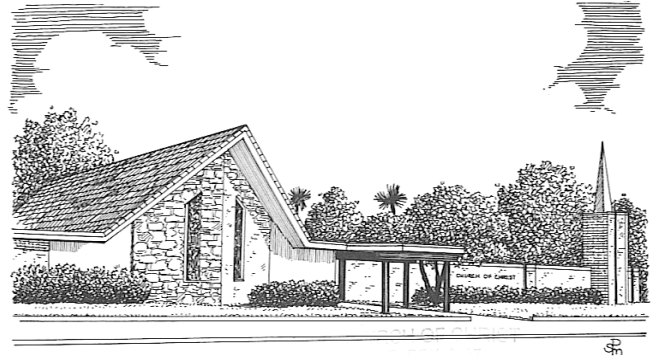


Palm Springs Church of Christ
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Office hours:
Monday - Thursday
9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
July 5, 2020



Palm Springs Church of Christ

Palm Springs, CA

Contacts		Church Secretary	
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Roy's Reflections

Are We a Christian Nation?

“Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people.” Proverbs 14:34

Independence Day in the United States is a time for joyful celebration. On a more somber note, some have openly wondered if most Americans are seeking independence from God. Are we a Christian nation? This seems to be a burning question in the minds of many Christians, perhaps hoping for better laws and a friendlier climate toward Jesus Christ and his followers. Some even hope for ‘official status’ for Christianity.

No, we are not the Christian nation for which many hope and pray. It’s true that the arrival of the Pilgrims and Puritans in the 17th century provided a unique beginning for some of the British colonies. On the other hand, since independence from Britain and the birth of the constitution, nothing has indicated that the United States of America is officially a ‘Christian nation’. Rather, religious freedom for a multiplicity of faiths has been protected by the constitution. In 1796, Libya was cautious about signing a shipping treaty with this new country called the United States of America. As a reassurance to predominantly Islamic Libya, the treaty declared, “the government of the United States is not, in any sense, founded on the Christian religion”. The treaty was produced under the presidency of George Washington and approved by the senate in 1797 under John Adams.

Yes, we should pray for our country and its leaders (1 Timothy 2:1,2) so that we can live peacefully. The purpose is not to give Christianity a special legal status among other faiths in America, nor even to boast that more than 50 percent of citizens would call themselves Christian. We simply want to praise the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and point others, one by one, to the Christ who said, **“I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.”** John 10:10.

So, the more important question is not “Are we a Christian nation?” but rather “Am I a Christian who is a blessing to this country?” The apostle Paul wrote of two kinds of yeast in 1 Corinthians 5:6,7. The ‘old yeast’ of malice and wickedness should be discarded and a new batch started with the yeast of ‘sincerity and truth’. Let’s sincerely determine to be the new yeast, influencing others to bring glory to God in their lives.

Righteousness will exalt a nation as each citizen, one by one, follows the footsteps of Jesus.

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

Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Philippians 4:6,7

Prayer Needs:

Church family:

Please keep Leo Goodenough and family in your prayers as they mourn the death of grandson John Bowline, as well as Jerry Munn and family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of Jerry's cousin Thomas Doyle who passed away of Covid-19 and for Camelia Munn who is home and recovering after undergoing surgery recently. Continue to pray for the improved health of: Ray & Sue Collins, Phyllis Francis, Leo & Wanda Goodenough, Delores Jensen, Betty Johnson, Brenda Jones, John Leonard, Roy & Lucy McDonald, Jeff & Michelle Mercer, Jerry & Camelia Munn, Dail Paramore, Francis Pati, Jim Scott, Lorenzo Serrano, and Joyce Wittings.

Family & Friends:

Pray for Stuart's cousin Joanna who is recovering from injuries she suffered in a recent car accident. Continue to pray for the improved health of Mary Fields, Keith & Lisa Britton, Delores' brother Len, Marjorie Counts, Kathy's husband Kevin Ferrell and cousin Bob, Brianna Schaldweiler, Robert Gray, Derek Fields, Dail's friend Marie, Brenda's son Uriah, Rossie Stansbury, and Wanda's daughter Lynette.

First responders: Please remember to pray for those who are serving their communities during this difficult time. Phyllis Francis' granddaughter, Shyanna Francis (EMT) and extended family member Alisha K. (EMT). Dail Paramore and Stuart Huggins family members: Joanna Carter (Nurse), Luther Carter (Naval Officer), Jody Huggins and Jory Huggins (both are MI Patrol Officers). Jerry Munn's sister, Dr. Janice Massey of N.C. If you have family members or friends you would like to add to this prayer list, please let Kathy know.

Military:

Jeff & Michelle Mercer's son-in-law Brandon Deussenberry, Jodi Keeth's brother-in-law Tony Cairo, Glenn Fields and T. Burgess.

Prayer Warriors Corner

Lord, we have so many questions about life and its unfairness. You have shown Yourself good to us. Help us to trust You for what we cannot understand. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Our Daily Bread: Philip Yancey; 8/15/18

Read: Job 38:1-11

News:

We have individually wrapped **communion supplies** available. If you would like to pick some up, please contact Kathy and they will be bagged and ready for you when you arrive (Monday - Thursday 9:30 - 12:00).

Community Food Bank needs our support. They are averaging 200 people per week during this time and any donations of non-perishable food will be greatly appreciated. They are especially in need of canned meats/protein. Thank you for your generosity, it is very much appreciated.

**Scripture reading:
Galatians 5:1, 13-16**

(1) It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.

(13-16) You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." If you keep on biting and devouring each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other. So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

Sermon topic:

"Called to be Free"



Birthdays:

Beverly Whatley:	7/1
Blake Axsom:	7/15
Yanira Fuentes:	7/18
Betty Johnson:	7/19



Anniversaries:

B & A Axsom:	7/19
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I know Love abounds among us but unfortunately we will not have worship at the building during the month of May.

In the meantime, the expenses of maintaining the building, yard care, property insurance, utilities, etc. continue.

If you can continue your financial support, please mail it to:
 Palm Springs Church of Christ
 P.O. Box 2267
 Palm Springs, CA 92263
 (Checks or money orders - do not send cash)

God bless us all during this time and bless our families too.

Sermons on YouTube: 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