

# All Saints' Sunday Reformation Sunday October 27, 2024

For Facebook check-ins, etc., the Demuth Community Center Wi-Fi password is: D3muthP@rk

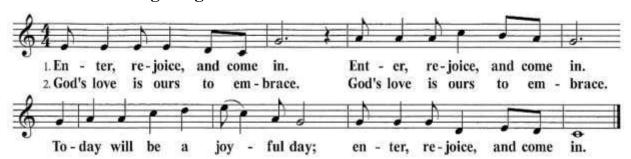
\* Please rise as you are able in body and spirit.

#### 9:50am Pre-Service Music

Mike Welden, piano

"Sonata No. 20 in G Major, 2<sup>nd</sup> mvt" "Ben" "Be Thou My Vision"

#### 10:00am Gathering Song



# Welcome and News of the Congregation

Rev. Jeff Munnis

**Music for Centering** 

Chip Prince, melodica, Mike Welden, piano

"Song from a Secret Garden"

# \* Call to Worship

Paul Gibb

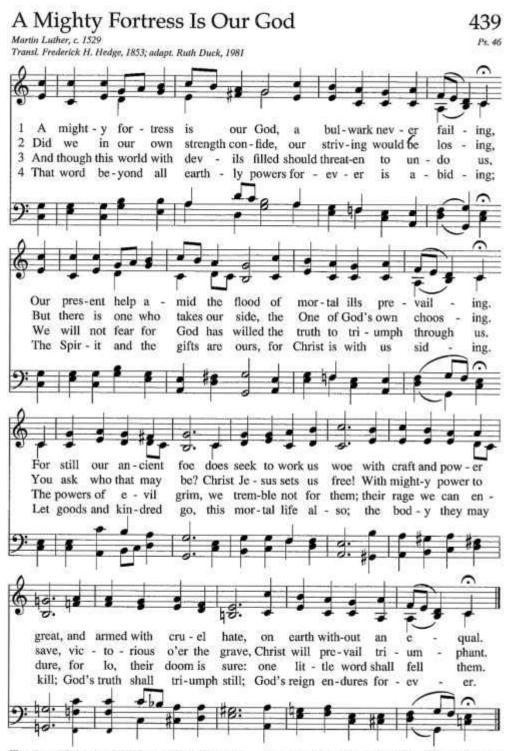
From our heritage, we see the faith of Jesus as he called with a loud voice for Lazarus to come out of the tomb.

When Lazarus comes out of the tomb held in the bonds of death, Jesus tells those about him, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Because we trust and believe Jesus can likewise unbind us and give us new life,

Therefore, we gather again to offer each other: Aloha, Shalom, Salaam, Vrede, Myr, Ping-an, Paz, Peace, co-creating a just world for all. Amen.

#### \* Opening Hymn



There is speculation that this psalm paraphrase was written in 1527 when Martin Luther's friend was burned at the stake, or in 1529, when Lutheran German princes protested the revocation of their liberties. It has been translated into more than fifty languages.

Tune: EIN' FESTE BURG (isometric) 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.6.7.

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Harm. The New Hymnal for American Youth, 1930; alt.

For another version, see 440

# In Faith We Open Our Hearts to Ministry

#### **Prayer for Good and Growth**

Now in prayer, we welcome God's spiritual embrace. Together we say:

Living God, we thank you for life and life eternal. We cherish our memories and the inspiration given by those who loved us fully, served you well, and now rest eternally. We bless you for their lives and love; and rejoice for their continued wellbeing. God of Jesus and all, teach us as  $21^{st}$  Century disciples to reflect such good examples to others according to our abilities. Guide us to live the good values we inherit:

to feed the poor in body and spirit,

to support and comfort the mourners and the recovering,

to encourage the meek and stand with them in solidarity,

to affirm and join those who work for justice,

to cherish and learn from the merciful,

to respect and stand with the peacemakers.

Help us clearly recognize what it means to identify as children of God, siblings in faith, and know we are called to live daily as your current saints-in-action.

~ Bruce Prewer, adapted

**Our Silent Prayers** (These intentional moments of silence are included in worship to enable minds to settle, then move past the distraction of internal chatter, to connect and converse with God. A few deep breaths may help settling in. Relax, and enjoy the embrace of a spiritual dimension.)

Eternal Source of creativity and love, hear now our silent prayers.

~ Silence ~

To all our silent prayers let the people say amen.

Amen.

# **Reception of Members**

#### **Presentation and Introduction of New Members**

John DiNapoli

We invite to come forward those who are becoming members or associate members with us in Bloom in the Desert Ministries United Church of Christ.

Friends in Christ, these people have found nurture and support in the family of Christ. They are here to claim in our presence their covenantal relationship with Christ and the members of the church. They are here for service to Jesus Christ, the church, the community, and the world, using the gifts which God's Spirit bestows. *Brief words of introduction of each person* 

#### **Welcome of New Members**

Lynda Toland, Moderator

"You are no longer strangers or outsiders. You belong here. God is building a home, using us all—irrespective of how we got here! God used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now God is using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day by day—a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home.

#### **Membership Covenant**

Rev. Jeff Munnis

Do you promise by the grace of God to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to share in the work and word of Jesus Christ as best as you are able?

Candidates reply I promise, with the help of God.

Do you promise, according the grace given you, to grow in the Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the church, celebrating Christ's presence and furthering Christ's mission in the world?

Candidates reply I promise, with the help of God.

#### **Vision Statement**

Lynda Toland, Moderator

Let us read together the Vision Statement adopted by the congregation.

Bloom chooses to build a loving, safe, inclusive faith community that is intellectually challenging, emotionally supportive and filled with the strength, integrity, and social responsibility that spirituality inspires.

The Moderator addresses the new members

You have had spiritual encounters and experiences throughout your life, perhaps with family, churches, or other spiritual communities. Today, we rejoice in your pilgrimage of faith which has brought you to this time and place. We give thanks for every community that has nurtured you and been nurtured by your presence along your spiritual journey. Today we celebrate your presence among us in this household of faith.

# **Covenant Promise of Participation**

Members of the congregation may also take this opportunity to reaffirm their covenant of membership.

Do you promise, as you are able, to participate in and support the life and mission of this family of God's people, sharing regularly in the worship of God and enlisting in the work of this local church as we serve this community and the world? If so, please respond: "I promise with the help of God."

Candidates reply I promise, with the help of God.

#### **Covenant Promise of the Congregation**

As a gathered congregation, let us express to these persons our welcome and affirm our covenant of mutual ministry in Christ.

All: We members and friends of Bloom in the Desert United Church of Christ, joyfully welcome you into membership of this church. We promise to love you as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. We will walk with you amidst life's hopes and fears, in happiness and sadness. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in our faith, as we love God with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength, and as we love one another and our neighbors as ourselves.

**Prayer** Rev. Jeff Munnis

Eternal God, we praise you for calling us to be your people and for gathering us into the Body of Christ. We thank you for sending to us our new members, that we may work together in serving the needs of others. Confirm in us the power of your eternal covenant with every living creature that we may live in our spirit, share regularly in worship, and so love each other that we may have among us the same mind which was in Christ Jesus, our savior, brother, sovereign, and friend. Let the congregation say "amen."

Amen.

#### **Greetings of Christian Love**

Rev. Jeff Munnis and Lynda Toland

In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of Bloom in the Desert United Church of Christ, we extend to you our Christian love, welcoming you into the community of this local church. Congregation may affirm their welcome with applause. New members sign the Register and place a rock in the membership vase.

# The Words of Encouragement

Friends and Neighbors; the Protestant reformer Martin Luther once said: "Pray, and let God worry." These are good words for us.

Amen! Blessing and praise to God forever. Let us now receive the Word.

#### **Sung Response**

## Halle, Hallelujah!



# The Word Informs Our Living with Grace and Power

## **Hebrew Scripture Reading**

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Robert Van Dyke

"For thus says YHWH;

Sing aloud with joy for Jacob!

Hail the Head of Nations!

Make your praises heard, and say,

'YHWH, save your people, Israel's remnant!'

For I will bring them from the lands of the north and gather them from the ends of the earth—the blind and the lame will be among them, along with expectant mothers and women in labor. They will return in vast numbers.

They will return weeping and praying.

I will guide them in my mercy.

I will lead them besides streams of water,

along level ground where they will not stumble.

For I am forever a mother and father to Israel,

and Ephraim is my firstborn."

~Inclusive Bible Version

Here ends the Hebrew scripture reading.

#### **Anthem**

"Air for Euphonium and Piano"

Chip Prince, euphonium, Mike Welden, piano

#### \* Gospel Reading

Mark 10:46-52

Charlotte Clement

They came to Jericho. As Jesus was leaving Jericho with the disciples and a large crowd, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus ben-Timaeus, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, "Heir to David, Jesus, have pity on me!"

Many people scolded him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the louder, "Heir of David, have pity on me!"

Jesus stopped and said, "Call him here."

So, they called the blind man. "Don't be afraid," they said. "Get up, Jesus is calling you." So, throwing off his cloak, Bartimaeus jumped up and went to Jesus.

Then Jesus said, "What do you want me to do for you?"

"Rabbuni," the blind man said, "I want to see."

Jesus replied, "Go, your faith has saved you." And immediately Bartimaeus received the gift of sight and began to follow Jesus along the road.

~Inclusive Bible Version

Here ends the reading of the Gospel. This is the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

**Commentary** Rev. Jeff Munnis

Chip Prince has had over 30 years of experience playing piano and conducting Broadway shows and tours, including 22 years living in New York City. He served as Associate Conductor on the National Tour of *Newsies* and can be heard playing piano in the Broadway HD movie. Originally from New Hampshire, Chip attended Brigham Young University in Utah and music-directed shows at Sundance Summer Theatre in the 1980s. New York and National Tour keyboard and/or conducting credits include *Les Misérables*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Miss Saigon*, *Mary Poppins*, *Ragtime*, *The Fantasticks*, Deaf West's *Big River*, Baz Luhrmann's *La Bohème*, and *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. Other musical activities include playing piano for Contradancing and English Country Dance. Chip is currently the accompanist for the men's ensemble A Cabbello, the director of Bruce Kenyon's The Arrangement (the Barbershop ensemble within the Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus), and Choir Director at Desert Outreach Synagogue in Rancho Mirage.

## \* Hymn of Response

# 2171 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace



# Offering our Prayer Concerns, and Joys and Thanksgivings and Recognizing Bloom's Saints

Concerns: Rev. Jeff Munnis

Keep watch, dear God, with all who work, or watch, or weep this day. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake.

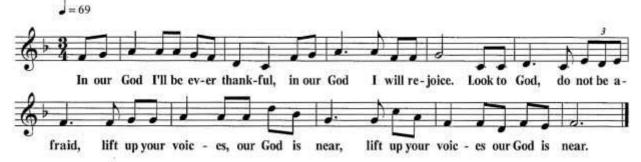
#### God, receive our prayer.

Joys and Thanksgivings:

Your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of all creation. Keep us always thankful for your loving providence and help us be faithful stewards of your good and abundant gifts.

#### God, receive our prayer.

# Sung Response In Our God I'll Be Ever Thankful



# Ministry of Generosity — Expressing God's Love and Empowering Good Works

# Our tithes and offerings are an expression of our hearts and our discipleship.

--Checks should be made out to "Bloom in the Desert Ministries." Checks and cash in envelopes with identification are recorded for your year-end convenience. **Online giving is available and easy!** Go to: <a href="www.bloominthedesert.org">www.bloominthedesert.org</a> and click on the Donate tab. **Thank you.** 



#### **Offertory-Meditation Music**

"Borders"

Mike Welden, piano

## **Presentation of Offerings and Prayer of Dedication**

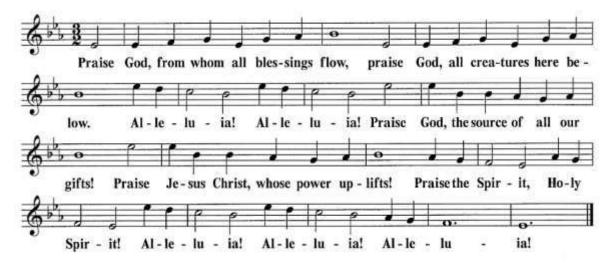
Charlotte Clement

Gracious God, you set us upright and cause our feet to stand firm on the foundation of Jesus Christ, the cornerstone of our faith. We bring you ourselves in response to your grace and mercy. You test us in Christ and find us worthy of your benevolent care and compassion. Through the visitation of your Spirit, you allow us to shine forth to your glory and honor and cause your light to shine forth on the nations. We bring you our gifts in response to your graciousness and ask that you will watch over us as we go forth to serve you in thought, word, and deed. **Amen.** 

Please rise, as you are able, in celebration, as we sing the Doxology.

#### \* Doxology

#### Praise God the Source of Life and Birth



# The Prayer of Jesus

Rev. Jeff Munnis

Our Father, Eternal Source, Mother, Creator, and Parent in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom, Kin-dom, realm and dream, come.

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

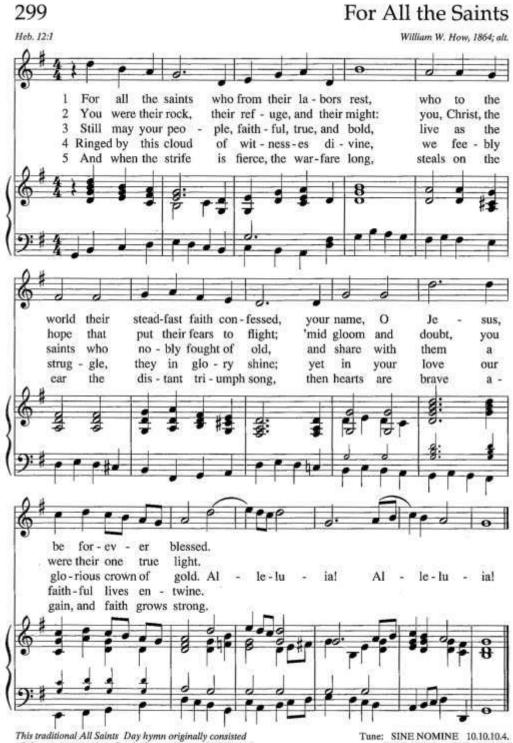
Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, our sins, and our debts, as we forgive those who trespass against us, sin against us, or are our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For yours is the kingdom, Kin-dom, realm and dream, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen. ~Based on Matthew 6:9-13 NRSV

#### \* Sending Hymn



This traditional All Saints Day hymn originally consisted of eleven stanzas written for the Sarum Hymnai (1869) and set to a tune by that name, Sarum. It has grown in popularity since it was later paired with the enduring Sine Nomine in The English Hymnal (1906). Tune: SINE NOMINE 10.10.10.4. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Music Copyright ©, Oxford University Press, From The English Hymnal 1906.

**Benediction** Rev. Jeff Munnis

### **Mutual Blessing**

Our worship has ended. Our service begins. What does God need from us?

# "Simply do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God."

Continue to serve with faith and love,

depart from this time today committed to sharing the best of yourself,

through extravagant generosity of time and resources,

meeting the needs of others, both spoken and unspoken, seen and unseen, heard and unheard.

# We will go now seeking justice, sharing compassion, and promoting hope in the world.

My dear friends in faith, will you go into your worlds to be people of God in Christ's name?

#### We will. Amen!

#### **Passing of the Peace**

Let us safely offer one another signs of grace and peace and go in peace. Amen.

**Postlude** 

"The Rainbow Connection"

Mike Welden, piano

Bloom Happenings This Week						
Monday Oct. 28	Tuesday Oct. 29	Wednesday Oct. 30	Thursday Oct. 31	Friday Nov. 1	Saturday Nov. 2	Sunday Nov. 3
10:30am- 1:00pm Lunch for our unhoused neighbors, served at United Methodist	10:30am- 1:00pm Lunch for our unhoused neighbors, served at United Methodist 6:00pm Book Group on Zoom	10:45am – 1:00pm Lunch for our unhoused neighbors served at St. Paul's Episcopal 4:00pm BibleBites in the office and on Zoom	10:45am – 1:00pm Lunch served at Our Lady of Solitude	10:45am – 1:00pm Lunch served at Our Lady of Guadalupe 4:00pm Women of Bloom on Zoom		Sunday Service at Demuth and on Facebook Live Palm Springs Pride Sunday

# God wants you to think for yourself and live for others.

Bathrooms are located through the double glass doors and to the left.

# Congregational Life Announcements

- --A warm welcome and thank you to Chip Prince, melodica and euphonium, Mike Welden piano, for sharing their musical talents with us today.
- -- Thank you, Paul Gibb, Robert Van Dyke and Charlotte Clement, for serving as readers for today's service.
- -- Thank you to Jackson Enzler for handling the A/V technical aspects for today's service.
- --Thank you also to our ushers, Mike Kreiser and Charlie Phelps-Ramos for welcoming us this morning.
- -- Thank you to Logan and Brooks for setting up our worship space and hospitality hour.
- **--Flowers on the Worship Center,** symbolic of the living Christ, are offered to the glory of God by **Loretta Martin** in thanksgiving for her Bloom family.
- -- Those wishing to donate flowers may contact **Ray Allen** at 405 833-1817 for assistance.

#### Last Week's Participation

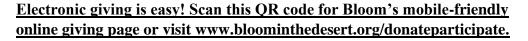
--Souls Present at Demuth: 55 --Children: 0 --First Timers: 5 --- Facebook Live Views: 11 -Facebook Total Views: 128 --YouTube Views: 10

#### **Sunday Offerings**

Tithes, Offerings, and Participation:

Offering, online, by mail and text: \$3,264 Electronic Giving: \$1,755 Permanence Fund: \$240 Cumulative: \$340,576 Disaster appeal: \$102 Cumulative: \$398

**--Please sign up for Ralph's Community Rewards.** Choose Bloom in the Desert Ministries (Ralphs #PG245.) as your designated charity to benefit from a small percentage of your purchase totals. Every little bit helps!





- -- <u>The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation</u> by Priests for Equality and the **Revised Common Lectionary** are the usual references for Sunday morning scripture readings.
- **--Liturgy and prayers** are original, sourced, and often adapted.

Sonata No 20 in G Major, 2<sup>nd</sup> mvt." by Ludvig von Beethoven, public domain

Ben, by Don Black and Walter Scjarf. Arr/ by Phillip Keveren, ©1971, 1972 by Jobiete Music Co, Inc.

Be Thou My Vision, by arr. by Tom Howard, ©1986 by Marantha! Music

Song from a Secret Garden, by Rolf Lovland, ©1995 by Universal-Polygram Norway

Air for Euphonium and Piano, by Chip Prince, © 2018

Borders, by Alexandra Strélisky, © 2023 by Alexandra Strélisky

**The Rainbow Connection**, by Paul Williams and Kenneth Ascher, arr. by Phillip Keveren, ©1979 by Jim Henson Productions, Inc., this arrangement ©2000 by Jim Henson Productions, Inc.

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#### Ministries of Leadership and Support

- **--Open Leadership Meetings** -- The next hybrid meeting will be November 12 at 2:00 pm PDT in the church office and on Zoom. All are welcome with a voice. Bloom members have a vote. Contact **Lynda Toland** to receive the Zoom Invitation.
- **--Open Council Meetings** are in February, May, and October, and special meetings as called. The next congregation meeting is February 16 after church in the Hospitality Room and on Zoom.

#### **Church Growth and New Member Involvement Ministry**

- --If you are interested in making a covenant as a member or associate member with Bloom in the Desert Ministries UCC, please contact John DiNapoli, <a href="mailto:dinoinps@gmail.com">dinoinps@gmail.com</a> or Bill Wallace at adminassistant@bloominthedesert.org.
- --For more information on the United Church of Christ, visit www.ucc.org.
- --Persons seeking Christian Baptism please call 760-327-3802 for pastoral response.

#### **Nurture and Community Life Ministry**

--We Care: If you know of someone in the hospital, or who might enjoy a pastoral call, including yourself, please call the **church office** at **760 327-3802** and leave a message.

#### **Education Ministry**

**Book Discussion Group:** The group is now reading and discussing Abundant Lives, A Progressive Christian Ethic for Flourishing, 2024 by Amanda Udis-Kessler.

Resumes October 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm, please read through Chapter 4 and the Chapter 4 review. Feel free to invite others to the Book Club.



Rev. Jeff Munnis invites Bloomers and friends to a new BibleBites study beginning **Wednesday October 23<sup>rd</sup>.** This group will meet at 4:00 pm in person at the Bloom Office, 400 S El Cielo, Suite G, Palm Springs. Rev. Jeff asks you to bring one or more Bible passages that give you the most problems. It will also be available on Zoom.

#### **Social Action and Missions Ministry**

--Lunch served weekdays: Come serve lunch at the United Methodist Church of Palm Springs on Mondays and Tuesdays, located at 1555 E. Alejo Rd, Palm Springs 10:30 am–1:00 pm PDT. On Wednesdays, lunch is served at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 125 W El Alameda, Palm Springs 10:45 am-1 pm. On Thursdays, lunch is served at Our Lady of Solitude, 474 N Belardo, Palm Springs and on Fridays at Our Lady of Guadalupe, 204 S. El Segundo, in Palm Springs. Volunteers needed each day. Contact **Jim Nixon** at <a href="maintaingraph">nixonsf@aol.com</a>.

#### Our focused ministries include:

- --School children's benevolence backpacks, church camp, and Christmas gift cards.
- --Relieving food insecurity Lunch Mondays through Fridays, food bank support.
- -- National church's wider mission "5 for 5" UCC mission offerings, disaster relief.
- --Spiritual and personal development worship, music, bible study, book clubs, lending library.
- --Loving presence birthday/anniversary cards, eyeglasses recycling, Us Plus local outreach.
- --For peace action and social justice email alerts, sign up with **Jim Nixon** at <a href="mailto:nixonsf@aol.com">nixonsf@aol.com</a>.

#### You are welcome to take this bulletin with you for reflection,

or leave it with the ushers for recycling.

# Bloom's Saints

George Mills Travis Emery Liza Rhodes-Reese

Wilber Daniels Don DeBoer Daryl James

Mike Babb Wallace Pinfold Walt Lawrence

Jim Trout Scott Griffin Rev. Willetta Helene

Walter Snyder Dick Moll Virginia Forney

Brent Faulkner Johnny Johnson Mary Fowlie

Russ Peterson John R. Poole Marc Wing

Jim Johnson Judy Waterworth Jack McClelland

Bob Woerner Chaz Hammond Russ Bertlow

Lloyd Matson Vern Kenney Joe Ventura

Lorna Robbins Betty Phillipi Marty Johnson

David Place Stewart Durrant Donna Lavick-

Rev. Dr. Charles Edna Kenny Wisenberg

Seiner Ruth Durrant Homer Walton

Rev. Dr. Tari Lennon

Chuck Wilhelm

Tim Martin

Woody Miller Leo Morrison Rev. Ron Meyer

Bob Jones Ron Berry

David Romaine Bill Davisson

Joe Ramsey

Ryan Goodwin Ryan Goodwin

Jimmy Siler Dave Verdery Rev. Bill Bordonaro

Bob White Faith Eldredge

Jovonie (Nick)
Barrett
Willie Alvarado

Bob Kramer



# Welcome

Bloom in the Desert Ministries (Bloom) is a United Church of Christ (UCC) that had Methodist beginnings. This liberal

Protestant church was born in 2002, as an independent ministry in collaboration with Methodist organizations seeking to start and promote inclusive Christian ministries. Sunday worship began on March 9, 2003. The fledgling congregation decided in 2004 to pursue standing in the UCC, which was established by vote of the Eastern Association of the Southern California Nevada Conference of the UCC on October 29, 2005, welcoming Bloom as a dual covenant, peace, and justice congregation. Bloom is a member of the UCC Open and Affirming Coalition. Bloom is governed congregationally according to our unique bylaws. All Bloom members and friends are ministers in our faith. Our Open Leadership Team and congregation meetings provide leadership and decision making to empower our vision, mission, and core values.

#### **Our Vision**

Bloom chooses to build a loving, safe, inclusive faith community that is intellectually challenging, emotionally supportive and filled with the strength, integrity, and social responsibility that spirituality inspires.

#### **Our Mission**

Guided by teachings of Jesus Christ, Bloom is a community of believers who strive to uplift and heal one another. We gather to worship God, witness our faith in the living of our lives and uphold one another in Christian living. United in our diversity we are inclusive and embracing. We agitate for God's peace and justice in our community and around the world.

#### **Our Core Values**

We are a people of God's extravagant welcome.

We are a people of covenant.

We work toward a just and loving world through service and generosity.

We listen for the still-speaking God.

We encourage a life of inquisitive and thoughtful searching.

We are grounded by Christian faithfulness.

We celebrate the joy in life.

# Sunday Worship 10 am

Demuth Community Center — 3601 E. Mesquite Avenue, Palm Springs, CA 92264 Rev. "Jeff" Munnis, Interim Minister — 415-747-9114 — jeff@bloominthedesert.org Lynda Toland, Moderator — 503-789-8743 — moderator@bloominthedesert.org Bill Wallace, Administrative Assistant — adminassitant@bloominthedesert.org Church Office is located at 400 South El Cielo, Suite G, Palm Springs, CA 92262 760-327-3802 — www.bloominthedesert.org — info@bloominthedesert.org