



# First Presbyterian Church—Elko Nevada

DESERT PULPIT

September 2016

## Tom's Corner



I finally made it to worship on Sunday August 21st and I felt most welcomed by everyone present that morning. To experience worship sitting with the congregation is always a treat for me seeing that I'm usually the one who is leading, at least a part of worship. I can see that God has blessed this congregation with some good and faithful leaders over the years. This is always a good sign in that it shows that you've been guided by some competent and committed spiritual leaders over the years.

I look forward to getting to know all of you as we journey together during this period of transition over the next several months. My prayer for all of us is to just take a deep breath and slow down, seeing that I'm finally here and that bit by bit I'm slowly getting settled in my new home across town, as well as getting moved in here at church and getting accustomed to the way First Presbyterian Church of Elko has been doing ministry as part of Christ's greater church. Try to relax and allow God's Spirit to guide us as Fall and Winter will soon be upon us. And let's continue to just be church as we work together so that Advent and Lent can be a time of spiritual growth and renewal for all of us.

I look forward to serving you as your interim pastor and I can't wait to get to know you both inside and outside the church. I'm sure I'll enjoy exploring the Ruby Mountains and all the other places of interest here in Northeast Nevada. Have a blessed time now as we soon will be engaged with all in the upcoming Fall activities.

In Christ's Service,

*Reverend Tom Holslag - Interim Pastor*

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| • Interim Pastor | Tom Holslag  |
| • Melissa Fonder | Director of Family Ministries .....<br>fm.elko.firstpres@gmail.com<br>familyministries@elkofirstpres.org |
| • Bertha Lister  | Office Manager   |
| • Christa Bair   | Financial Secretary  |
| • Kay Hess       | Nursery Attendant  |
| • Jim Hill       | Organist   |

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| • Mindy Arbogast        | Pianist   |
| • Patty Fisk            | Choir Director  |
| • Bertha Lister         | Desert Pulpit Editor  |
| • Church Office         | 775-738-3430  |
| • Fax number            | 775-738-0805  |
| • Church e-mail address | <a href="mailto:fpchurch@frontiernet.net">fpchurch@frontiernet.net</a><br><a href="mailto:info@ElkoFirstPres.org">info@ElkoFirstPres.org</a><br>website address: <a href="http://ElkoFirstPres.org">ElkoFirstPres.org</a> |

## Director of Family Ministries



**Autumn is in the Air!**

### **Sunday School:** Children 3-years-old through Adult

Sunday School will resume at 9:00 September 18th!

This year we are returning to "The Gospel Project". We will pick up with the Fall 2016 materials. If you need books, order forms are available on the counter in the office.

Classes:      3&4 Year Olds    In the Nursery with Heather Norero  
                 K-2nd Grade        In the Children's Church Room with a teacher TBD  
                 3rd-5th Grade       In the Room next to the Resource Room with Sally Winsley  
                 6th - 12th Grade    In the Youth Room with Malissa Bisson  
                 College/Young Adults   At Cool Beans Coffee Shop with Charlyn Van Slyke  
                 Adults                In the Room across from the Office with Mike Jones & Tara Lounsbury  
   In the Parlor with Kathy Reyes & Judy Boyce

### **Children's Church:** Children 4 years through 2nd grade

Children's Church is also available right after the Children's Message on Sunday mornings.

Our Children's Church Teachers are Becky Schaffner, Heather Norero, Bev Klem, Vicki Goicochea, Malissa Bisson, and Alisa Culp.

### **Youth Group:** Kids 6th grade through college

Youth calendars are available in a folder on the bulletin board outside the youth room.

The Youth Group meets Tuesday Nights at 6:00 for games and fellowship.

September 18th we will meet at noon for our Annual Calendar Planning Meeting.

### **College/Young Adults:** Kids out of high school through 25 years old

The college group is discussing a Fall 2016 schedule. More details to come.

### **Adult Bible Study:**

Men's Bible Study - Mondays at 10:00am in the Parlor lead by Jim Hill

Women's Bible Study - Mondays at 10:00 in the Adult Sunday School Room lead by Becky Schaffner

Tai Chi - Wednesdays at 9:00in the Fellowship Hall lead by Donna Gary

Bible Study - Wednesdays at 9:30 in the Parlor lead by Kathy Reyes

### **Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University**

Charlyn will be leading a nine-week Financial Peace University class that will meet Tuesday nights at 6:00 beginning September 20th and ending November 15th.

**Have a beautiful September!**

**Melissa Fonder**

My Office Hours:

Mondays 8:00 - 3:00

Tuesdays 8:30 - 12:30

Wednesdays 11:00 - 3:00



## HEIFER BRUNCH AT FPC

SEPTEMBER 11, 2016

**For over thirty years our church school year has begun with a Heifer International Worship Service and Breakfast. Farm animals join us for the outdoor worship service at 9:30 A.M. After the service there is a free breakfast provided by the Mission Committee. If you choose to donate to support Heifer International (which we hope you do), your donations will help rebuild Honduras's beekeeping industry that was nearly destroyed by African bees. Thousands of families were self reliant because of the honey production of almost a million bottles a year. We also chose a project to provide poultry, beef cattle, seeds, and training to families in the Mekong Delta of Vietnam.**

**The following statement from Heifer helps explain why we support them each year. Heifer International's mission is to work with communities to end world hunger and poverty and to care for the Earth.**

Dan West was a farmer from the American Midwest and member of the Church of the Brethren who went to the front lines of the Spanish Civil War as an aid worker. His mission was to provide relief, but he soon discovered the meager single cup of milk rationed to the weary refugees once a day was not enough. And then he had a thought: What if they had not a cup, but a cow? That "teach a man to fish" philosophy is what drove West to found Heifer International. And now, nearly 70 years later, that philosophy still inspires our work to end hunger and poverty throughout the world once and for all.

### **How it Works**

We empower families to turn hunger and poverty into hope and prosperity – but our approach is more than just giving them a handout. Heifer links communities and helps bring sustainable agriculture and commerce to areas with a long history of poverty. Our animals provide partners with both food and reliable income, as agricultural products such as milk, eggs and honey can be traded or sold at market. When many families gain this new sustainable income, it brings new opportunities for building schools, creating agricultural cooperatives, forming community savings and funding small businesses.

### **Passing on the Gift**

The core of our model is Passing on the Gift. This means families share the training they receive, and pass on the first female offspring of their livestock to another family. This extends the impact of the original gift, allowing a once impoverished family to become donors and full participants in improving their communities. The goal of every Heifer project is to help families achieve self-reliance. We do this by providing them the tools they need to sustain themselves, and it's thanks to the generosity of donors like you.

You have the power to give a hungry family the training it takes to feed themselves and their children; to give a young girl a chance at an education; to empower a woman to have a voice in her community. Together, we can change the world, one family, one community, at a time. And it all starts with your gift to Heifer International..

## BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

**Women and Men's Bible Study Groups** have changed their meeting dates. Starting on Monday August 29 they will meet on **Monday mornings at 10:00am**. The Men will meet in the Parlor and the Women will meet in the room across from the office.

## FPU Classes

Link to the new **Dave Ramsey FPU** class: [Dump Debt and Change Your Future – daveramsey.com](http://daveramsey.com). You can also purchase materials for the class at this web-site. Classes begin Sept. 13 at 6:00pm in the church parlor, for more information contact Charlyn Van Slyke at 775-934-3593.

## IN THE NEWS

**PATTY FISK** and her Elko swim team participated in the Summer Championships held in Twin Falls, Idaho.

**GLEN GUTTRY** explained that the National Night Out 2016 was focused on crime drug and violence prevention.

**DR. HUGH COLLETT, BILL STRICKLAND** presented Navy League memorabilia to Jacob Parks. **SHELIA HALTON, NICK HALTON, ANN NISBET AND JANET STRICKLAND** were all present during the donation from the Council Navy League to GBC veterans

## MOPS

The new MOPS year is starting soon with a new theme, new speakers and crafts, and lots of fun. This year's theme is *We Are The Starry Eyed*. The theme verse is *Thus says the Lord who made the earth, the Lord who formed it to establish it... Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know.* – Jeremiah 33:2-3 Sometimes we think we have to pick one, when in reality it is always both. Light and dark, hope and fear, kindness and risk, wonder and mundane.

This is evidenced by the fact that we are people who are meant to live by both sunlight and moonlight. Our natural rhythms revolve around the circling of sun and moon. Yet often our tendency is to cling to one, the one that is more comfortable, forgetting that our fullest living comes when we embrace the swirly mix.

Starry Eyed means looking for the light even when darkness is enveloping. It is an opportunity to hope recklessly and to witness God's presence guiding things seen and unseen, comfortable and uncomfortable.

When we reflect back over our lives, this year is going to stand out. It will be the year that we decided to live fully by both sunlight and moonlight. Because audacity is rising in the deepest and wildest parts of our souls. And the best part is, we will experience it all together. We look forward to learning, growing, and fellowshiping together as mothers of preschoolers. MOPS is hosting an Open House on August 31 at 9 am at the church. We hope to meet lots of new moms and kiddos.

Our first meeting of the new year is September 14, 2016 at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall. At this meeting we will welcome back our returning moms and kids and get to know our new moms.

Our second meeting of the month is September 28, 2016 at 9 am also in the Fellowship Hall. We are kicking off our book club and Bible study.

MOPS is open to all moms – pregnant and/or with children from birth thru Kindergarten. Loving childcare is always provided. For more information call Becky at 753-7330.



**WEDDING RECEPTION  
FOR CASSI AND TRAVIS  
WILL BE HELD ON  
SEPTEMBER 17 IN THE  
FELLOWSHIP HALL  
AT 4:00 PM.**

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

Just a little something we wanted to share with  
you.....

### GOOD WORDS TO LIVE BY

By a clergyman in Kansas

At the Kansas State House of Representatives the Rev. Joe Wright was asked to give the prayer before the session began. This is the body of his prayer.....

"We confess that we have ridiculed the absolute truth of your word and called it multiculturalism. We have endorsed perversion and called it alternative lifestyle. We have exploited the poor and called it Lottery. We have neglected the needy and called it self-preservation. We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare. We have killed our unborn and called it choice. We have shot abortionists and called it justifiable. We have neglected to discipline our children and called it building esteem. We have abused power and called it political savvy. We have coveted our neighbor's possessions and called it ambition. We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression. We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment.

Search us O God and know our hearts today; try us and see if there be some wicked way in us, cleanse us from every sin and set us free."

Wright said "I am praying to God when I'm praying, I'm not up there to put on a show...My convictions don't change when I'm in a public place."

I think Wright's firm words were right on and need our heeding.

Submitted by Larry Plumb

*Just a  
quick  
reminder!*

Worship Service will go back to its regular time of **10:15 am on September 18**. Sunday School for all ages will also begin **on September 18 at 9:00 am**. Check with Melissa for more information.

### THE FALL CONNECTION

#### COMING

To a Fellowship Hall near you!

Your chance to see

**ALL**

The opportunities you have to be involved  
in the Life of our Church  
featured in one location

Hope to see you there after Church on  
**September 25, 2016**

This exciting event is brought to you by  
your  
Membership and Evangelism Committee

For more information contact  
Kim Bolin at 738-7091

### *Esther Circle*

Esther Circle starts a new Horizon Bible Study, "Who Is Jesus?", on Sept. 15. Our meeting starts at 1:00 p.m. in the parlor. Before the meeting we are having an all-luck-pot-luck at noon in the Fellowship Hall. All interested women are invited to join us. If you have any questions, call Frances Schain at 738-6322.

**CHEESE!**



### Church Pictorial

The Membership and Evangelism Committee is preparing a Photo Church Directory. Melissa is taking the photos in the Solar Room (across from the office) Sundays after church and during her office hours, Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9:00-2:00. If you are unavailable during those times, please call or text Melissa at 775-397-1832 to schedule a time to have your family's photo taken.

*Guide me in your truth and teach me, for  
you are God my Savior, and my hope is in  
you all day long.*

Psalm 25:5



## FELLOWSHIP HOUR

- 09/04 Becky Schaffner, Janet Webb, Clarice Gamboa, Heather Norero, Heather Heard.
- 09//11 Kathy Reyes, Cuttry Gamily, Aida Mathews, Sheets Family, Linda Trontel, Lorelee Justice.
- 09/18 Jennifer Kidwell, Thompson Family, Charline Hull, Frances Schain, Jan Atkinson, Beverly Liggett.
- 09/25 Bev Klem, Liz Better, B.J. Hurley, Hobbs Family, Hays Family, Harper Family



**You will also need to help set up and clean up**

*Everyone Welcome!*



## BIRTHDAYS

- 9/03 Lois Ports
- 9/04 Judi Boyce
- 9/10 Bart Freitag
- 9/16 Jill Phillips
- 9/19 Stephanie Bisson
- 9/25 Leon Reyes
- 9/25 Trinda Freese



## **International Day of Peace**

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on **21 September**. The General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples.

The Day's theme for 2016 is "*The Sustainable Development Goals: Building Blocks for Peace.*"

## **Labor Day**

Labor Day in the United States is a public holiday celebrated on the first Monday in September. *It honors the American labor movement and the contributions that workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of the country.* It is the Monday of the long weekend known as Labor Day Weekend and it is considered the unofficial end of summer.

*Church Office will be closed— Monday September 5 in observance of Labor Day.*

# September 2016

15SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1  12:00 AI-Alon 5:30 Cub Scouts 5:30 NAMI	2	3
4  Communion 9:30 Worship	5  10:00 Women's Bible Study 10: Men's Bible Study 5:30 Cub Scouts 6:00 Boy Scouts <b><u>OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY</u></b>	6  1:00 Hobby Group 5:30 Cub Scouts 6:00 Youth Group	7  9:00 MOPS – Steering 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 College Group 5:30 Handbell	8  12:00 AI-Alon 5:30 Cub Scouts 5:30 NAMI	9	10
11  9:30 Worship Heifer Brunch	12  6:00 Handbells 10:00 Women's Bible Study 10: Men's Bible Study 5:30 Cub Scouts 6:00 Boy Scouts	13  6:00 Handbells 11:30 Hobby Lunch 1:00 Hobby Group 5:30 Cub Scouts	14  6:00 Handbells 9:00 MOPS 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 College Group	15  11:00 Esther Circle Potluck 12:00 AI-Alon 1:00 Esther Circle 5:30 Cub Scouts 5:30 NAMI	16	17  Noon—Decorating 3:00—9:00 Cassie & Travis Reception in the Fellowship Hall
18 9:00 Sunday School for all ages <b><u>10:15 Worship Return to regular worship time.</u></b> Deacons Meeting 12:00 Youth Planning	19  6:00 Handbells 10:00 Women's Bible Study 10: Men's Bible Study 5:30 Cub Scouts 6:00 Boy Scouts	20 <b><u>DEADLINE FOR DESERT PULPIT ARTICLES</u></b> 6:00 Handbells 1:00 Hobby Group 5:30 Cub Scouts 6:00 SESSION 6:00 FPU Classes	21  6:00 Handbells 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 College Group 5:30 Handbell	22  12:00 AI-Alon 5:30 Cub Scouts 5:30 NAMI	23	24
25 9:00 Sunday School for all ages 10:15 Worship Fall Connections C.E. Meeting 12:00 Youth Studies	26  6:00 Handbells 10:00 Women's Bible Study 10: Men's Bible Study 5:30 Cub Scouts 6:00 Boy Scouts	27  6:00 Handbells 1:00 Hobby Group 5:30 Cub Scouts 6:00 FPU Classes 6:00 Youth Group	28  6:00 Handbells 9:00 MOPS 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 5:30 College Group 5:30 Handbell	29  12:00 AI-Alon 5:30 Cub Scouts 5:30 NAMI	30	