

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—ELKO NEVADA 1559 SEWELL DR., ELKO, NEVADA 89801 775-738-3430



Tom's Corner

Summer is just around the corner. Which translates for many of us to take a break from our hectic routines. Yet we can't forget and need to remember that God in Christ never takes a break and is always there for us at a moment's notice. And though choir, Sunday school and some of the other groups that meet here at the church will take some time off for the summer, church will continue to that meet to proclaim the 'Good News' and saving grace of Jesus Christ. Our witness as a church will continue and I hope that you remain faithful in your attendance and also in the reading of God's word, the 'Bible,' because God does have something he wants to do and accomplish through you, as we say each Sunday together at the end of worship.

On Sunday May 21st we had our 1st 'Mission Study' to help re-vision the future direction of 1st Presbyterian Church here in Elko. It was open to everyone in the congregation to offer their ideas and suggestions of where we might be headed. We will have two more meetings for you to give your input. The next meeting will be on Sunday June 4th after worship, this will be our second 'Mission Study' meeting. Then again on Wednesday June 14th at 6:00 pm we'll have our third 'Mission Study' to hopefully wind up the process. During our second 'Mission Study' we'll look at the kind of gifts and talents you'll be looking for in your next called pastor. Once all this information is gathered it will eventually be turned over to the Pastor Nominating Committee – PNC that will be used to start the pastoral search sometime later this summer or in the fall. This is a very important part of the pastoral search and I do hope you make time to attend at least two of those meeting.

Have a blessed summer wherever you might be going and vacationing with family and friends!

God's peace,

Rev. Tom Holslag – Interim Pastor

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Interim Pastor | Tom Holslag |
| • Melissa Fonder | Director of Family Ministries
fm.elko.firstpres@gmail.com
familyministries@elkofirstpres.org |
| • Bertha Lister | Office Manager |
| • Caren McBride | Financial Secretary |
| • Jim Hill | Organist |
| • Brandolyn Thran | Pianist |

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Patty Fisk | Choir Director |
| • Bertha Lister | Desert Pulpit Editor |
| • Church Office | 775-738-3430 |
| • Church e-mail address | fpchurch@frontiernet.net
info@ElkoFirstPres.org |
| • website address: | ElkoFirstPres.org |
| • Facebook: | www.facebook.com/First.Presbyterian.Church.Of.Elko |

Director of Family Ministries



Thank you to all of our 2016-2017 Teachers and Leaders.

VBS 2017

Wednesday, June 21st is our first VBS Prep Day. Throughout the summer, we will have prep every Wednesday from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

Nursery Babies 6 Weeks Old through 3 Years Old

The list of trained Nursery Worker Volunteers is posted on the nursery door and also located in the Deacon's podium drawer. If you see a little one in church who might need the nursery, please let one of us know. The list of nursery workers is:

Heather Norero

Becky Schaffner

Malissa Bisson

Sally Winsley

Melissa Fonder

Children's Church Kids 4 Years Old through 2nd Grade

For the summer our Children's Church teachers will be teaching lessons of their choice. If you'd like to see what they have taught, there is a hot pink colored paper in the Children's Church room where the teachers will write the topics of their lessons.

Youth Group: Kids 6th Grade through 12th Grade

Welcome to our new 6th grade youth group members!! We meet every Tuesday night from 6:00 to 8:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

Who's Doing What In May:

<u>Children's Message</u>	<u>Children's Church</u>	
June 4	Heather Norero	Malissa Bisson
June 11	Emily Fonder	Heather Norero
June 18	Becky Schaffner	Becky Schaffner
June 25	Melissa Fonder	Bev Klem

Love and Blessings, Melissa Fonder

A special note to our church family:

Emily will be having a graduation party at the church on Saturday, June 10th from 4:00pm to 7:00pm.

We would love for all of you to come celebrate with us!

Please let me know if you can attend so we plan for enough food.

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee has conducted its first meeting to present names of those who will serve on the Session and the Board of Deacons to fill out the terms of current members who are unable to finish their terms due to departure from the Elko Area. In addition to these “normal” tasks of the Committee, we also took the first steps to generate names of church members who will participate in what is surely the single most important task facing the First Presbyterian Church at this time.

This important task is that of moving ahead to form a Pastor Nominating Committee to select a new Pastor who will keep our church moving ahead in both growth and in service to our membership and to potential members in the Elko, Spring Creek and Lamoille area. To accomplish this important task, the Nominating Committee will solicit names from the Session, the Board of Deacons and the Presbyterian Women of those individuals who are willing to serve and commit the time required to complete the tasks associated with searching for and selecting a new permanent pastor to lead us forward. In addition, the list of church members will also be searched in order to identify two at large members of the Committee. It should be understood by all church members that the Nominating Committee will be looking to name potential members, to be elected at a future Congregational Meeting, that will constitute a Pastor Nominating Committee that represents a true cross section of our membership. We will be working to name a Committee that is balanced with regard to age, gender, etc. of those represented in our congregation. In order to obtain this balance of membership it should be understood that even though names are submitted from the three above named church organizations, the committee may possibly ask the organizations to present additional names that may result in a committee with the desired interests and balance. All potential members should understand that serving on a Pastor Nominating Committee entails a significant commitment of time and energy which could last for a minimum of 18 months and most likely several months beyond that. This is the single most important task facing us today and it must be accomplished with the best possible representative group dedicated to bringing us a pastor who will work together with our congregation to move forward in Christian and membership growth.

It should also be noted that the Nominating Committee feels very fortunate to have Pastor Tom as our interim and we feel we are in excellent hands as we move to find a new pastor. No matter how long the search may take to call a new pastor, we are in an outstanding position to take the necessary time to find that individual who is the best possible fit for the First Presbyterian Church of Elko.

John Daniel
Chairman, Nominating
Committee

Nick Halton
Member, Nominating
Committee

I can't hear you because I'm SHOUTING!

Mike and I attended an important workshop on May 6 at the South Lake Tahoe Community Presbyterian Church entitled "I can't hear you because I'm shouting." The workshop was sponsored by Nevada Presbytery to help us learn how to communicate with people who have different opinions. I was interested in going because of the talk at March's Presbytery meeting about how young people aren't really interested in attending church, partially because they don't see us discussing issues that are important to them. I see us as avoiding those issues because we have differing opinions among us, and we are all friends and one family, so we act as if it is better to be silent than bring up or respond to some topic we may disagree on.

Perhaps it would be better if we discussed contentious topics within the framework of respect, love, and humility that we come by naturally in our safe church family. If we learn to do that in the church, our young people can see that we do talk about issues that are important to them. Also we may be able to carry that knowledge about how to communicate and still maintain relationships in our society. The leader of the workshop, Fred Roberts, emphasized the need to communicate properly so that we maintain our democracy. We can't really be democratic if we don't speak and listen with respect, love, and humility.

One step in this process that Fred Roberts discussed was the use of "Mental Models." He proposed that we think of true Reality symbolized with different shapes (like a block, triangle, circle, and rectangle) and colors. Two people having a discussion about a topic that they disagree about could be imagined as having some of those symbols in their brains, maybe different sizes or different colors, maybe some exactly the same. But no one, anywhere, has the whole Reality. We are all led to our perceptions of reality by our own backgrounds and experiences, and no one has Reality absolutely right. So the real goal of a discussion would be for each party to get more of a picture of true Reality by learning from the other person. Respect, love, and humility are much more natural to our church family than the society at large, so I believe church would be the perfect place for us to practice thinking of each other with "Mental Models" that we can learn from.

A second step would be to respond to an opinion that someone states. For example, "I would really like to use the china plates for the spring tea." If the person does not give a reason why she wants to use the china plates, ask, "Why do you think we should use the china plates?" Ask her polite, not argumentative, questions about her answers. Then tell why you want to use paper plates instead of the china plates, and ask whether your statements make sense to her. This discussion could go back and forth until you decide to accept one person's point of view, arrive at a compromise, agree to disagree, or decide to discuss this further at a later date.

Discussions on religion, racism, gender, immigration, politics, or other hot issues could be handled the same way, remembering that all people want almost the same things: including safety, employment, health, and education for our families and friends.

Submitted by Susan Jones

Notes from the Keys, by Brandolyn Thran

Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you. Proverbs 4:25 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. Colossians 3:2 When a musician sits down with a new piece of music they first look at the key signature, and second they look at the time notation. The theory goes, if you play in the right notes in the right key at the right time, then you should “get it right”. Pretty simple, right? But here is the thing, from where I sit at the piano there are distractions are all around me so what seems so simple becomes oh so hard!

The door opening and closing with people moving in and out of the sanctuary, acolytes moving light, ushers doing their job passing the offertory plates or distributing the elements of communion, people singing in a different key or rhythm, Reverend Tom moving around behind the pulpit, people talking, people blowing their noses...who knew there was so much happening in a church at any given moment!

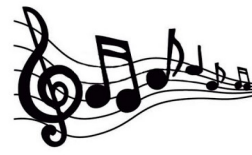
Sometimes even the very thing I’m supporting, for example the choir, can be a distraction. While I need to stay aligned with them, at the same time I can’t allow myself to focus on their voices and their words too much because then I lose my place. It’s a delicate balance, I must be aware, but not lose focus; my role is different than theirs. My notes and my timing is different, so I need to be aware of them but my focus needs to be on my music.

Here’s the thing: focus is not something that comes easily to me. My natural state is all over the place, moving fast and bouncing from one thing to the next. Whether it’s cooking dinner, cleaning the house, or writing a paper, at some point, I will get the task done, but I’m more like a cyclone. I tend to circle around and around, each time picking up another piece to complete the task, but rarely is it a linear straight line effort. This is a trait Robby noticed early in our marriage, so when I told him about my struggle to focus at the piano he immediately laughed and said, “go figure, the most easily distracted person is forced to focus”. Little did we know he was on to something big.

I believe God places us in situations to teach us something. So here I am, smack dab at the intersection of learning and focus, and it is so much more than just music. The lesson applies to my whole life! God placed me on this planet to do something only I can do. My notes, my timing. But how often am I distracted by all that is going on around me? How often do I get off my page and jump onto someone else’s page because it appears more inviting? More fun? Easier? More noticeable? More rewarding? Like a good opportunity?

This piano gig is teaching me to focus on focus, on the piano bench and in the rest of my life. It’s not easy and takes a lot of daily effort, but I am starting to see the positive outcomes, better music and better living. Thankfully I am not alone in this venture. When my focus starts to slip, when I choose to listen, I can hear God whisper, “focus, just play the notes on your page. I will give you the right note at the right time. Focus on Me, not the world. Don’t get ahead of Me. Together we will make beautiful music and a beautiful life.”

Ultimately my job is to be focused on God and be rooted in the perfect timing of God. My hope for you is that you find your perfect key and timing of God. Remember; just play the notes on your page.



BUSY, BUSY PLACE

We are delighted to see so many groups using our church facilities. Several cub scout packs, a boy scout troop, NAMI, Swim team meetings, MOPS and Al-Anon have joined our Bible Study groups, choir practice, handbell practice, women's circles, and hobby group to use our facilities during the days and evenings. This is a busy place!

All this activity means we have to be doubly aware of security.

Several times the building has been unlocked all night, one group probably assuming that the other is still meeting and will take care of locking the building. Please, when you leave the building, check all lights and doors. If you are leaving a group still there, let them know what you have locked and that they are now in charge. It takes a key to lock the Fellowship door, so make certain the door is locked or that a person left in the church has a key to lock it.

Greetings from Session

Session members reported on activities this past month. Financial reporting received and appreciate the hard work of committee chair, Tim Pike, Presbytery consultant Vern Manke and diligence of bookkeeper, Caren McBride. There was much to overcome.

Sanctuary roof bids are being reviewed and will be brought to Session and the congregation in the near future. Lynn Bondo and team have worked on the project with fruitful local contactor response.

Key policy again directed to the need for people to sign in for keys yearly as well as turning in keys at the end of tenure in an effort to maintain security. Due to the multiplicity of activities concerns expressed about complete latching of entrance doors. Double check all doors before leaving premises.

Nominating committee actively preparing for selection of Pastor Nominating Committee members as well as recently vacated Elder positions. Reverend Tom will be leading Mission Statement study groups and all are encouraged to participate. Learning from one another congregational interests and vision for the church is informative and enlightening. Attending the three scheduled meetings or one of them would be helpful for the process as we learn, lead and communicate.

BY LAW changes will be presented for congregational review at our next Congregational meeting.

PER CAPITA continues to be underfunded. Our Presbytery offers so very much in return for our small percentage proportion through education opportunities, assistance in committee work and pastoral outreach. We are anticipating the visit of Reverend Hilda Pecarero in June as a representative of our Presbytery.

Zephyr Point offers many opportunities for study groups, family camps and just a visit. Be sure to review the many venues offered.

In Christ's love,
Judi Boyce, Clerk

Musicians Needed We need musicians to sign up for summer music. If you play an instrument or would like to sing during the anthem time in the worship service, please sign up. There is a sign up sheet posted on the office window.



Building and Grounds

Committee needs some more handymen and women! Please let Bertha know if you are willing to volunteer to help this committee keep our building and grounds in good condition.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Jeff and Christi Boyd, our mission workers, will be here on August 6 to preach and tell us about their work in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Cameroon, and Equatorial Guinea (Jeff) and Madagascar, Niger, Rwanda, and South Sudan (Christi). They hope to be able to stay for part of the Vacation Bible School activities that begin that week.

Women's Wednesday Bible Study Group

will begin a Ken Bailey Study on the Parables on June 14. No Materials needed. We meet at 9:30 am in the church parlor.

The Rev. Ralph Bolin Memorial Scholarship

has been awarded to five students this year. Skylar Merschel from Spring Creek High School, Emily Fonder and Trenton Freitag from Elko High School. Daniel Groff and Alexis Freitag received the scholarship for a second year. Each student will receive \$1000.00.

PW Spring Tea

Thank you Lois Ports for the wonderful program on butterflies at our Spring Tea. Thank you to Victor and Melissa for setting up the TV for that program. Jan and Ann had memorial thoughts for the women who have recently passed. It was beautiful. To everyone attending, thank you for all the great food and especially the special conversation, and laughter. Hand-painted china by Margaret Thompson was shared for anyone who cared to have a piece of her hand work.

T G I S
(Take Groceries In Sunday)



SPRING CLEAN

Help others clean! During the month of May, the Mission Committee will be collecting cleaning products which will be distributed to local non-profit organizations. Please place your donations in the box in front of the church office. Thank you for all of your donations this year.

Thank you for your help

Dear First Presbyterian Family;

Thank you for sitting and listening to me before my knee surgery and, all the prayers, and for the 2 ladies who came over to check on me and help!

Also, the calls and other offers. And the card and caring. These things are all so appreciated and make me feel so blessed!

Sue Melcher

Dear First Presbyterian Church

I wanted to personally "Thank You" for being so thoughtful, generous, and dedicated to your community. The donations that you have given to F.I.S.H. are needed and greatly appreciated. We can only do this because of people like you. Thank you for all your help

Tash Barrard—F.I.S.H.
Friends In Service Helping

Thanks for the prayers, cards and calls I am doing great.
Only 2 more radiations.

Becky Kerna

Obituary

Carol Cuthbertson passed away on May 1, 2017. A memorial service was held on May 13 at First Presbyterian Church followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall.

Ruth Hoskins passed away on May 14, 2017. Services for Ruth will be held in July.

Carol and **Ruth** were long time friends. They will be missed my many.



Doris Toothman attended the Mother-Daughter Tea Party fundraiser held at the convention center.

Emily Fonder was AAA Artistic Student of the Week for Elko High School .

Jan Petersen served up hot dogs for Knights of Pythias during the Chilton Centennial celebration. Proceeds going to the Tower.

Celebrations including a barbecue and groundbreaking for the **Mark Chilton** Centennial Tower were held at the downtown corridor.

The good Lord didn't create anything without a purpose, But mosquitoes come close.



CHURCH KEYS. If you have been assigned a church key, you can **NOT** give that key to anyone who has not signed for it. This rule is set by Session. **The person who signs for the key is responsible for making sure the doors are locked, the lights are turned off and the building is secure before leaving.** Thank you for helping to keep the church building and the people who work and use the building safe.

F - forever with his family
A - always there for you no matter what
T - the only one who's there
H - he's my hero till the end
E - encouraging in everything i do
R - really the only one...no one can beat him he's the best!!!

Happy Father's Day

Join us for ice cream in the Fellowship Hall after Worship on Sunday, June 18

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

06/04 Thompson Family, Bev Klem, Smith Family, Pearson Family, Daniel Family
 06/11 Pruitt Family, Joyce Roberts, Hobbs Family, Diana Jones, Kump Family
 06/18 Becky Nahnacassia, Fonder Family, B.J. Hurley, Hall Family, Hill Family
 06/25 Guttry Family, Henry Family, Thran Family, Byars Family, Bisson Family.



You will also need to help set up and clean up
Everyone Welcome!



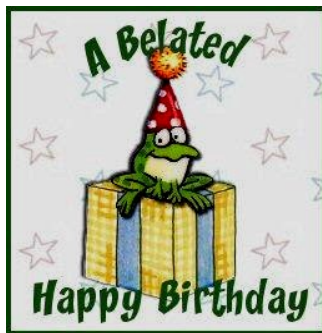
BIRTHDAYS

Shelia Halton	06/02
Harper Wines	06/03
Bob Hays	06/05
Eric Fonder	06/05
Lee Reiersen	06/06
Joan Zunino	06/07
Carter Kidwell	06/08
Jeannette Tognini	06/09
Roberta Gallegos	06/10
Jim Byars	06/10
Debbie Thiel	06/15
Donna Bellinger	06/17
Melissa Fonder	06/19
Jenny Byars	06/21
Emily Schaffner	06/21
Reed Moseley	06/23
Macy Reed	06/24
Emma Barrington	06/25
Robert Matys	06/31



AND A BELATED HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING

Lexi Baum	4/18
Trenton Freitag	4/30
Caren McBride	5/02
Donna Gary	5/02
Samantha Thompson	5/06
Heather Norero	5/10
Mary Lou Cress	5/11
Spencer Wines	5/13
Dustin Baum	5/14
Alyson Freitag	5/17
Jason Norero	5/18
Cody Gary	5/24
Renee Sawyer	5/29



Please call the church office if you don't
see you birthday listed.



**BEGINS JUNE 11, 2017—
 WORSHIP SERVICE WILL
 BEGIN AT 9:30 AM**

There is no greater treasure than a good friend!

Congratulations

Mark & Jennifer Koopman



*They got married in Kuna, Idaho on
 January 28, 2017*

COFFEE HOUR—FALL 2017

02-Jul	Liz Better	Jan Webb	Kristi Glass	Toni Mendive	
09-Jul	Bondo Family	Tara Lounsbery	Van Slyke Family	Vicki Matys	
16-Jul	Boyce Family	Patty Fisk	Jill Phillips	Norero Family	
23-Jul	Pike Family	Vicki Goichoechea	Clarice Gamboa	Nickel Family	
30-Jul	Gary Family	Alyssa Culp	Jerry Cooney	Toni Mendive	
06-Aug	M. Jones Family	Roberta Gallegos	Plumb Family	Lee Reiersen	
13-Aug	Hill Family	Pruitt Family	Arthur Family	Nisbet Family	
20-Aug	Fonder Family	Sally Winsley	Doris Toothmn	Pearson Family	
27-Aug	Byars Family	Daniel Family	Mason,Niday Family	Strickland Family	
03-Sep	Becky Schaffner	Becky Nahnacassia	Bisson Family	Joyce Roberts	
10-Sep	Kathy Reyes	Henry Family	Linda Trontel	Loralee Justice	
17-Sep	Jennifer Koopman	Guttry Family	Aida Mathews	Francis Schain	Jan Atkinson
24-Sep	Bev Klem	Liz Better	B.J. Hurley	Hobbs Family	Thran Family
01-Oct	Tara Lounsbery	Hill Family	Diana Jones	Munson Family	Heather Norero
08-Oct	Henry Family	Byars Family	Kristi Glass	Patty Fisk	Halton Family
15-Oct	Sally Winsley	M. Jones Family	Kump Family	Sue Melcher	D'Ette Burgess
22-Oct	Pruitt Family	Boyce Family	Nickel Family	Vicki Matys	Nisbet Family
29-Oct	Roberta Gallegos	Pike Family	Joan Zunino	Lee Reiersen	Van Slyke Family
05-Nov	Fonder Family	Vicki Goichoechea	Toni Mendive	Joyce Roberts	Smith Family
12-Nov	Jerry Cooney	Becky Schaffner	Kathy Reyes	Gillins Family	Mason, Niday Family
19-Nov	Gary Family	Bondo Family	Pryzmont Family	Pat Pearce	Jan Peterson
26-Nov	Alyssa Culp	Arthur Family	Diana Sackey	Francis Schain	Renee Sawyer
03-Dec	Hill Family	Strickland Family	Jennifer Koopm an	Aida Mathews	Doris Toothman
10-Dec	Guttry Family	Bev Klem	Thran Family	Daniel Family	Bisson Family
17-Dec	Jan Webb	Pearson Family	Hobbs Family	Diana Jones	Kump Family
24-Dec	Becky Nahnacassia	M. Jones Family	B.J. Hurley	Hall Family	
31-Dec	Patty Fisk	Fonder Family	Byars Family	Liz Better	

June – 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 5:30 Cub Scouts 5:30 NAMI	2	3
4 10:15 Worship Mission Study Youth Feeding the Homeless Worship & Music Meeting Last Day for the Choir	5 9:00 Women's Bible Study—last meeting 6:00 Boy Scouts	6 1:00 Hobby Group 5:30 Handbells 6:00 Youth	7 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 5:45 Cub Scouts	8 5:30 Cub Scouts 5:30 NAMI	9	10
11 <u>9:30 Worship</u> Mission Senior Sunday	12 6:00 Boy Scouts 6:00 Swim Team	13 11:30 Hobby Lunch 1:00 Hobby Group 5:30 Handbells 6:00 Youth	14 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 6:00 Mission Study Discussion	15 5:30 Cub Scouts 5:30 NAMI	16	17
18 9:30 Worship Deacons Father's Day Ice Social <i>Father's Day</i>	19 3:00 M & E 6:00 Nominating Committee Meeting 6:00 Boy Scouts	20 <u>Deadline for Desert Pulpit Articles</u> 1:00 Hobby Group 5:30 Handbells 6:00 SESSION 6:00 Youth	21 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 VBS Prep	22 5:30 Cub Scouts 5:30 NAMI	23	24
25 9:30 Worship C.E. Meeting	26 6:00 Boy Scouts	27 1:00 Hobby Group 5:30 Handbells 6:00 Youth	28 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 10:00 VBS Prep	29 5:30 Cub Scouts 5:30 NAMI	30	