

The Rev. Dr. Bill Johnson

Thanks for taking time to read a little about me. I am the Interim Pastor of the Palm Springs Presbyterian Church, Palm Springs, CA. I have been here since July, 2005. My wife, Joyce, and I first met at church in the fall of 1956 when I was a senior at UCLA (where I majored in history and psychology) and she was a sophomore at U\$C (where she majored in International Relations). I have two sons, one a professor of Astro- and Theoretical Physics at Cal State University, San Diego and the other has own Architectural Firm near Marysville, CA. Joyce has three children one of whom is a Presbyterian Pastor in Palm Desert, CA., another is a computer specialist at Glendale Community College in Glendale, CA., and the other is a natural foods specialist at Whole Foods in Santa Monica, CA. We have seven grandchildren all from one couple!!

I have served churches as pastor mostly in Northern California from Danville, CA to San Francisco to Larkspur, CA., to Carmichael (*suburb of Sacramento*) to Los Angeles, including a few years as Campus Pastor at U. C. Davis. I also pastored a church near San Diego, CA., Since retiring at the end of 1999 I have served as Interim Pastor at three smaller Presbyterian Churches which has been an interesting and delightful change from the large churches I have actively and mostly pastored.

I was born in Hollywood Calif (*Hollywood Presbyterian Hospital*) and grew up in the First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood living in the North Hollywood/Toluca Lake area. My undergraduate work was at UCLA and my seminary

work was at San Francisco Theological Seminary (*SFTS*) where I earned a Masters of Divinity (*1961*), a Masters of Theology (*1965*) and a doctorate (*1975*). I was ordained by the former Presbytery of Los Angeles on July 2, 1961. In high school, college, and even seminary, I was active in sports, particularly Track and Field. My hobbies include collecting early American antique furniture, antique Oriental porcelains, reading, cooking, writing, traveling. Joyce and I travel as frequently as we can: e.g., Alaska, France, Great Britain, Turkey, Greece, Israel, Egypt, Jordan as well as throughout much of the USA. Joyce's father was an airline (*TWA*) pilot so she enjoyed traveling all over the world with her mother and younger sister.

It has been my privilege and blessing to have been active in the *Presbyterian Church (USA)* all of my life serving at all levels of the *PC(USA)*. I am through and through a Presbyterian in polity and Reformed in theology.

I love preaching and preparing to preach; teaching; helping equip lay members for the Gospel ministry and guiding churches in their growth, struggles, joys and in "*making a joyful noise unto the Lord*" (although my choir directors, over the years, have asked me to "*stick to preaching and not join the choir!!*").

Palm Springs is a small church of under 100 members who seek to know and serve the Lord Jesus in all they do; they welcome *all* to worship, fellowship, and service in and through the church.