

Desert Pulpit—May 2011

First Presbyterian Church Desert Pulpit Elko, Nevada



Pastor Pat Mecham



Director of Family Ministry
.....Charlyn Van Slyke

Office Manager..... Bertha Lister

Financial Secretary. Heather Norero

Co-Choir Directors..... Patty Fisk and
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

E-mail: office@ElkoFirstPres.org

Web-site: elkofirstpres.org

One Great Book

What if you could find a book that was full of history, drama, humor, romance, AND faith—would you read it? Especially if it were written by a noted author? Of course! You probably think I'm referring to the Bible, which meets all these criteria. Good guess, and a great read. But the book I've been recommending (to everyone who will listen) is titled *Unbroken*, written by Laura Hillenbrand. It's the true story of Louie Zamperini, a world-class track athlete whose plane went down in the Pacific during World War II. He spent the next two years in a Japanese prison camp. He came home a haunted man, plagued by flashbacks of his brutal treatment.

What makes this book a total winner for me is the way God restored this incredible man, and used him to spread a message of forgiveness and hope to those who desperately needed it. Friends, do yourself a favor, and find a copy. It is *spellbinding*, full of adventure and God's light—and it's **true!** I guarantee a blessing for you.

Faithfully,

Pastor Pat

Sunday Schedule:

9:00 Sunday School for all ages
10:15 Worship Service:

Church Office Hours

Monday thru Thursday
8:30 am—3:00 pm
Fridays: 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

Adult Choir

7:15 pm Thursdays
Choir Does NOT Meet
During Summer

Sermon Titles and Scripture Readings for May, 2011

May 1	"Mayday!"	1 Peter 1:3-9
May 8	Youth Sunday (and Mother's Day)	
May 15	"When the Spirit Flows"	Acts 8:26-40, John 15:1-8
May 22	"Getting Promoted"	Acts 7:55-60, John 14:1-14
May 29	"Make Your Defense"	1Peter 3:13-18a, John 14:15-21

Director of Family Ministry

There are some exciting things happening in May in the life of the church.

Our T.W.C (Teens working for Christ) will start off the month with the World Vision 30- Hour Famine. Thursday, May 5, those participating will receive a wrist band to remind them to stop eating after their lunch on Friday, May 6. We will meet at the church at 6pm on Friday night and they will build their cardboard city that will be their home for the next 24 hours. They will be fasting and working during the next 24 hours and will be able to see just how hard it is to function with little to no food. We invite the congregation and parents to help us break our fast by bringing a pot of soup and/or bread at 6pm on Saturday, May 7th. Sunday May 8th will be youth Sunday; the youth are preparing the worship service for Mother's Day.

Thank you to all of you that have participated in our "Purple Potty" fundraiser for the 30-hour famine. A BIG THANK YOU to John Daniel and Mark Van Slyke for moving the 'Purple Potty' from place to place. They both know their way around Elko much better now, especially one certain part of town. ☺

For those participating in the 30-Hour famine, we have t-shirts!! They are \$10. Come and get yours!

May 22 will be the LAST day of Sunday School and also Promotion Sunday. If you know of ANY 4th, 8th, graduating Senior or College graduates PLEASE contact me. I don't want to forget to recognize someone.

Also on May 22 we will have our All youth year end BBQ from 1-3pm here at the church. Hamburgers, hot dogs, condiments, and buns will be supplied; we will potluck the salads, chips, drinks and desserts.

Please see the Kids' Club and T.W.C. calendar inserted for meeting schedule.

Last college lunch will be on May 18.

I will start asking for VBS teachers and helpers soon. Please check your calendars and prayerfully consider helping us out this year. VBS will be Aug 1-5, 2011

Charlyn Van Slyke; Director of Family Ministries;(775) 738-3430;

<http://ElkoFirstPres.org>;

ce-youth@ElkoFirstPres.org

Enjoy the Sunshine

I know, O Lord, that your laws are righteous, and in faithfulness you have afflicted me.

Psalm 119:75

RESURGE INTERNATIONAL TOTALS

The Mission Committee would like to thank everyone, who participated in our No/No Project. We would like to thank the ones that made No/no's, donated food, worked in the kitchen, and donated money. The auction was a big success, and we will try to continue it with other great items.

A Special Thank You to Charlie and Mary Lou Cress, for decorating our tables. You are so helpful in so many ways to all of us.

We shipped 1,471 No/No's on 4/12 to ReSurge in Mountain View, Ca. They will be taken to Asia or South America by teams of doctors and nurses that will be doing the cleft palate surgeries.

We raised \$950.00 from the auction and donations. This will be matched by Ken Becker, a ReSurge International volunteer. Ken is in charge of the No/No's at Re-Surge. The medical teams will be traveling this year and all of our money will be going toward medical supplies, equipment, and surgeries.

Thank you so much for helping in such a great program for children.

Submitted by Mary Dee Norris

In The News

- **Richard Corn**, grandson of Charline Hull, is the new vice president of the Associated Students at the University of Nevada, Reno.
- **Bob Kerth** was present to award a donation to the Northern Nevada Autism Network.
- **Shirley Knapp** and **Ralph Gamboa** won the Elko Bridge Club game.
- Kiwanis Livestock results: Intermediate individual placing: 2nd **Garret Tomera**, 5th **Mary Tomera**.
- **Dr. Dean Ward**, chiropractor claims success treating autism.

Esther Circle

Esther Circle meets the third Thursday of the month, Sept-May. Our next meeting will be on May 19 at 1:00 p. m. in the Parlor. We are studying Revelation thru a DVD program and Horizons Bible Study, with discussion following. All ladies of the church are welcome to attend.

Submitted by Mary Dee Norris

ELKO HANDBELLS

Elko Handbells has a recently-formed two-octave+ choir which will play for the first time on Sunday, May 22, at the regular worship service at First Presbyterian Church. They will play two selections for the prelude, another for the introit, one for the anthem, and the last for the offertory. This group rehearses only 1 evening per week, and has made great progress since starting in January. We look forward to performing this Sunday and at the RSVP banquet on Wednesday, May 25.

T G I S

(Take Groceries In Sunday)

6-Packs for Backpacks



The Mission Committee is collecting snack items that will be given to Communities in Schools for children in need. Suggested items are snack packs of juice, fruit, pudding, granola bars, peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers, etc. Please place your donations in the box in front of the church office.

Thank you helping hungry children.

A Loving Mother



God knew, in His great wisdom, that He couldn't be everywhere, so He put His little children in a loving mother's care.

*May your father and mother be glad;
may she who gave you birth rejoice!*

Proverbs 23:25

Happy Mother's Day - May 8, 2011

JOY CIRCLE

JOY CIRCLE WILL MEET ON MONDAY, MAY 9TH AT 7 PM IN THE PARLOR. WE WILL WATCH THE REVELATION DVD AFTER A BRIEF REGULAR MEETING. SUSIE JONES HAS DEVOTIONS AND TONI MENDIVE HAS REFRESHMENTS.

Mission

In the last two months, the Mission Committee has sent \$300 to several organizations in the name of the congregation. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance received \$300 for needs created by the Japanese tsunami, Witnessing Ministries of Christ received \$300.00 for bricks for schools for the untouchable caste in India, and FIRM received \$300.00 for the programs benefitting international refugees in Fresno.

Summer Worship Schedule:

The session voted to have summer worship services begin at 9:30 a.m. during the Summer months. This change will take place starting on **June 5, 2011** and continue until **September 4, 2011**. In the survey put together by Music and Worship the results were extremely close, therefore the Session decided to split the difference in time. Hope to see you at worship in the summer.

Submitted by Patty Fisk

Worship & Music chair



Musicians Needed

During the summer worship service, the choir takes the summer off. We will need volunteer musicians of all ages to take a turn providing music for the summer Worship services. There will be a sign up sheet on the church office window. Please come share your musical talents with the congregation.

SESSION NOTES FOR APRIL

Action taken:

- April 24, 2011 Infant baptism of Ewuabena Atiemo born February 1, 2011.
- Purchase and placement of new outside doors in Fellowship Hall.
- Continuation of sidewalk replacement plan.
- Summer hours to be 9:30 a.m. from June 5, 2011 through September 4, 2011.

JEWES FOR JESUS

Passover meal demonstration was held in April at Elko First Presbyterian Church following fellowship and soup supper. Sue Mendelson, missionary for Jews for Jesus, brought history and tradition of the Passover Meal intertwining the Christian connection. The opportunity to view the meaningful tradition of the Jewish community and its Christian impact was significant. Jews for Jesus can be viewed on the internet at jewsforjesus.org. A DVD of the Passover meal has been purchased and donated for the congregation's group or private use and can be made available through the church office.



Spring Tea

SATURDAY, MAY 21

11:30 AM



LADIES COME AND JOIN US
BRING YOUR MOTHERS, DAUGHTERS, FRIENDS

FOR GOOD FOOD AND A GOOD TIME!

Heifer International

FPC supports Heifer International through your donations from Vacation Bible School each August and the Heifer Brunch each September. Why? What is Heifer International? This is a short history of the beginning of Heifer from its website www.heifer.org.

A Four-Footed Attack Against Hunger

A Midwestern farmer named Dan West was ladling out rations of milk to hungry children during the Spanish Civil War (1936) when it hit him.

"These children don't need a cup, they need a cow."

West, who was serving as a Church of the Brethren relief worker, was forced to decide who would receive the limited rations and who wouldn't – literally, who would live and who would die. This kind of aid, he knew, would never be enough.

So West returned home to form Heifers for Relief, dedicated to ending hunger permanently by providing families with livestock and training so that they "could be spared the indignity of depending on others to feed their children."

In 1944, the first shipment of 17 heifers left York, Pennsylvania, for Puerto Rico, going to families whose malnourished children had never even tasted milk.

Why heifers? These are young cows that haven't yet given birth – making them perfect not only for supplying a continued source of milk, but also for supplying a continued source of support. That's because each family receiving a heifer agrees to "pass on the gift" and donate the female offspring to another family, so that the gift of food is never-ending.

This simple idea of giving families a source of food rather than short-term relief caught on and has continued for more than 65 years.

Since 1944, the total number of families assisted directly and indirectly is 13.6 million—more than 70.5 million men, women and children. In 2009, a total of 1.63 million families were assisted within the four program areas in which Heifer operates.

- Africa, 442,942
- Americas, 473,319
- Asia/South Pacific, 432,976
- Central and Eastern Europe, 282,623

First Presbyterian Church
 1559 Sewell Dr.
 Elko, Nevada 89801
 fpchurch@frontiernet.net
 office@ElkoPres.org

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My Son, keep your father's commands and do not forsake your mother's teaching.

Proverbs 6:20

BIRTHDAY'S FOR MAY

05/03 Jake Kump	05/18 Jason Norero
05/04 Phil Gallegos	05/19 George Morley
05/04 David Murray	05/20 Jon Brownlee
05/06 Debbie Schorsch	05/20 Birney Powell
05/08 Jim Collord	05/22 Elaine Knight
05/10 Charles Harper	05/22 Julie Stefka
05/10 Heather Norero	05/23 Renee Sawyer
05/11 Mary Lou Cress	05/24 Jessica Hays
05/13 Tom Tsukamoto	05/26 Janet Petersen
05/13 Spencer Wines	05/30 Melodie Schorsch
05/15 Robert Whitehead	05/30 Mike Grigg
05/16 Tony Gunter	05/31 Nancy Hanley
05/17 Alyson Freitag	05/31 Craig Stevens
05/17 Smanatha Guttry	05/31 Brian Arthur



FELLOWSHIP HOUR

May 1	Carol Cuthbertson, John & Janice Collett, Marv & Julie Churchfield, D'Ette Burgess, Bob & Donna Bellinger
May 8	Bev Gilbertson, Chuck & Elaine Knight, Jim & Leta Collord, Birney & Jean Powell, Phil & Roberta Gallegos, Larry & Evalyn Plumb
May 15	Kristi Glass, Danny & Iolanda Gillins, Janice Farris, Jim & Jerry Cooney, Karen Mori, Pam Cartier
May 22	Hugh & Louise Collett, Mike & Kim Grigg, John Everhart & Yurie Liu, Adam & Rachel George, Mary Craig, John & Faith Daniel
May 29	Charles & Mary Harper, Ann Haglund, Rod & Jessica Flint, Ed & Jeannie Gillins, Bart & Susan Freitag, Charlie & Mary Lou Cress

Remember if you change coffee hours,
 please call the Church Office at 738-3430.

**COFFEE AND COOKIES ARE SERVED IN THE
 FELLOWSHIP HALL AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE**

Everyone Welcome!!