

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—ELKO
1559 SEWELL DR., ELKO, NEVADA**



Pastor.....
LaVonne Alexander

Office Manager.....
Naomi Tanner

Financial Secretary...
Dalana Tognini

Pianist /Organist.....
Connie Muir

Choir Director.....
Patty Fisk

Nursery Attendant....
Marilyn Robinson

Desert Pulpit Editor....
Naomi Tanner

Church Office.....
775-738-3430

Church e-mail.....
fpchurch@frontiernet.net

Website.....
ElkoFirstPres.org

Facebook.....
[www.facebook.com/First
PresbyterianChurchOf
Elko](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchOfElko)





Sabbath

The fourth of the 10 Commandments is “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.”

The word Sabbath comes from the Hebrew verb Shabbat which means to rest from labor.

In Jewish practice, Shabbat begins at sunset on Friday and is begun with a meal filled with memory and symbolism. Part of the Shabbat service requires specific prayers over the bread and the wine.

This is the meal Jesus celebrated with his disciples and we remember by reenacting as The Lord’s Supper. In this meal we remember the many good gifts God has given us and we pray over the bread and the cup just as in the Shabbat. You can see the through-line in the Shabbat Kiddush – the prayer prayed over the wine, which is similar to the prayer over the bread.

SHABBAT KIDDUSH

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, Creator of the fruit of the vine.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Sovereign of all, who finding favor with us, sanctified us with mitzvot (meaning commandments). In love and favor, You made the holy Shabbat our heritage as a reminder of the work of Creation. As first among our sacred days, it recalls the Exodus from Egypt. You chose us and set us apart from the peoples. In love and favor You have given us Your holy Shabbat as an inheritance.

Blessed are You, Adonai, who sanctifies Shabbat.

Certainly, our Sunday worship is part of the way we celebrate the Sabbath, but is that all there is to Sabbath? I think not.

In Genesis chapter 2 we learn that when God had finished creation, he rested. “Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. (Gen. 2:1-3)

Rest is essential to a healthy life. Eugene Peterson commented, “If you don’t take a Sabbath, something is wrong. You’re doing too much; you’re being too much in charge. You’ve got to quit, one day a week, and just watch what God is doing when you’re not doing anything.”

In our busy modern lives, to rest from all labor for an entire day is next to impossible. But setting aside a regular time for quiet rest with God is absolutely possible.

Mark Roberts of Fuller Seminary notes that “In the Gospel of Mark, [Jesus] made it clear that “the sabbath was made for humankind” (Mark 2:27). In other words, God created the Sabbath for our benefit. It is a gift for us, an opportunity for rest, refreshment, and renewal. The Sabbath is a time for us to refocus on God and God’s purposes, as well as to enjoy God’s many blessings.”

He goes on to note how rare it is that followers of Jesus actually commit to a balance of work and rest. Even when we’ve finished our work-week, we fill any “free” time with activities.

Sabbath rest is necessary for not only our physical health, but also our spiritual health, and not just an hour on Sunday morning. Intentionally setting aside time to spend with God – even if it’s only 10 minutes a day – will help you stay connected to God and will provide the Holy Spirit to work in you. Establishing regular times of Sabbath rest will refresh you and help you experience the renewing of your spiritual mind



First Quarter Recap

Jan-Mar 2021

Income/Contributions	Expenses	Total Assets
\$51495.26	\$45162.91	\$188,614.87

Budget +/-

Trending slightly over budget in the following categories: Gas/Heat, Electric, Copyright licenses, Advertising & Outreach

Upcoming Expenses

Scheduled Event	Date	Est. Total cost	Committee/Category	Over+/Under- budget
Solar Panel converter	TBD	unknown	Buildings/Grounds	Currently over
Sound system service	TBD	unknown	Buildings/Grounds	" "

Future Goals	Goal Date	Est. Cost	Comm/Cat.	notes
Spring Cleaning	5/1/2021 completion	Elbow Grease	All Church	Any help is welcome!
New/Secure Doors	8/2021	TBD	B&G	Gathering info. on requirement

Church Family- There are currently 95 Members of this church

Population	Total	2 nd Quarter Goal
Members Gained		2
Members Lost		0
Per Capita received/paid	1574.00/7452.00	12

Activities and Events to Report:

Mission and Outreach Committee: Susie Jones proactively reports on the Mission and Outreach Committee here at church. This committee uses time, talents and treasures to reach out into our immediate community (and, also distant missions) by helping to make the lives of those experiencing some bumps in the road a little bit easier. Susie and The Committee would like to report that, during the first quarter, they received a contribution of \$300 from a person outside of EFPC with a request that it be used to help someone in need. The Mission and Outreach Committee will be using that money as was wished. They also would like to report that Head Start of Northeastern Nevada has children and families facing hunger head on. They (The Mission Committee) will be adding them to the 2 Cents-A-Meal offering that is collected by our congregation. Please prayerfully keep these little folks in mind when you are gathering up your loose change.

Christian Education Committee: Sally Winsley and Jan Peterson head up the Christian Education Committee here at EFPC. While the current state of the world has slowed down Christian Ed classes here, this committee is happy to report that Vacation Bible School planning is full steam ahead! These ladies are in need of people interested in helping AND attending. It may seem early now but [START THE BUZZ!](#) Kids need things to look forward to and learning about Jesus is long over-due for many of them!

Jan would also like to remind everyone that [Joy Circle is still meeting!!](#) (The Pandemic just couldn't conquer all!) Any person is welcome to join on the second Monday of the Month @6PM here at the church. The group will be studying The Old Testament until the end of the school year.

The Nominating Committee: Our Nominating Committee, this year, is made up of Patty Fisk, Jerry Cooney, Clarice Gamboa and Erin Munson (none voting). While it might be hard to believe...some people don't know (or haven't experienced) the joy that comes with serving this church by being on Session, a Committee or by being a Deacon. If this happens to be you or if you know someone like this OR if you have known this responsibility before and feel that it is time to offer your talents again, please talk to one of these lovely ladies! This is a wonderful way to give back in *Thanks for the blessings in your life!*

Buildings and Grounds Committee: Diana Jones is the fearless leader of the committee that over sees the beautifully groomed lawns and she is also the leader of that same committee that worries tirelessly about the burned-out light bulbs and broken door handles. The Buildings and Grounds committee is in the process of cleaning up and cleaning out the nooks and crannies of the church and will likely find projects along the way. Many of these projects can be completed in an hour or two and with your help, our church home will be ship-shape! Please talk to Diana about offering a bit of your time to help spruce up our church home for the spring and summer months.

Weeding a garden is meditational ~ you could even call it a "healthy workout" 😊

SESSION

March and April meetings

Buildings and Grounds is requesting for more people to join their team. May 1 has been set as a date for cleanup of the classrooms, kitchen, bulletin boards, and grounds. Some work is ongoing.

There has been an offer of funds for repair of the sprinkler system if needed.

Membership and Congregational Life is also asking for more members. Coffee hour resumed on April 11. Members are asked to sign up to be food providers and/or kitchen help.

The Boy Scouts have inquired as to whether the church would like to continue to sponsor the troop. A liaison from the church will be needed. If anyone is interested in this activity, please let the church know.

Upper Rooms are again available. The congregation has been asked to contribute to help defray the cost.

Deacon Sunday has been reinstated for every other month.

Discussion regarding the future of our church included ideas for becoming more involved in our community.

Discussed lawn care for the summer including mowing.

All Hymnals and Bibles will be placed in the pews.

Discussed our website which needs more information.

Summer service hours (9:30) will be from June 6 through September 12.

Another member is needed for the Nominating Committee.

The sound system in the sanctuary needs to be addressed.

Mission and Outreach

The Mission and Outreach Committee has received word from the Presbyterian Church in Salt Lake City that conducted a food drive for Navajo Strong last fall. They are going to run another food and cleaning supplies drive on May 22 to continue to support the Navajo Nation. The Navajo Nation is making good progress against the COVID virus but is still suffering economically. Some of you obviously feel a tug at your heart strings because you were so generous last fall. If this continues to be a special mission for you, please donate money by way of the basket on the table in the narthex or through the office, labeling Navajo Strong on the For line of your check. We will forward your financial donations to the Cottonwood Presbyterian Church and they will shop for the drive. Please make your donation before May 12, so the shoppers can be done before May 22.

Oregon Travels-

Hello everyone. I apologize for missing last newsletter. It has been a hard past few months. No one is giving internships and until a few weeks ago I couldn't get a job because my elderly grandparents were not vaccinated. This has left me feeling very worthless. I try to fill up my time with painting and bike-riding, but the times of wait is overwhelming. I have found a song that I use as inspiration when I'm feeling this way: "Blessings" by Laura Story. Luckily things are looking up. In June several exciting things will happen for me. I get to start looking for a roommate for college next year, my dad and I move into our very own place which means we can get our dog back, and finally, IM GOING TO COME SEE YOU GUYS! On June 13th I'll be at church! I hope to see all of you guys then. I am very excited to see you again. All in all I'm just trying to stay positive during this difficult time. I hope each and every one of you are doing well.

Love,

Megan Henry



Mission and Outreach

The Mission and Outreach Committee will pass on your donations to Head Start and Early Head Start through the TGIF Basket by the Church office and through the 2 Cents a Meal this quarter. Head Start and Early Head Start promote school readiness for economically disadvantaged children through educational, health, nutritional, social and other services. They serve 145 children from birth through age five and their families. GBC reports that 47 of the children currently enrolled are homeless. Especially this year of the pandemic, Head Start has helped feed these families and families that qualify but are not yet enrolled because of lack of space. The TGIF basket and the 2 cents a meal will help Head Start feed these families.

Head Start also has a Parents' Fund that helps with certain family needs such as with utility bills or other costs. If you would like to support this fund, mail a check to Head Start of NE Nevada with the "For" line stating Parent Fund. We don't often see how the pandemic has struck families in Elko because the mines have been able to keep operating, but the aching families are out there right in our own Elko.

Mission and Outreach

Report of 2021 expenditures

\$250.00 to FISH for the first quarter of the \$1000 we give them yearly.

\$500.00 to the Nevada Presbytery for mission support (they supported our roof and our earlier college group support)

\$500.00 to Presbyterian Mission for Jeff and Christy Boyd, the missionaries in the Congo.

We also spent \$300.00 that was donated to help a family.

Esther Circle has
paused meetings
until further notice



The nominating committee is still looking for two more volunteers to serve on this committee. Our job is to look at members of the church who would be willing to serve as elders or deacons. If interested in this committee you can let Patty Fisk or

Rev. Alexander know that you are willing to serve



Mystery Island VBS

August 2nd –6th



Year to Date Budget numbers April 30th

Income 66,487.70

Expense 55,978.07

+10,509.63

Submissions for
July—August 2021
Desert Pulpit Due
June 22nd 2021



The Church office hours are,

9:00am-1:30pm

Monday –Thursday

Worship service are still available Sundays via YouTube.

To find the videos, go to
<https://www.youtube.com/results>

search_query=elko+first+presbyterian+church,
or open YouTube and search for Elko First Presbyterian Church.



T G I S

(Take Groceries In Sunday)



Fighting Hunger, Feeding Hope

The Mission Committee is now collecting items for Head Start of Northeastern Nevada. Feeding economically disadvantaged children and helping their families is one service this program provides. Items that are currently requested are:

- Masa Harina
- Canned Fruit
- Canned Vegetables
- Pasta & Pasta Sauce
- Rice
- Assorted Crackers
- Stew & Chili
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Cereal/Oatmeal
- Instant Mashed Potatoes
- Baking Mixes
- Canned Meat: Tuna, Chicken & Corned Beef
- Spice Packets: Spaghetti, Enchilada Sauce, Taco Mix & Gravy Mix
- Diapers (all sizes) & Baby Wipes
- Baby Food (all ages)
- Infant Cereal & Baby Snacks
- Hygiene Products: Shampoo, Conditioner, Deodorant and Toothpaste

Please check the expiration dates on your donations and place them in the box in front of the church office or the designated basket in the Narthex. Thank you for your contributions which will be taken to Head Start.

Dear Church Family,

We are going to miss so many things about NE Nevada but truly the biggest hole in our lives will be all of you. I sometimes feel like new words need to be invented to express the gratitude and blessings we have received through our Church.. Thank you for the fellowship time, blessings and prayers. Moving is always a challenge, so believe me, we will appreciate continued prayers as we head down the road, eventually arriving at our new residence then the added challenge of finding that important stuff like clean socks! Thank You for all the experiences, projects, potlucks, special services, and just the comfort of being with friends. May you always remember how very special that is. Love to Each of You, Lynn and Judy Bondo

New Address:
8 Bourbon Circle, Columbus, MT 59019

Attention Church Members:

We are looking for volunteers who have a passion for filming or taping our worship services. Since the beginning of Covid-19 we are recording the worship services to be seen on the church website. Contact Rev. LaVonne at the church or Patty Fisk @934-4594. Any age is qualified to volunteer for this important job. Thanks! Worship/Music Committee.



MISSION STATEMENT

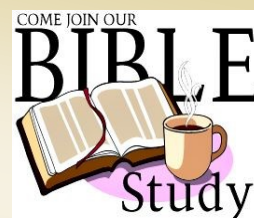
“We believe we are called by God through the grace and love of Jesus Christ to worship joyfully, grow spiritually, love one another, serve those in need and share the good news of the gospel with everyone..”

Women's Bible Study:

Wednesday morning Bible study current study is “Sermon on the Mount” by Amy-Jill Levine. We did a study “The Lion and the Lamb” for Advent. You are welcome to join us.

We are meeting at 9:30 in the Fellowship Hall for social distancing. Please join us.

Newcomers welcome.





The Presbyterian Coffee Project is a partnership between the Presbyterian Church (USA) and Equal Exchange, a worker-owned co-operative offering 100% fairly traded coffee, chocolate, tea. You can purchase these items in the church office during regular office hours. They make good gifts.



2¢ a Meal.

If you've forgotten

Is The Mission Committees project to remind us of the abundance we've received. If we, out of gratitude, donate 2 cents for each meal we eat, we can help feed Elkoans who don't share in that abundance.

This quarter's collection will be sent to

Head Start

March collection was \$ 86.00

April collection was \$ 148.00

NOTE: next collection May 16th and June 20th

BIRTHDAYS!

May

Donna Gary 5/02

Charles Harper 5/10

Heather Norero 5/10

Mary lou Cress 5/11

Spencer Wines 5/13

Jason Norero 5/18

Elaine Knight 5/22

Jan Pertersen 5/26

Renee Sawyer 5/29

June

Harper Wines 6/03

Carter Kidwell 6/08

Jim Byars 6/10

Roberta Gallegos 6/10

Jenny Byars 6/21

Emily Schaffner 6/21

Emma Barrington 6/25

Glen Hanington 6/26



Presbytery of Nevada 31.83

Synod of the Pacific 5.22

General Assembly 8.95

Per Capita is \$46.00 per member

Normal Day



Mother's Day



ATTENTION!

IF YOU USE THE CHURCH BUILDING, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING SURE THE DOORS ARE LOCKED AND LIGHTS ARE TURNED OFF WHEN YOU LEAVE. HELP KEEP THE CHURCH BUILDING SAFE FOR EVERYONE USING IT.



May -2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1.
2. 10:15 Worship Service Communion	3.	4.	5. 9:00 Tia Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	6. National Day of Prayer	7.	8.
9. 10:15 Worship Service	10. 6:00 Joy Circle	11.	12. 9:00 Tia Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	13.	14.	15.
16. Ascension Sunday 10:15 Worship Service Communion Deacons	17.	18. 6:00 Session	19. 9:00 Tia Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	20.	21.	22.
23. Day of Pentecost 10:15 Worship Service Communion	24.	25.	26. 9:00 Tia Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	27.	28.	29.
30. Trinity Sunday 10:15 Worship Service Communion	31. Memorial Day Office Closed			<p>There are two Sunday School classes available , on Sundays.</p> <p>8:00am Zoom Sunday school , Contact Mike Jones for information.</p> <p>9:00 am in person class, contact Kathy</p>		

June -2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1.	2. 9:00 Tia Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	3.	4.	5.
6. 10:15 Worship Service Communion	7.	8.	9. 9:00 Tia Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	10.	11.	12.
13. 10:15 Worship Service	14. 6:00 Joy Circle	15.	16. 9:00 Tia Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	17.	18.	19.
20.Fathers Day 10:15 Worship Service	21.	22. 6:00 Session	23. 9:00 Tia Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	24.	25.	26.
27. 10:15 Worship Service	28.	29.	30. 9:00 Tia Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat			