PDCPC, or have someone call the church office and we will be there for you.

## SENIOR MINISTRY

Directed by Harry Wilson

// Senior Ministry is focused on helping seniors who need transportation to and from church and have other specific needs . Contact Harry Wilson at 951-805-4901 to volunteer, or for assistance.

## STEPHEN MINISTRY



Is God calling you?

Loving others in Jesus' name is a challenge and an opportunity for all God's children.

Likewise, the joy of helping others is the privilege of all Christians. Stephen Ministry provides training such that we can be comfortable in showing Christ's love in

greater and more effective ways. Read the comments from trained PDCPC Stephen Ministers below:

"I just truly enjoyed the class and being a part of everyone's souls. The love was amazing from everyone."

"Camaraderie, learning about Christian Caregiving, affirmation of self (to do the job), making friends with a common goal.

"Given me strength and encouragement to step outside the box. To be a better listener."

As the members of our congregation grow stronger through this caring ministry, the whole church is built up and made stronger. And, of course, we all can have the knowledge that when the pains of life come our way, someone will always be there, ready to care for us, to bring God's love to us in a special, personal way. Perhaps God is calling you to be one of these caring, committed servants who offer Christ's love to those who are hurting. Contact Deb Smith, 303-249-5553 or email [dsmith@happybuffalos.com](mailto:dsmith@happybuffalos.com) for information on training. Don't wait, the training class will start this fall and be limited to 12 participants.

# financials

---

## JULY'S INCOME AND EXPENSE

### INCOME

June Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
\$75,710	\$84,998	\$775,396	\$799,441

### EXPENSES

June Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
\$114,312	\$130,916	\$877,733	\$927,610

### NET

June Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
\$(38,602)	\$(45,918)	\$(102,338)	\$(128,168)

## closing the loop

---

- // September 2 Church Office closed in observation of Labor Day
- // September 4 Kick off for Wednesday Night at Church programs
- // September 5 Choir practice begins
- // September 11 Wednesday Night Classes Begin
- // September 18 Deadline for Submission for the October Loop
- // Fridays Please note the office will be closed on Fridays except by appointment.
- //September 27 Volunteers are needed to assemble the Loop for distribution. Meet at 9:00 am in Eisenhower Library.

You come to church on Sunday.  
What's next?

KICKOFF  
09.04.19!

# church *on* wednesday

5:30 pm DINNER | 6:00 pm CLASSES | birth-all ages

## GET CONNECTED

Keep yourself in the know for church events: email [sarab@pdpresby.org](mailto:sarab@pdpresby.org) to have your name added to our weekly email list or call 760-346-8195 x511. If you do not have email, do not worry, stop by the office for a copy.

## New to PDCPC?

We're glad you're here! Please visit our welcome table at the main entrance or contact Kathy Aposhian, Director of Connections at [kathya@pdpresby.org](mailto:kathya@pdpresby.org) or 760-346-8195 x530 for information on how you can get connected!



47-321 Highway 74,  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

-  760.346.8195
-  [www.pdpresby.org](http://www.pdpresby.org)
-  [pdcommunitypres](https://www.instagram.com/pdcommunitypres)
-  [pdpresby](https://www.facebook.com/pdpresby)
-  [pdpresby](https://twitter.com/pdpresby)