

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—ELKO NEVADA
1559 SEWELL DR., ELKO, NEVADA 89801
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Tom's Corner

The other night I watched a fascinating NOVA program on PBS entitled “Farthest – Voyager in Space.” It basically en-capsulized the history of the “Voyager Program” that started in the early 1970’s and still is being followed today by a select few number of scientists at NASA some four plus decades later. Its mission was two fold in nature.

First it was to give us earthlings a more complete a detailed understanding of the planets Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and their respective moons. It accomplished that task magnificently back in the 90’s, when its two satellites swung by each of those planets and were given a gravitational boost further into outer space beyond our solar system. Faint signals were still being received until just a few years ago.

That’s when the second part of its mission came into play. On each of the voyager satellites they included a gold-plated long playing album with pictures of our species, where earth was in our solar system, plus the diverse music and languages we have, among other pertinent information about our species and the planet we inhabit. This information was put on these records with the hope that should there be any other life form out there in outer space they might discover that they too are not alone.

What intrigued me the most about this program was that scientists like most of us ask the same questions. How did I get here? Where did I come from? Is there a purpose in my being here at this time and place in our cosmos? These are the same question that both the Hebrews and others asked in Old Testament, and that Gentiles and Jews ask today. I know I’ve asked these same questions myself over time, as I have looked up into the heavens on a clear starlit night.

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| • Bertha Lister | Office Manager |
| • Caren McBride | Financial Secretary |
| • Jlm Hill | Organist |
| • Brandolyn Thrane | Pianist |

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Director of Family Ministries



Thank you to everyone who helped make VBS such a great success!

Some VBS Stats:	84 Children
	37 Volunteers
	\$234.09 Raised for Heifer International

Sunday School

Sunday School starts at 9:00 on September 17th. This is also the first day of 10:15 Worship services.

Our Sunday School Curriculum for 2017-2018 is:

"Seasons of the Spirit - Encore"

It is a Lectionary-based, online curriculum. All materials will be printed at the church. For those who would like to make a donation to defray the costs of the curriculum and printing, a \$10 donation would be appreciated. We will be offering three levels of classes from this material:

1. Elementary (Children 3 years old through 5th grade) taught by Sally Winsley
2. Jr/Sr High & College (Students 6th grade through College) taught by Melissa Fonder
3. Two Adult classes will be offered of "Seasons of the Spirit".

Tara Lounsbery & Mike Jones in the Adult Sunday School Room

Kathy Reyes & Judi Boyce in the Parlor

In the fall, Kristi Glass and Becky Schaffner will be team teaching an adult class titled

"We Saved You A Seat: Finding and Keeping Lasting Friendships"

This class will be held in the classroom next door to the resource room.

Adult Bible Studies

The Monday morning 9:00 Bible Study led by Becky Schaffner will resume September 11th and will continue with the "Bad Girls of the Bible" series.

The Wednesday morning 9:30 Bible Study led by Kathy Reyes is studying the Parables.

A Monday morning 9:00 Men's Bible Study will begin September 25th. They will determine their curriculum and leaders at their first meeting.

Youth Kids 6th Grade and Up

The Youth Group meets every Tuesday night from 6:00 to 8:00 at the church. Please let Melissa know of any kids in 6th grade through 12th grade who might like an invitation to join us as we start planning our 2017-2018 school year. Our Annual Calendar Planning Meeting is Sunday, September 17th from noon to 2:30pm.

Who's Doing What In August:

	<u>Children's Message</u>	<u>Children's Church</u>
September 3	Heather Norero	Becky Schaffner
September 10	Becky Schaffner	None - Heifer Sunday
September 17	Melissa Fonder	Melissa Fonder & Youth
September 24	Heather Norero	Malissa Bisson

Have a Beautiful First Day of Fall,

Melissa Fonder

Notes from the Keys by Brandolyn Thran
September 2017

“²¹So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. ²²For in my inner being I delight in God’s law; ²³but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. ²⁴What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? ²⁵Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!.” Romans 7:21-25

“But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.” Hebrews 10:39

This month I had the opportunity to have a piano lesson with Lucille. What a treat to get some hints from such an accomplished player! However, I must say, one thing she told me I was not happy about...

rewind about 30 years when I was in the throes of my piano lessons. Mr. Baker insisted that we start each lesson with scales. It was also expected that as part of practice I would practice scales. For those of you are not musically trained, scales are the eight notes that form a key, like what Julia Andrews sang in Sound of Music when she broke out in “Doe a deer, a female deer; Ray a drop of golden sun, etc.” Ms. Andrews made scales fun; but in real life, for this kid anyways, they are a horrible, tedious, progressions of notes. ...so what did Lucille tell me? To start each day of practice, and Sunday, with the scales in the keys of the respective songs for that week. UGH! Are you kidding me?!?!?! I’m so past scales...I’ve been playing for years...they are tedious...they aren’t really music...you have got to be kidding me!!! But, I listened, took her advice and indeed (and admit a bit begrudgingly) can see improvement when I start with scales. It primes my brain, fingers and ears for the songs.

Then, later in the week when I was grumbling about sparing the few minutes in the morning to read my devotion and Bible, because I really did have better things to do (yeah, right!), it donned on me and I found myself asking the question, “why do I fight so hard against the very things that move me in the direction to maximize my potential?” And, the realization continued, it is not limited to playing scales and reading the scripture! GADS! Why is it so hard to get out the door to exercise? Why is it so hard to pick an apple over a bag of chips? Why is it so hard to clean the bathroom when Blue Bloods is on Netflix? Why can’t I easily do the things that maximize my potential?

The good news is, I am not alone in this struggle, and this certainly isn’t a 21st Century problem. Just read the passage above from Romans acknowledging the situation, and then the book of James and all the other instructional passages in the Bible that help us understand and overcome our “choice problem”. It seems to be a human is equal to struggling with choices to maximize the potential that God placed in each one of us. *sigh*... It is reassuring to know that I’m “normal”. Are you “normal” too?

The acknowledgement that we have a choice and a battle is raging at each decision point is an important first step. Then, we can celebrate as Christians that we can tap into the Holy Spirit to make it the choice that maximizes ourselves, and brings glory to God. I am learning to recognize the battle, and then boldly accept the opportunity for the Holy Spirit to win. The Holy Spirit doesn’t “win” every time...yet. Devotions and scales are skipped, runs are missed, and the bathroom has remained dirty longer than it should. However, I believe the more I am aware and make an active-point to “get it done” more this week than last week, then I am on the right path. Join me in acknowledging and overcoming these challenges...give me a high-five when you “win” more than “lose” and let’s maximize ourselves for God’s glory.

4 Free Study Guides Left
For “We Saved You a Seat”
Women’s Sunday School Class
About Friendship Starting Sept. 17

Rebecca Schaffner and Kristi Lyn Glass will be leading an (in)Real Life sponsored 12-session Sunday School class for teen and adult women this fall called " We Saved You a Seat." The class features a Bible-based approach to how to find and keep friendships. The series is a follow-up to the Sunday School classes on friendship that Kristi led at FPC a few years ago.

Each session will feature a video presentation followed by discussion. Participants may use the class’ study guide during the week for more in-depth learning and introspection about their personal friendship challenges.

The class will start Sept. 17, during the 9-10 a.m. FPC Sunday School hour, and continue on Sunday mornings through Dec. 3. In addition to the seven sessions covered by the study guide, five sessions will include video presentations from the Oct. 14, 2017, (in)Real Life “Friended” event to be held in Nashville, TN, available for later viewing via streaming internet video. Here are the session topics:

Sept. 17	Friendship takes showing up
Sept. 24	Friendship takes vulnerability
Oct. 1	Friendship takes encouragement
Oct. 8	Friendship takes service
Oct. 15	Friended event speech #1
Oct. 22	Friended event speech #2
Oct. 29	Friended event speech #3
Nov. 5	Friended event speech #4
Nov. 12	Friended event speech #5
Nov. 19	Friendship takes forgiveness
Nov. 26	Friendship takes walking away wisely
Dec. 3	Friendship takes action



The first 10 people to reserve a seat for this Sunday School class will receive a free 160-page paperback interactive study guidebook. **As of Aug. 10, only four free books were left, so reserve yours today!** After the first 10 books are reserved, additional books will be available for \$13.00 each with free shipping if ordered by Sept. 3. Teen and college-age girls are also welcome to attend, and a teen-focused study guide is available for them to purchase for \$13.00. Both study guides are also available via digital download (EPUB format) for the same \$13.00 price each.

Contact Kristi at 775-738-3520 or Kristi@KristiLynGlass.com if you want to sign up for this class, and she will reserve you one of the free study guides or place a study guide order for you.

For more information, see <http://www.lifeway.com/n/Product-Family/We-Saved-You-A-Seat> and <http://www.incourage.me/2017/06/big-news-introducing-real-life-friended.html>



Happy Birthday to Mary Craig who turned 99 years *young* on July 24, 2017.

To our friends at First Presbyterian Church: I wanted to say Thank You for being such a loyal donor and for always thinking of our clients here at F.I.S.H. You have provided HOPE for many people.

*Thanks for being so awesome!
Teah Ballard*



Thank you Guy Waugh for donating a riding lawn mower to the church.

**Church Office
Closed**

**Monday, September 4
for Labor Day.**

**HEIFER BRUNCH SCHEDULED FOR
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2017.**

Our traditional Heifer Service and Brunch will be Sept 10. This year donations will be taken for Heifer International's projects Joy to the World Basket and Gift of Stoves for a Village. We will worship outdoors with animals and commotion! *The service will be our end of summer service, starting at 9:30. Sept 17 will be the beginning of Sunday School at 9:00 and worship service at 10:15.*

MISSION

Jeff Boyd, a Presbyterian Mission Worker, recently spent three days visiting Elko First Presbyterian Church. Jeff and his wife Christi have visited the church in Elko at least 4 times over their 27 years of service as Presbyterian World Mission co-workers in Africa. Christi was unable to come this time because important trauma training was scheduled in the Democratic Republic of Congo, but Jeff preached a sermon about unity on Sunday and shared pictures of groups in Africa taking communion while we took communion. He presented a program after church while we shared a typical Presbyterian potluck.



SUNRISE RINGERS

choir of the Elko Handbells will start rehearsals on Monday, September 11, at 6:00 am. We practice

Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays for an hour at that same time in preparation for our Christmas concert, which will be on Sunday, December 17. Questions may be addressed to Ann Nisbet, 738-5475.

*You can't pluck a rose, all fragrant with dew,
without some of its fragrance remaining on you.*

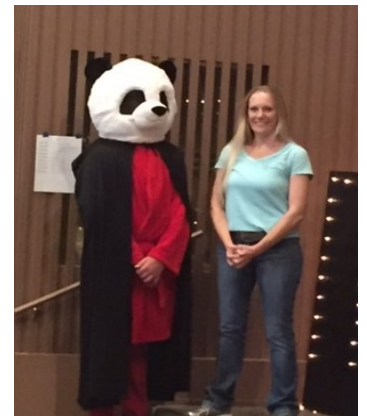




VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL—2017



During the first two days of Vacation Bible School Jeff Boyd taught groups of the children. On Tuesday the older children played a “board” game developed by the Boyds. The children are the pieces advancing on a vinyl mat according to the throw of a die. They land on places that hold them back because of no money for school fees, school roof collapse, care for a younger sibling or they advance places because of a church drive to replace a roof or an uncle who pays their school fees. If you wish to borrow this 20’ by 16’ game for your children, youth, or adults, contact Jeff, who can provide instructions for reserving the game.



IN THE



Ed & Jeannie Gillins retire after 45 years of managing Bodily's Furniture Store.

Patty Fisk received the Snake River Swimming Coach of the year award.

Results of the Elko Senior Olympic games:

Frances Schain—Bronze in the Women's River Walk, and Gold in Women's Pistol Shoot

Gene Schain—Gold in Men's Horseshoes
Bronze in Billiards.

Pam Anderson—Silver in Women's Bowling

Marlene Wilkie—Gold in Women's Bowling

Joan Zunino—Gold in Women's Wii Bowling

ESTHER CIRCLE

Esther Circle's first meeting of the year will be on Sept. 21st. We will start off with a pure potluck at noon in the Fellowship Hall. The meeting will start at 1:00 in the Parlor. This year we are studying the Horizons Bible Study "Cloud of Witnesses" (the community of Christ in Hebrews). It looks like an interesting study. All women of the church are invited to join us. Frances Schain

Building and Grounds Committee

The Buildings and Grounds Committee is in need of some more handymen and women! Please let the church office if you are willing to volunteer to help this committee keep our building and grounds in good condition.

LABOR DAY HISTORY

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, laws 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 in the United States. The holiday is also a federal holiday.

T G I S

(Take Groceries In Sunday)



Back to School

Help area students have a great school year. The Mission Committee is collecting new items students need but families may not be able to purchase. Suggested items are:

Pencils	Spiral notebooks
24 count box crayons	Erasers
Elmer's glue	Small pencil sharpeners
Glue sticks	Dry erase markers
School scissors	Boxes of Kleenex
Pocket folders	Backpacks

These items will be given to Communities in Schools for distribution to area students. Please place your contributions in the box in front of the church office. Thank you for supporting these children, and thank you for your previous donations.

NEW MEMBERS CLASS.

Rev. Tom will hold a 4 week new members class starting September 24 at 9:00 am. Call the church office or Rev. Tom if you are interested.



We will go back to our regular Worship Service time of 10:15 on Sunday, Sept. 17

Church Directory

There is a sign-up sheet on the counter in the office for anyone interested in purchasing a Church Directory. They are ordered in units of 25 to keep the cost at \$10 each. We will order when we have enough interest.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR

- 09/03 Becky Schaffner, Becky Nahnacassia, Bisson Family, Joyce Roberts
- 09/10 Sally Winsley, Henry Family, Linda Trontel, Lorelee Justus
- 09/17 Jennifer Koopman, Guttry Family, Aida Mathews, Frances Schain, Jan Atkinson
- 09/24 Bev Klem, Liz Better, B.J. Hurley, Hobbs Family, Thran Family



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



Per Capita is \$40.00 per member

BIRTHDAYS

09/03 Lois Ports
09/03 Jerry Cooney
09/04 Judith Boyce
09/10 Bart Freitag
09/11 Jenna Kidwell
09/16 Jill Phillips
09/17 Garrett Munson
09/17 Devin Robinson
09/19 Stephanie Bisson
09/25 Leon Reyes
09/25 Trinda Freese



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



In order to cut costs we are asking all **non-church groups** using the Xerox machine to pay for any copies made on the church Xerox machine. The cost is 10 cents a copy. Thanks for helping to keep costs down.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY GROUP

A new Men's Bible Study Group will begin on **Monday, September 25 at 9:00** in the Parlor. All men who are interested are welcome to attend.

OBITUARY

Pam Cartier passed away on July 28, 2017 in her home in Las Vegas. She was a long time member of the Presbyterian Church.

Donna Bellinger passed away on Friday, July 28, 2017 in Salt Lake City. Funeral services were held in Salt Lake City on August 12. She was a long time member of the Elko Presbyterian Church.

September – 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
3 Communion 9:30 Worship Music & Worship 12:00 Youth Studies	4 OFFICE CLOSED FOR LABOR DAY 6:00 Boy Scouts	5 1:00 Hobby Group 6:00 Youth	6 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 4:30 Lions/Webelos 5:30 Wolves/Bears 5:30 Troop Comm. Meeting	7 12:00 PW Circle 5:30 Tigers Cubs recruitment 5:30 NAMI	8	9
10 HEIFER BRUNCH 9:30 Worship 12:00 Youth Studies	11 6:00 am Sunrise Handbells 9:00 Women's Bible Study 5:30 Cub Scouts 5:30 Joy Circle Potluck 6:00 Boy Scouts	12 6:00 am Sunrise Handbells 1:00 Hobby Group 6:00 Youth	13 6:00 am Sunrise Handbells 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 4:30 Lions/ Webelos 5:30 Wolves/Bears	14 5:30 Tigers Cub Scout troop 5:30 NAMI	15	16
17 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Deacons 12:00 Youth Studies	18 6:00 am Sunrise Handbells 9:00 Women's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts	19 6:00 am Sunrise Handbells 1:00 Hobby Group 6:00 Youth 6:00 SESSION	20 6:00 am Sunrise Handbells 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 4:30 Lions/ Webelos 5:30 Wolves/Bears	21 12:00 Esther Circle Potluck 1:00 Esther Circle Meeting 5:30 Tigers Cub Scouts 5:30 NAMI	22	23
24 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship C.E. Meeting 12:00 Youth Studies	25 6:00 am Sunrise Handbells 9:00 Women's Bible Study 9:00 Men's Bible Study 6:00 Boy Scouts	26 6:00 am Sunrise Handbells 1:00 Hobby Group	27 6:00 am Sunrise Handbells 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 4:30 Webelos 5:30 Wolves/Bears 6:00 Nominating	28 5:30 Tigers Cub Scouts 5:30 NAMI		



**Sept. 17, 2017
10:15 am**

**Service
Time
Change!**



HEIFER
INTERNATIONAL

Heifer Brunch—Sept. 10

*Ending Hunger,
Caring for the Earth*