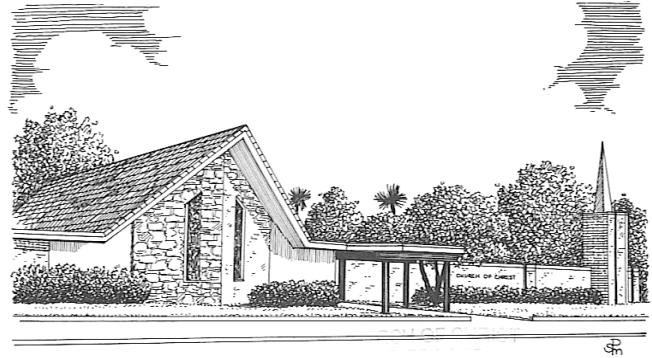


Palm Springs Church of Christ
 1450 N. Avenida Caballeros
 1-760-327-2521
Mailing Address:
 P.O. Box 2267
 Palm Springs, CA 92263
 email: pscoc@outlook.com
www.palmspringschurchofchrist.com
Office hours:
Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
July 14, 2024



Palm Springs Church of Christ

Palm Springs, CA

Contacts		Church Secretary	
Kathy Ferrell:	1-760-327-2521	Roy McDonald:	1-760-409-0700
Stuart Huggins:	1-310-804-5201	David Winings:	1-760-409-0490
Tamasi Letalu:	1-760-917-8839		

Kathy Ferrell 1-760-327-2521

Daniel: the prophet in the king's court

The book of Daniel is an interesting and challenging book since it includes many visions and prophecies. It was originally written in two languages. It appears that chapters 2-7 were written in Aramaic while the rest was written in Hebrew.

Daniel was a Jew and in 606 B.C. was taken into captivity in Babylon. He lived and prophesied during the height of Babylonian power and was witness to its fall to the Medes and Persians. He was born to a royal or noble family and was among the thousands taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar (Dan. 1:1-7). As such he was trained for special service to the king and was given the name "Belteshazzar" meaning "Bel will protect." While Ezekiel was with the people Daniel was in the king court and as such, was able to represent God to the king.

The message of the book of Daniel is straightforward. Many today struggle with the book of Daniel by twisting and distorting its meaning due to a misunderstanding about symbolic language and prophecy.

First, the book teaches that exile is only temporary. Babylon will not stand forever and eventually will be overthrown by another, even greater, kingdom. Throughout the book, we see many symbols that teach about four kingdoms to come. Daniel 2 and Daniel 7 both speak about these kingdoms. Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome are all spoken about in detail, yet, the most important kingdom is the one that God himself will set up during the fourth kingdom. It will never be destroyed and will conquer all others.

Second, the book teaches that God always expects his people to be faithful to him even under the most difficult circumstances. The book of Daniel is replete with examples of faithfulness during the most extreme of situations. The fiery furnace of Daniel 3 and the Lion's den of chapter 6 remind us that God expects faithfulness even if it could cost our lives. As people, we tend to be "a go with the crowd" and "take the path of least resistance" kind of people but God expects us to serve him alone. Daniel challenges us to serve God with the same devotion and singleness of heart of the great prophet. Both points can be summoned up by saying that the theme of the book is "God is sovereign" and he rules in the kingdom of men. He raises up kings and kingdoms and places over them whoever he chooses.

Perhaps the most encouraging lesson is that **God is not distant or disconnected from his creation.** He is intimately connected to us and is always in control. He is always working within history and the lives of people to accomplish his divine will for us. Nothing and no one can thwart his plans to bless us and bring the Christ/Messiah into the world. This reminds us that despite the social, political, or religious quagmire we endure, our God is still at work ushering us toward the ultimate goal of heaven and eternity. No king or kingdom will be able to crush the Lord's church or stop it from accomplishing his will.

Daniel reminds us that God is always on our side and working to ensure his will and our success.

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We have a commitment, empowered by the Holy Spirit,
To give glory to God
To be unified in reaching others

*Welcome to the
Palm Springs Church of Christ*



A warm and cordial welcome to all ! Your presence is a blessing to us and we are happy that we can all join together in worshipping our Lord. Lift up your hearts with joy and thanksgiving.

“And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people. (Ephesians 6:18)”

Pray for our Church family:

Please continue to pray for the improved health of: Mae Britton, Lynette Brink, Sue Collins, Byron Isaac, Brenda Jones, Roy McDonald, Dail Paramore, and Francis Pati.

Pray for family & friends:

Please continue prayers for Amy Miller’s father as he continues to recover at home from a stroke and for Tammy D’Arcy as she continues treatment for breast cancer. Pray for the improved health of: Keith & Lisa Britton, Kerry Britton, Kathy’s husband Kevin, Mary Fields, Derek Fields, Mike Parker, Dail’s friends Marie C. and Teddy K.

First responders: Please keep those who are serving their communities in your prayers: Alisha K. (EMT); Joanna Carter (Nurse), Luther Carter (Naval Officer), Jody Huggins and Jory Huggins (Patrol Officers); Dr. Janice Massey of N.C.

Military:

Jeff Mercer’s son-in-law Brandon Deussenberry, Glenn Fields, and Kathy’s family T. Burgess and T. Cairo.

Prayer Warriors Corner

Dear Father in heaven, thank You for assuring us that we are not alone in life’s struggles. Allow us to come to You with our deepest worries and problems and know that You care. May Your love and mercy encompass our being. In the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Power For Today: Mark A. Young; 1/152024
Read: 2 Kings 19:14-19

News:

Our dear sister Wanda Goodenough left this life for the next July 11. The victory is hers in Jesus Christ. We sympathize with her daughter, Lynette, and the whole family during this time of loss. Wanda has held a special place in the hearts of her church family here in Palm Springs. We enjoyed her humorous advice and especially her resolve to be in the assemblies as often as possible. We thank God for her life.

Please continue to pray for Nilene’s brother, Wayne

Duncan: Wayne suffered 3rd degree burns on his left foot and leg. He is now stable and has been moved out of the hospital and into another care facility. Wayne is a long serving member of the church and attends his local congregation in Grants Pass.

The Community Food Bank: Peanut Butter and Ramen packs are where the greatest need is at this time. Other non-perishable items are: soups, canned vegetables, canned beans, 1 lb. packs of rice or beans, canned tomatoes, canned pasta sauce and quart size storage bags. Thank you for your continued support, your donation is greatly appreciated.

Today’s Scripture Reading: Daniel 6:1-10

It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom, with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss. Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent. Finally these men said, “We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God.” So the administrators and the satraps went as a group to the king and said: “O King Darius, live forever! This royal administrators, prefects, satraps, advisers and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that anyone who prays to any god or man during the next thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the lions’ den. Now, O king, issue the decree and put it in writing so that it cannot be altered - in accordance with the laws of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed. “ So King Darius put the decree in writing. Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before.

Sermon title: “Dependable Defiant Durable Daniel”

Birthdays:

Blake Axsom: 7/15
Yanira Fuentes: 7/18

Wedding Anniversaries:

Blake & Annie Axsom: 7/19

Bible study: Sunday @ 9:30 a.m.

Worship service: Sunday @ 10:30 a.m.

WORSHIP ORDER

WELCOME / OPENING PRAYER

589: Leaning on the Everlasting Arms (1-3)

344: Low in the Grave He Lay (1-3)

COMMUNION & OFFERING: Matthew 26:26-29

564: I Must Tell Jesus (1-3)

Brief Intermission

777: Father, Hear the Prayer We Offer (1-4)

SERMON

915: Trust and Obey (1,2 & 5)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & CLOSING PRAYER

Sermons on line: For the most recent locally recorded sermon, simply go to the Palm Springs Church of Christ webpage and click on the “sermons” category at the top of the page.

<http://www.crenshawchurchofchrist.com>

Tri Lakes Church of Christ in Monument, Colorado