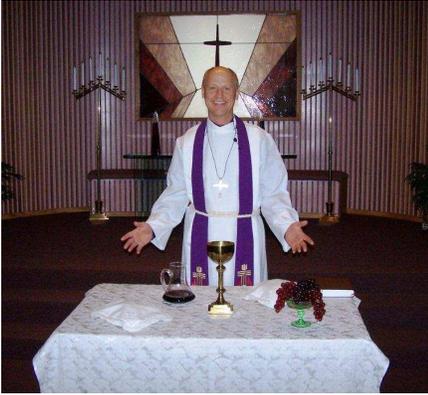


# The Shepherd's Staff

Community Presbyterian Church  
Cathedral City, California



August 2011



This story was sent to me recently by a friend.  
What a wonderful illustration of God's grace!

Six year old Brandon decided one Saturday morning to fix his parents pancakes. He found a big bowl and spoon, pulled a chair to the counter, opened the cupboard and pulled out the heavy flour canister, spilling it on the floor. He scooped some of the flour into the bowl with his hands, mixed in most of a cup of milk and added some sugar, leaving a floury trail on the floor which by now had a few tracks left by his kitten.

Brandon was covered with flour and getting frustrated. He wanted this to be something very good for Mom and Dad, but it was getting very bad. He didn't know what to do next, whether to put it all into the oven or on the stove and he didn't know how the stove worked! Suddenly he saw his kitten licking from the bowl of mix and reached to push her away, knocking the egg carton to the floor. Frantically he tried to clean up this monumental mess but slipped on the eggs, getting his pajamas white and sticky.

And just then he saw Dad standing at the door. Big crocodile tears welled up in Brandon's eyes. All he'd wanted to do was something good, but he'd made a terrible mess. He was sure a scolding was coming, maybe even a spanking. But his father just watched him. Then, walking through the mess, his father picked up his crying son, hugged him and loved him, getting his own pajamas white and sticky in the process!

That's how God deals with us. We try to do something good in life, but it turns in to a mess. We insult a friend, or we can't stand our neighbor, or our health goes sour. Sometimes we just stand there in tears because we can't think of anything else to do. That's when God picks us up and loves us and forgives us, even though some of our mess gets all over Him.

But just because we might mess up, we can't stop trying to 'make pancakes' for God or for others. Sooner or later we'll get better at it and make less of a mess and then they'll be glad we kept at it.

Paul states in 2 Corinthians 12:9, *but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness."* God's grace is sufficient for us no matter how we 'mess' things up. We simply need to ask God for forgiveness, trust that we have been forgiven and then continue to serve God, to keep on keeping on!

As we move into the Fall and our church continues to explore new ways to serve our Lord Jesus Christ, just remember we might mess up, but we can't stop trying to 'make pancakes' for God.

Pastor Lee

# AUGUST 2011: SPECIAL DATES



Sunday, August 7  
Wednesday, August 10  
Wednesday, August 10  
Thursday, August 11

First Sunday Potluck  
9:00 Deacons Meeting  
10:00 Women's Circle  
9:00 Session Meeting



## SCHOOL SUPPLIES

School  
Supplies  
Needed



The time is fast approaching for the school children at they Sky Ridge Mobile Home Park to return to school. And we, as a church community have been given the privilege to assist these children by providing them with school supplies, as we did last year.

The basics are needed: paper (ruled), pencils (regular #3 and colored), mechanical pencils, pens (blue and black), crayons, rulers, erasers (hand held and pencil top), folders (like the old Peachies), and hardbound notebooks, not the 'modern' notebook but the old fashioned kind.

And since backpacks seldom last a school year, these are also needed. If you keep your eyes and ears open, these items can often be found on sale, especially now. These can be brought to the church office.

God bless you for your help. We know times are tough for many, and for those less fortunate then us it is even tougher. Thank you!

*God has given us two hands: one to receive with and the other to give with. We are not cisterns made for hoarding; we are channels made for sharing. ~ Billy Graham*

Please Pray for the Mission Activities of the church as well

Neonatal unit blankets and baby items  
Twenty-nine 29 Palms Marine Base Wounded Warrior  
Well in the Desert  
Scholarship for graduates of Cathedral City HS  
VA & Stroke Centers  
Clothes That Work  
One Great Hour of Sharing  
Alternative Christmas  
School supplies for Sky Ridge Mobile Home Park Kids

Desert Summer Kids Feeding Program  
Life Line subsidies  
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission  
Migrant Farm Workers – bedrolls and food  
Shelter from the Storm  
Ronald McDonald House  
Veterans hospital Loma Linda  
Baby kits for Haiti  
2 Cents-a-Meal

# PRAYER REQUESTS

Lord, make us mindful of your power and your glory as we pray for those in need.  
Our Service Men & Women, Our Country & Our President  
*Pray for our Church at 12:00 noon daily*

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## *Death of a Loved One*

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Pastor Lee's cousin Charlotte passed away Tuesday.  
Tim Steele's sudden passing at 43 years old. Pray for his family.  
Carol Francis' mother passed away.  
Pastor Karen Greschel of North Kirk Presbyterian Church passed away

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## *Recovery*

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Ann Matheson recovering from minor surgery  
Barbara Barrett's in-law, Mary Ann McGilvery, diagnosed with cancer  
Bertha's daughter, April, recovering from surgery  
Bob's rotary friend, Gary Antes, cancer of the spine  
Butch's son Barry is struggling with chemo  
Denise Poncy struggling with Lupus  
Jerry & Joy's nephew Bob Barnett recovering from heart surgery  
Jerry Moss had a heart valve replaced and is recovering at home  
Karyn Grice recovering from hip surgery  
Mary Karr's son Chris' father in law – pneumonia  
Nancy Pryor's niece Katrina just had knee surgery  
Peggy's daughter Kim struggling with circulation in her legs  
Peggy's friend Carla recovering from brain surgery

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## *Continuing Health Concerns*

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Barbara Barrett's daughter diagnosed with MS  
Bob Barrett's sister Patty diagnosed with MS  
Gail Prosser  
Helen Hyde's daughter Katherine diagnosed with Lyme disease  
Kay Graham's daughter, Donna  
Noel White's cousin, Kathy Findley - battling leukemia  
O.B. Bakke – pray that he chooses life – he is staying strong  
Patty – Joe diagnosed with Huntington's Disease  
Patty Valdez

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## *Community and World Concerns*

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Cathedral City police department  
Everyone effected by the tragedy in Norway  
Health and safety of all our members and families  
Julee Collins' grandson, Doug Way – deployed to Afghanistan  
Marti's nephew Brandon, a Navy Seal, is in Afghanistan

**Prayer concerns in addition to those expressed during Sunday's worship service may be submitted on the prayer request cards in the pews or by contacting the church office. Confidentiality will be maintained at all times.**

# August 2011 Prayer Calendar

## Please pray for each individual on the date listed

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|--|---|---|
| <p>1) Romans 1:8-15<br/>A harvest among the Gentiles<br/>Bill &amp; Kay Sachs</p>    | <p>12) Psalm 133<br/>How good it is to live in unity<br/>Lauren Williams</p>                        | <p>22) Exodus 1:1-7<br/>Israel multiplied in Egypt<br/>David &amp; Debbie Brown</p> |
| <p>2) Acts 2:37-47<br/>The believers breaking bread<br/>Larry &amp; Cecile Shoot</p> | <p>13) Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32<br/>God's mercy to all<br/>Evelyn Woods</p>                            | <p>23) Romans 11:33-36<br/>The knowledge of God<br/>Julee Collins</p>               |
| <p>3) Matthew 15:32-39<br/>Jesus feeds 4,000<br/>Bob &amp; Marge Stahl</p>           | <p>14) <b>Matthew 15:(10-20) 21-28</b><br/><b>Proper 15 (20)</b><br/>Chad &amp; Billie Ackerson</p> | <p>24) Matthew 26:6-13<br/>A woman anoints Jesus<br/>David &amp; Opal Eason</p>     |
| <p>4) Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28<br/>Joseph sold by his brothers<br/>Casey Stelziede</p>  | <p>15) Genesis 43:1-34<br/>Benjamin joins Joseph's brothers<br/>Beth Alfred</p>                     | <p>25) Exodus 3:1-15<br/>God calls Moses<br/>Carol Frances</p>                      |
| <p>5) Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b<br/>Remembering Joseph<br/>Dorothy Susdorf</p>       | <p>16) Genesis 44:1-34<br/>Judah pleads for Benjamin<br/>Martha Anderson</p>                        | <p>26) Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c<br/>Remembering Moses<br/>Rebeca Franz</p>         |
| <p>6) Romans 10:5-15<br/>The word of faith<br/>Ervin &amp; Vera Syfert</p>           | <p>17) Genesis 45:16-28<br/>Pharaoh welcomes Jacob's family<br/>Neal &amp; Jean Angus</p>           | <p>27) Romans 12:9-21<br/>Live in harmony<br/>Dick &amp; Carol Gampert</p>          |
| <p>7) <b>Matthew 14:22-23</b><br/><b>Proper 14 (19)</b><br/>Patty Valdez</p>         | <p>18) Exodus 1:8-2:10<br/>Pharaoh's daughter take Moses in<br/>O.B. &amp; Peggy Bakke</p>          | <p>28) <b>Matthew 16:21-28</b><br/><b>Proper 12 (22)</b><br/>Kay Graham</p>         |
| <p>8) Genesis 37:29-36<br/>Jacob mourns Joseph's loss<br/>Ray &amp; Greta Venter</p> | <p>19) Psalm 124<br/>We have escaped like a bird<br/>Bob &amp; Barbara Barrett</p>                  | <p>29) Exodus 4:10-31<br/>Moses doubts but obeys God<br/>Art &amp; Karin Grice</p>  |
| <p>9) Romans 9:14-29<br/>God's wrath, God's mercy<br/>LaVida Warren</p>              | <p>20) Romans 12:1-8<br/>One body, different gifts<br/>Alma Boney</p>                               | <p>30) Exodus 5:1-6:13<br/>Moses confronts Pharaoh<br/>Clint &amp; Marti Haas</p>   |
| <p>10) Genesis 40:1-23<br/>The dreams of two prisoners<br/>Noel White</p>            | <p>21) <b>Matthew 16:13-20</b><br/><b>Proper 16 (21)</b><br/>Doug Bridges</p>                       | <p>31) Exodus 7:14-25<br/>First of ten plagues<br/>Butch &amp; Eloise Haltman</p>   |
| <p>11) Genesis 45:1-15<br/>Joseph reconciles with his brothers<br/>Eric Williams</p> |   |   |

## **SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**

This summer the Elders have been reading *The Reason for God* by Rev Timothy Keller. They are reviewing and discussing a few chapters before each session meeting.

Session will meet to review and expand on ideas to increase our methods of getting out the word about our church, programs and mission. Advertising in daily newspaper, mobile home park papers, radio and TV, also placement of a sign on Hwy 111 at Cathedral Canyon.

General Assembly changes to the Book of Order will require some changes to our by-laws and that will be under the review and advisement of a committee and presented for approval of session and congregation.

Session approved:

- ❖ Moving our Memorial Fund account to the Provident Bank.
- ❖ Purchasing tote bags bearing our church name and address to give to first time visitors and for purchase by congregation members and friends.
- ❖ The inquiry for possible use of our facilities for a non-denominational educational program for people helping others learn how to stay healthy and be more effective in caring for others. The program is funded by Riverside County and provided by Catholic Charities.

~ Helen Hyde

## **MAKING FRIENDS ACROSS BOUNDARIES PROJECT**

This is a One-on-One Conversation Program that matches members from Community Presbyterian Church in Cathedral City with members of Korean Presbyterian Church of Palm Springs for language, culture and faith exchange. Goals of the project are:

- ❖ Sharing language and culture with others.
- ❖ Expanding one's own understanding of people and God through cross-cultural communication.
- ❖ Offering friendship across boundaries such as language, culture and faith journey.
- ❖ For non-native English speakers; improving English through informal conversation practice.

Members would meet for one hour each week at a mutually agreed upon time on or off church property. Minimum commitment is four weeks, with the goal to continue for at least one semester (12 weeks). The topic and format of meetings is up to the church members. At the end of the semester all the participants will get together and have an INTERCULTURAL FOOD FESTIVAL.

This project is designed to help two different congregations from different cultures build spiritual friendship across boundaries. Please see Esther for details on how to get involved with this project.

~ Esther Sinn

### **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

Cecile Shoot	August 1	Maryl's Peck	August 17
Kay Sachs	August 2	Eric Williams	August 20
Nancy Pryor	August 12	Joy Moss	August 23
Matt Mattheson	August 16	Jerry Moss	August 26

**COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**38088 Chuperosa Lane**  
**Cathedral City CA, 92234**

We're on the Web:  
[www.churchinthecove.org](http://www.churchinthecove.org)

## **Who We Are**



We are a church family who care for each other and all of God's people. We celebrate worship each Sunday, thanking and praising God for the wonderful gifts generously given to us. We then go out into the world to share God's love with all we meet. We are strengthened for service and outreach through small group outreach activities and weekly Bible study. All are welcome to join us as we seek to glorify and serve our risen Lord.