

July—2011

DESERT PULPIT



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ELKO, NEVADA

Friends, we going to incorporate some Jazz into our worship service each month! I thought you would enjoy this poem as we begin!

Doing Church With Jazz

They say you can't do church with Jazz
As if God had no rhythm.
But the Bible says praise should have pizzazz.
Does the swing beat keep that hidden?

To all things there is a time and a season,
But the voice sings, Jesus gives it a reason.
So how come it gets to be crime and treason
When somebody mixes church with Jazz?

They say the church and Jazz don't mix.
After all, you don't smoke cigarettes in the sanctuary.
They say broken rhythms never find a fix,
Somewhat like the wings of the tooth fairy.

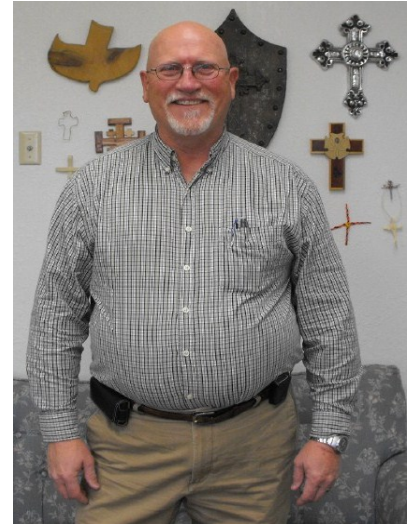
There are fences that stand in the way of the sight
Of the one who believes that to bebop at night
Is 'O.K.' and then says it 'just isn't right'
To swing in the name of Jesus.

Friends, in plenty of time
Our vision must find
That to praise with pizzazz is
Doing church ... with jazz.

Faithfully;

Pastor Pat

Pastor Pat Mecham



Director of Family Ministry
.....Charlyn Van Slyke
Office Manager.....Bertha Lister
Co-Choir Directors.....Patty Fisk &
.....Erin Mecham
Pianist.....Lucille Pryor
Nursery Attendant.....Andrea Licht
Desert Pulpit Editor.....Bertha Lister
Church Office.....775-738-3430
Fax Number.....775-738-0805
E-mail.....fpchurch@frontiernet.net

Scripture Readings and Sermon Titles

July 3	Alice Daniel Preaching (No Communion)	
July 10	“Life’s Produce” (Communion)	Romans 8:1-11 Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
July 17	Troy Gunter Preaching	
July 24	John Daniel Peaching	
July 31	“Empowered Despite Grief”	Matthew 14:13-21

Sunday Summer Schedule

Worship Services Starts at 9:30 am

No Sunday School

And No Choir

during Summer Months

Message from the Director of Family Ministry

REMINDER: OUR SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICES BEGIN at 9:30AM

If you would like to participate in the special music during the summer worship services, please sign the list on the office window. There are many Sundays to fill.

Summer schedule for Jr/Sr High Youth:

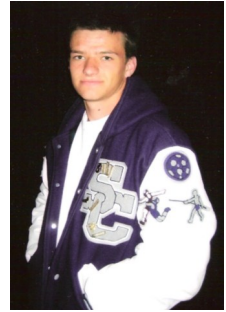
Mondays= Bible Study 10-11:30am

Wednesdays=VBS Prep 10-Noon

Thursday Nights= Movie/Game 6-8pm

Fridays=Coffee and Conversations @ Sierra Java 10-11am

See calendar insert.



Friday, July 1, 8am-3pm the Jr/Sr High Youth will be going boating at South Fork. This will be Allen Andrae's last youth event before he heads to boot camp. Help us send him off with a splash! Those from Elko that need to get a ride out to South Fork need to meet the Gunters at the church at 7:45am. If you need a ride from Spring Creek, please meet Charlyn in the Khoury's parking lot at 7:30am. If you are driving out to South Fork, please let me know. There is a fee and we are going to pay for our group. You can call Charlyn for more info 738-3430 or 934-3593. Things to bring: Life jacket (if you have one), sunscreen, towel, sack lunch, water and/or beverage, and snacks to share.

Cowboy's Rest Schedule

July 5-9, Jr High Camp #1

July 18-22, Jr High Camp #2

July 25-29, Jr High Camp #3

Announcing: **SONSURF BEACH BASH VBS coming soon! Aug 1-5, 2011.** Volunteer sheets will be in the bulletins or you may sign up in the office. If you want to get your children registered early, we have pre-registration forms available in the church office.

Youth enjoying a day at the lake last year!!!!



Come join the fun on Friday, July 1, 2011



Heifer International

Cows Provide Milk and Education – another reason we support Heifer International during Vacation Bible School and our traditional Heifer Brunch.

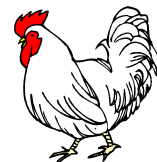
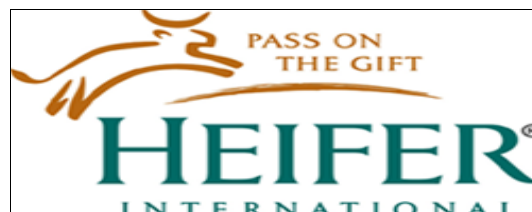
Colama, Nicaragua — Julian Sequiera Gomez and his family have been farming the rocky, volcanic soil of Colama for years, coaxing corn, wheat and beans from the fertile but often dry earth. Two years ago, he became a Heifer International project partner, receiving a pregnant heifer. "Seven months after Heifer gave me the cow, she gave birth," says Gomez, the father of six daughters. "Before, I didn't have cheese and milk. Now I have milk and cheese for my children." The protein has improved his children's health, and with the income earned from the sale of surplus milk, Gomez can buy school supplies for his children.

Down the hill from Gomez's house sits Colama's sturdy cinder-block school. Painted blue and white, it holds about 60 children, dressed in white tops and blue pants or skirts. The classes stop after the sixth grade, so children who want to continue their educations must pay to take a bus to a school about 20 miles away. The income from surplus milk covers bus fare and gives Colama's children an opportunity they wouldn't otherwise have. "Soon, I will pass on a calf to another family," Gomez says, standing outside his tin-roofed house of rough-hewn boards. "That is my promise to Heifer. I'm going to give to Heifer two calves from my cows. That way I help two families."

Years of civil unrest have scarred Nicaragua, leaving it one of the poorest nations in the Western Hemisphere. Although poor, the country is beautiful and the people, often quiet at first meeting, grow friendly through conversation, freely giving of what they do have—juicy oranges, sweet pineapples, tender avocados and other tropical fruits fresh from the trees that surround their houses. Colama is home to about 135 families living on small plots of land scattered along a network of dirt roads, almost all of them farmers producing just enough food to sustain their families. The simple gift of cows provides Heifer project partners with better nutrition, but it also gives them a chance to generate income for medicine and education. And by providing these families with a living, fewer heads of households have to leave their homes to seek work in other countries. They can hold onto their land, and families can stay together.

A few miles from Gomez's house, Rafael Acosta Tellez and a couple of neighbors have herded five heifers into a trailer in preparation for "Passing on the Gift," the Heifer Cornerstone that requires project partners to give the firstborn animal to another family in need. "I feel very good with this project," Tellez says. "I'm keeping my promise with the other families, and I'll still have cows for my family." "Heifer has helped a lot of people here," he says. "Before, there was nothing. Now we have work." Jazmina Acosta Miranda, Tellez's daughter, is just 18, but she is looking forward to the day when she has her own cow to care for. Her aunt, Elbia Brisuela Arguello, is part of the extended family. Arguello, who has a 5-year-old boy and a 2-year-old girl, says of her children: "They can drink milk every day. They're never sick."

Feliciana Jarquin Alvarez and her husband, Seferino, each received a Heifer cow. But before they could get the cows, the families of Colama had to learn how to take proper care of them, what to feed them, where to keep them so they would be safe. Alvarez, 50, and the mother of three daughters, says the project has given her a sense of purpose. "I'm working in my home for my family."



Bible Dedication

TownePlace Suites by Marriott, Elko, Nevada

Despite the hustle and bustle of contractors and staff busy with last minute preparations and finishing touches, eight Gideons from the Elko Camp found a few moments to hold a Bible Dedication at the new TownePlace Suites by Marriott located in Elko, Nevada.

Manager, Matt McCarty, requested that the Gideons place Bibles in the night stand drawers of the brand new motel before the opening scheduled for Friday, June 3, 2011. The Gideons, loaded up with cases of Hotel/Motel Bibles, arrived at the motel at 10:00 am on Tuesday, May 31, 2011.

The Gideons explained to the manager why they place Bibles in the rooms, and shared a testimony of how a local Elko resident had received comfort from a Motel Bible and had accepted Christ as her Savior. The Chaplain read some scripture verses relating to how the Bible gives us light as Christ is the Light, and water to quench our thirst, rest for the weary, healing for our souls and food for the spiritually hungry. A memorial Bible was given to Matt McCarty, Manager, in appreciation for his support of the Gideon Ministry. The service was closed in a prayer of dedication.

Following the service, the men dispersed throughout the four floors to place the Bibles in the drawers of each room. A total of 97 bibles were placed in 84 room and suites.

In attendance were: Charlie Cress, Gideon and founding member of the Elko Gideons Camp. Also present were; Doran Wildridge, Lucille Pryor, Stacy Jo Herzog, Matt McCarty, and several Gideons members.

We Claim Isaiah 55:11

“So shall My word be that goes forth from my mouth; it shall not return to me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the things for which I sent it.” (NKJV)

SESSION NOTES

Nominating committee Elders from Session will be: Erin Munson Chair, Susan Freitag, Vice Chair, with representatives from other First Church organizations forthcoming.

WELCOME TO New members received May 22, 2011. Travis Ian Anderson, Kerstin Anderson, Peter Klem and Bev Klem, Roger Johnson, Gordon Smith, Mavis Smith and Adam George.

We rejoice in the baptism of Jeannie Lynn Anderson, Braeden Ian Anderson, Liam Michael Anderson, Lehla Keller and Sollera Keller.

A STORY OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

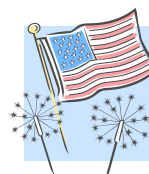


Independence Day is the national holiday of the United States of America commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

At the time of the signing the US consisted of 13 colonies under the rule of England's King George III. There was growing unrest in the colonies concerning the taxes that had to be paid to England. This was commonly referred to as "Taxation without Representation" as the colonists did not have any representation in the English Parliament and had no say in what went on. As the unrest grew in the colonies, King George sent extra troops to help control any rebellion. In 1774 the 13 colonies sent delegates to Philadelphia Pennsylvania to form the First Continental Congress. The delegates were unhappy with England, but were not yet ready to declare war.

By June 1776 their efforts had become hopeless and a committee was formed to compose a formal declaration of independence. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Robert R. Livingston and Roger Sherman. Thomas Jefferson was chosen to write the first draft which was presented to the congress on June 28. After various changes a vote was taken late in the afternoon of July 4th. Of the 13 colonies, 9 voted in favor of the Declaration, 2 - Pennsylvania and South Carolina voted No, Delaware undecided and New York abstained. To make it official John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence. It is said that John Hancock signed his name "with a great flourish" so "King George can read that without spectacles!" The following day copies of the Declaration were distributed. The first newspaper to print the Declaration was the Pennsylvania Evening Post on July 6, 1776. On July 8th the Declaration had its first public reading in Philadelphia's Independence Square. Twice that day the Declaration was read to cheering crowds and pealing church bells. Even the bell in Independence Hall was rung. The "Province Bell" would later be renamed "Liberty Bell".

And although the signing of the Declaration was not completed until August, the 4th of July has been accepted as the official anniversary of United States independence. The first Independence Day celebration took place the following year - July 4 1777. By the early 1800s the traditions of parades, picnics, and fireworks were established as the way to celebrate America's birthday. And although fireworks have been banned in most places because of their danger, most towns and cities usually have big firework displays for all to see and enjoy.



IN THE NEWS

- Students at Frag View raised \$550 to be donated to The American Red Cross to help people in Japan and in areas of the United States according to Counselor **Melissa Mecham**.
- **Jan Peterson** gave one of her cemetery tours in the historic graveyard in the small town of Tuscarora.
- **Tommy Justus** was featured during a city candidate forum discussing funding and the future.
- **Jared Fisk** was among the eight swimmers competing in the Boise Y Spring Fling.
- **Dick & Kay Hess** announced the engagement of their daughter Marie Hess to Kyle Rose.
- Spring Creek Seniors who received scholarships: Spring Creek High School advanced diploma—**Nicole Delbridge, Trinda Freese, Genevieve King, Cassandra Van Slyke**. Gold graduates (3.7 to 3.99 GPA) - **Nicole Delbridge, Trinda Freese, Genevieve King, Cassandra Van Slyke**. Academic letter went to **Genevieve King**. President's award for educational achievement went to **Alisa Culp**. President's award for educational excellence; **Nicole Delbridge, Trinda Freese, Genevieve King and Cassandra Van Slyke**. Elko Lodge 15 Free and Accepted Masons Scholarship went to **Alisa Culp**. The Rev. Ralph Bolin Scholarship went to **Cassandra Van Slyke**; SCH Spartan Pride Award, **Nicole Delbridge and Cassandra Van Slyke**. Pack Scholarship went to **Nicole Delbridge**. Congratulations to all Seniors!
- **Olivia Howe** was the Adobe Middle School 'High Flyers' for the months of March and April.
- **Gus Paoli**, Elko High School graduate, was awarded the Best Buy scholarship.
- The American Legion Auxiliary thanked **Jim Byars**, and Troop 52 Eagle Scout **Alex Byars** for their time distributing Poppys in commemoration of Memorial Day.
- **Kallista Crouch** did a great job of dancing at the college the Gum Drop Dance to the Candy Man.
- Elko Seniors who received scholarships: Presidents Education Award; **Jared Fisk, Jessica Hays**; Matys Brothers Music Scholarship; **Jared Fisk**. Northeastern Nevada Regional Hospital Scholarship: **Jessica Hays**. Ross/Herrera Memorial Award: **Julie Stefka**. University of Nevada Reno—**Julie Stefka**. Boise State University Gem Scholarship—**Darrick Ward**. University of Puget Sound Deans' Scholarship and University Grant: **Jared Fisk**. Best Buy @ 15 Scholarship—**Gus Paoli**. Annabelle & Frank Plunkett Scholarship—**Gus Paoli**. Barrick Gold Scholarship—**Jessica Hays**. Ruby Mountain FFA Alumni Scholarship—**Gus Paoli**. Silver(3.4—3.6 GPA) - **Gus Paoli**. Gold (3.7-3-9 GPA) - **Julie Stefka, Darrick Ward**. Special Recognition (4.0 and higher GPA) **Jared Fisk**. Millennium Scholarship— **Jared Fisk, Darrick Ward, Gus Paoli**.
- **Doris Toothman** along with the NNRH Auxiliary and Lamoillie Woman's Club donated money for a TV for BrightPath.

Charitable Donation Information

Are you 70-1/2 or older and planning to make a donation to the church or other charity before the end of this year? There is a little-known tax benefit that you many not know about. Legislators have extended through December 31, 2011, the ability to make qualified charitable distributions directly from an IRA to a charity and THE DISTRIBUTION/DONATION WILL NOT BE A TAXABLE EVENT as long as it is processed properly. (You will need to contact your CPA, financial Advisor, or IRA custodian to be sure this is done in accordance with IRS regulations). The IRA custodian must make the check payable to the receiving charity and the charity must provide a receipt.

Contributing directly to charities in this way is more beneficial to you than receiving the IRA distribution yourself and then making a donation because this method allows the distribution to be deemed a NON-TAXABLE EVENT and can meet your required minimum distribution (RMD) as well.

You are not limited to just your calculated RMD, but can make a qualified charitable donation of up to \$100,000 WITHOUT IT BEING A TAXABLE EVENT.

If you don't itemize deductions, this opportunity has additional value to you. When you make a donation directly from your IRA to a charity, the amount is NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR TAXABLE INCOME, so the effect is just like getting a charitable deduction. Again, this opportunity is available only until December 31, 2011, and is available only for those 70-1/2 or older.

Submitted by: Diana Jones

Have a Safe and Happy 4th on July.



First Presbyterian Church
1559 Sewell Drive
Elko, Nevada 89801
fpchurch@frontiernet.net

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Let the stars and stripes forever remain a symbol of a free and mighty nation built on faith, truth and love!

BIRTHDAY'S FOR JULY

07/02	Michael Creek	07/17	Kay Hess
07/03	Harper Wines	07/17	Jennifer Kidwell
07/05	Charline Hull	07/17	Ty Grigg
07/07	Jeff Kump	07/18	Bob Bellinger
07/08	Leta Collord	07/20	Stuart Hobbs
07/09	Samuel Tomera	07/22	Arnold Carrillo
07/09	Mike Kerna	07/23	Glen Guttry
07/13	Cassidy Jones	07/23	Tania Kump
07/14	Olivia Howe	07/24	Mark Van Slyke
07/15	Ann Haglund	07/24	Mary Craig
07/16	Gus Paoli	07/25	Troy Gunter
		07/26	Kari Gray
		07/29	Joseph Norero
		07/30	Tyler Gunter



FELLOWSHIP HOUR

July 3	Reed & Linda Moseley, Pat & Melissa Mecham, Jake & Karen Kump, Mike & Becky Kerna, Diana Jones, Kristi Glass.
July 10	Bill & Ann Nisbet, Erin Munson, Maureen Monks, Eric & Carlene Lancaster, Tony & Laura Gunter, Dan & Carolee Jones.
July 17	Bill & Janet Strickland, Jill Phillips, Jan Peterson, Tom & Susan Merschel, Aida Mathews, Craig & Jennifer Kidwell
July 24	Mark & Lois Ports, Shirley Knapp, Tom & Mary Dee Norris, Toni Mendive, George & Marvis Morley, Nick & Christine Thompson
July 31	Brian Riley, Patty Fisk, Pat Pearce, Liz Better, Ed & Robbie Nickel, George & Donna Gary.

Remember, if you change coffee hours, please contact the church office.

**Coffee and cookies are served in the Fellowship Hall
after Worship Service**

Everyone Welcome!