

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

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Website.....
ElkoFirstPres.org

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www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchOfElko





Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good. (1 Thess 5:16-21, NRSV)

Be Thankful!

As we approach the holidays, even in today's crazy world, we have much to be thankful for!

In November we have two National Holidays on which we can express our gratitude: Veterans Day, November 11th on which we give thanks for the veterans who have served this country in our Armed Forces, and, of course, Thanksgiving itself. On these days we might not only be thankful for those men and women who have gone before us to build and protect our country, but we can thank God that we are in this country, for which of us was able to determine where we would come into the world?

On November 21st we celebrate Christ the Victorious King, which concludes the liturgical calendar with the reminder and assurance that the ultimate triumph over death is accomplished in and by the Eternal Christ. That is indeed something to be thankful for!

Advent, the preparation for the celebration of the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, begins on November 28th. For the Church, this is the beginning of a New Year. And, not only do we remember and celebrate his coming as an innocent babe, we also are reminded that we are to be living in such a way that we are preparing for his return.

There will be special activities to enjoy throughout December, but the thing we can be most thankful for is that *“in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.”* (Phil 2:5b-8 NRSV)

In these last two months of 2021, let us focus our intentions to be grateful to God for the many blessings that he has bestowed on us. Let us celebrate with joy that we are loved so that we may love others.

*“Keep yourselves in the love of God; look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. (Jude 20-21 NRSV) “And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. **And be thankful.** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”* (Col 3:15-17 NRSV)



Birthday for Jesus



It will be held Dec. 5th. As before, we would like everyone to bring new unwrapped baby gifts to church on that Sunday and put them under the tree in the Fellowship Hall.

We will then donate them to the OB Department at the hospital.

Christmas cookies will be served after the church service.



Children needed

Children are needed for the children's Christmas program on December 19th.

Call the church office for rehearsal times.



The worship and music committee

needs the congregations help on Sunday, Nov. 21 decorating the sanctuary for advent after the worship service.



Presbyterian Women Christmas Party

The food is always amazing as we each bring something to share at the the old fashioned potluck. Moc-Tails start at **5:30 on December 8th** in the church fellowship hall. Dinner will begin at **6:00** or shortly before. There will be transportation for anyone not wanting to drive at night, just let us know.



SECOND ANNUAL CRECHE FEST!

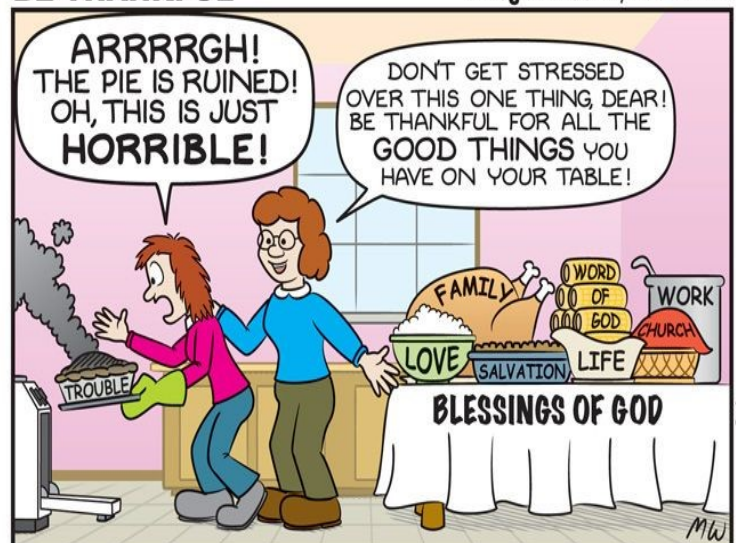
Bring your Nativity sets for display in the Fellowship Hall on December 5, 2021. December 5th is also the day we hold our Birthday Party for Jesus.

You may bring your collections to the church during the week of November 29 - December 2 between the hours of 9:30 am and 1:00 pm, or you may bring them on Sunday morning, December 5.

See you there!

BE THANKFUL

A Joyful 'toon by Mike Waters



And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

- COLOSSIANS 3:15 KJV

November

11/07 - Jan Peterson, Fran Schain, Faith Daniel
11/14 - Donna Gary, Jerry Cooney,
LaVonne Alexander
11/21 - Ann Nisbet, Patty Fisk, Aida Mathews
11/28 - Kathy Reyes, Jan Webb, Judi Boyce

December

12/5 - Robbie Nickel, Sally Winsley,
Aida Mathews
12/12 - Susie Jones, Kathy McLeod, Donna Gary
12/19 - Jan Peterson, Fran Schain, Diana Jones
12/26 - Patty Fisk, Jerry Cooney,
LaVonne Alexander



You will also need to help set up and clean up

Everyone Welcome!

Join Us!



Update on Tristan Voller--Toni Mendive and Lynn & Judy Bondo's Great Grandson:

The Voller family arrived home from Denver on the 9th, before the snow on Monday and Tuesday! They have now received the results from the last bone marrow test done the day before leaving Denver. That test shows a very low percentage of leukemia cells left--they were hoping for zero. This puts Tristan in the high risk category so now rather than 4 weeks of very intense treatment he will have 8 weeks of such treatment. Lynn and I saw him on the 15th, and although it is very painful for him to walk he did slide off the sofa to retrieve a plastic bolt which had fallen on the floor from a tractor he was disassembling..(Great fine motor development toy!) He had not been able to do that small but very important motion the day before. Yes it is very hard to watch and refrain from help but you do because of love! Again and again, we all feel your power of prayer. Now we ask for even more strength for Chris, Ashlee, and Tristan as they move forward into this challenge of 8 very intense weeks of treatment. And by the way, just throw in that challenge that by the time you read this Tristan will have a new brother! So I guess extra prayers for Chris and Ashlee will be very appropriate!

With much Thanksgiving for your extreme caring and love Voller, Mendive and Bondo families



Choir practice is
on Tuesday nights
at 5:00.
we will sing on
Sundays
We would love to
have some new
voices join us.

Sunrise Ringers of the Elko Hand bells
Concert is scheduled for Sunday,
December 12, 2021 4:00 pm
Contact Ann Nisbet
738-5475 for further information.



Mission Committee

The Mission Committee has forwarded your generous donations to Heifer International to their project Leveraging Success, Honduras. With the donations collected during VBS, the total came to \$1517.00. This will help start and expand beekeeping, coffee, and dairy businesses and help them reach viable markets to make enough profits to sustain families. Thank you for supporting this project. And thank you also to Levi and Kira Spaeth for sharing their goats and rabbit to make the Heifer Service memorable.

We also sent \$250.00 to FISH, our quarterly donation to help them feed hungry Elkoans.

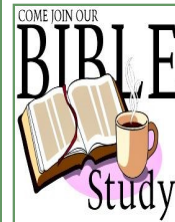
Your generosity to the 2 Cents a Meal project enabled us to give a check to Ruby Mountain Resources for \$231.00 for the months of July, August, and September. Your donations for next quarter will be sent to FISH.

Our Underdog Ministries train park lunch on September 19 was a grand success. The cold meant there were not as many hungry people as usual, but your generosity was not wasted. After everyone had seconds or thirds, Kim's crew took the leftovers to freeze and reheat for their trip to the camp on Wednesday. They were very thankful to you.

We are getting excited about our newest project. Read about it in the TGIF announcement in this Desert Pulpit.



I am sorry to say that Esther Circle will not be meeting anymore. They have disbanded. If you are interested in another ladies group that is studying the Horizon Bible Study, you may be interested in the JOY group. They meet in the parlor on the second Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. They would be glad to welcome new members. Think about it. Maybe I will see you there. Fran



Wednesday morning Bible study will finish up our study on "Screw tape Letters" by C. S. Lewis in November. We will then begin an Advent study on the movie "It's a Wonderful Life" on December 1. Join us at 9:30 each Wednesday. We also meet at 9:00 for Tai Chi if you are interested. Hope to see you there.

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



Year to Date Budget
numbers October 31st

Income 135,502.82

Expense 128,079.83

+ 7,422.99

Submissions for
January February 2022
Desert Pulpit Due
December 27th 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)

Community Pantry

In preparation of building an outdoor community sharing pantry, the Mission Committee, with the support of the Deacons, is collecting non-perishable items. Once the pantry is built, the community will be able to take items they need from the pantry and leave items for those in need. This project is in the beginning stages, and once completed church members will be able to leave donations in the cabinet at the back of the social hall. Committee members or Deacons will then take these donations to restock and maintain the pantry.

At this time, please leave your donations of canned or dry food items, baby items, or personal care items in the basket in front of the church office. Please remember to check the expiration dates on food items. We are excited about beginning this new project to help our community and thank you for your donations.

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JOY CIRCLE

Monday evening

November 8 at 6:00. The

Bible Study is Lesson #2

from "Grandmothers".

There will be no December

meeting as we will attend

the PW Christmas Gather-

ing. Thank you, Ann



SESSION – September - October

September 28

With six members removed and moved to inactive, membership is now 88.

New doors for the sanctuary and office entrances are ordered, but not available until probably January.

Heifer breakfast was well attended.

The Underground Ministries lunch on September 19 went well.

Kevin Tanner was given permission to use the sanctuary piano to give music lessons.

There is no longer a Boy Scout troop associated with the church.

Potluck to celebrate people who have been members for at least 50 years will be on October 31

PW Christmas potluck/ornament exchange will be held on December 8. Co-chaired by Sally Winsley and Jan Petersen.

Crèche Fest is tentatively set for December 5, which is also Birthday party for Jesus Sunday.

Stewardship letter will be sent out soon.

October 19

PW paid the down payment for the sanctuary doors.

We are asking Justin Munson to build the box for the Food pantry. We will place the "building" on our property.

Since no children have come to Sunday school, it will be discontinued.

Drop offs for the Crèche fest on December 5, will be any day that week during office hours or Sunday morning. This is the same Sunday as our Birthday for Jesus where we will also have birthday cake.

Heifer breakfast brought in \$1519.

Stewardship letter has been sent out and pledges will be received on Sunday, November 7.

Christmas Eve service will begin at 8:00 p.m.

Church office will be closed on November 11 and 24 as well as December 23.

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.."



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.

Next quarter's collection will be sent to

September collection was \$ 81.00

October collection was \$76.05

NOTE: next collection November 21st and December 19th

BIRTHDAYS!

November

Erin Munson 11/3

Wesley Tate 11/23

Evalyn Plumb 11/28

December

Diana Jones 12/02

Joseph McLeod 12/02

Susan Jones 12/07

Kaitlyn McLeod 12/16

Kathy Reyes 12/24

Bill Nisbet 12/27

Lori Passmore 12/30

Charlie Cress 12/31



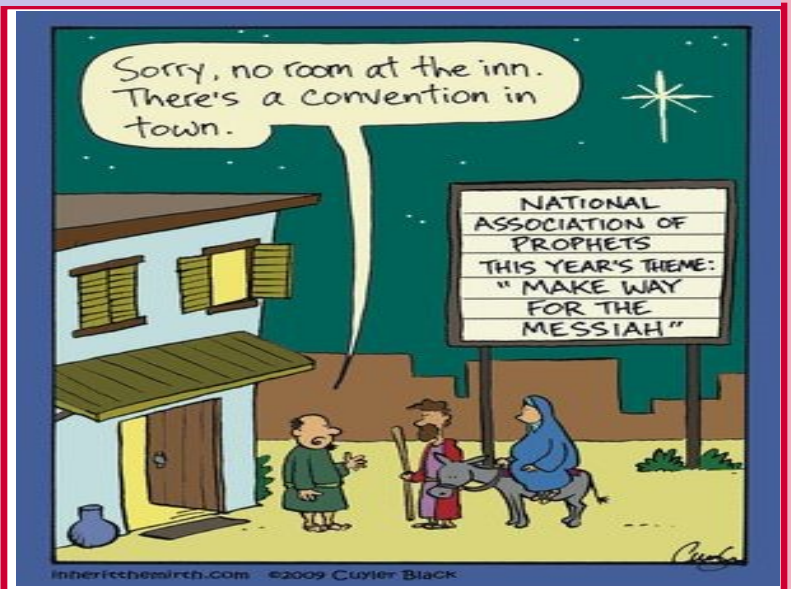
Are you interested in being a Lector?

The Lector reads the first two scriptures in the worship service. (The Old Testament and the Epistle)

Because God's word is holy and life-giving, it is important that it is presented in a meaningful and polished manner.

To that end, those wishing to read scripture in the service need to sign up with Pastor LaVonne. There will also be a sign-up sheet in the office.

Then we will schedule a class/meeting in October for those who've signed up to go over expectations for preparation.



Presbytery of Nevada 31.83

Synod of the Pacific 5.22

General Assembly 8.95

Per Capita is \$46.00 per member

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.



November -2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1.	2.	3. 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	4.	5.	6.
7. 10:00 Worship Service	8. 6:00 Joy Circle	9.	10. 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	11.	12.	13.
14. 10:00 Worship Service Communion	15.	16. 6:00 Session	17. 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	18.	19.	20.
21. 10:00 Worship Service 2 Cents collection	22.	23.	24. 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study Office Closes at Noon	25. OFFICE CLOSED Thanks Giving	26.	27.
28. 10:00 Worship Service	29.	30.	31. 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	<div style="background-color: #c8e6c9; padding: 10px; border: 1px solid #ccc;"> The Sunday School classes available , on Sundays. 7:00am Zoom Sunday school , Contact Mike Jones for information. </div>		

December-2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1. 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	2.	3.	4.
5. 10:00 Worship Service Communion Crèche Fest Birthday for Jesus	6.	7.	8. 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	9.	10.	11.
12. 10:00 Worship Service 4:00 Hand Bell Concert	13.	14.	15. 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	16.	17.	18.
19. 10:00 Worship Service Christmas Joy Offering 2 Cents Collection	20.	21. 6:00 Session	22. 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study	23. OFFICED CLOSED Service 8pm Christmas Eve	24. Christmas	25.
26. 10:00 Worship Service	27.	28.	29. 9:00 Tai Chi 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	30.	31.	