

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.....

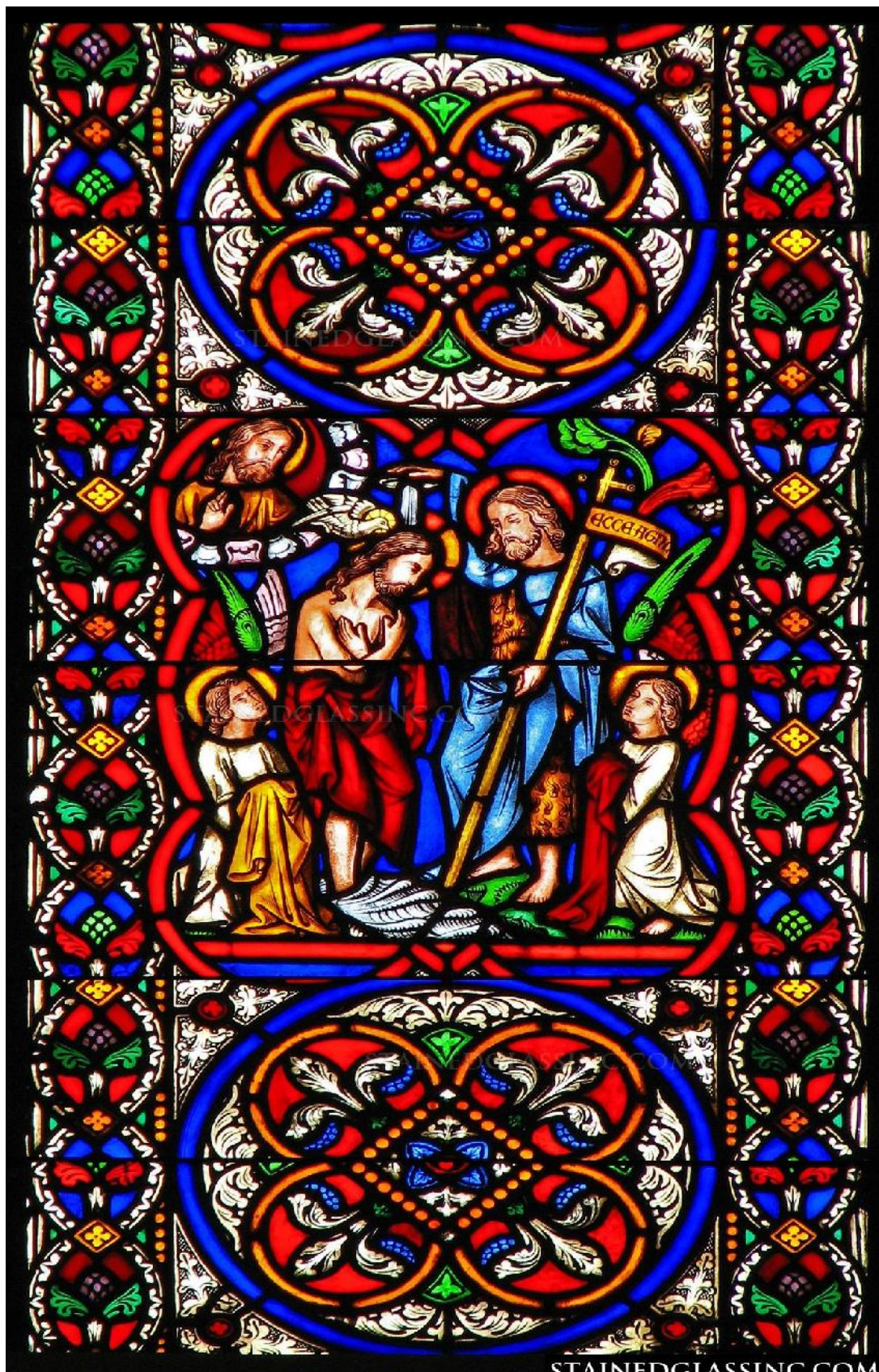
fpchurch@frontiernet.net

Website.....

ElkoFirstPres.org

Facebook.....

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





Redemption

I love the movie “Apollo Thirteen.” I have lost count of how many times I’ve watched it. It’s a well-made film with excellent actors and a gripping story, but the reason I love it is because of the examples of redemption it shows us; how something “bad” is redeemed to provide the saving solution

Just as Jim Lovell’s (Tom Hanks) team is about to blast off for the moon, the NASA doctors think Ken Mattingly (Gary Sinise) could possibly be coming down with German Measles and remove him from the crew. He is replaced by Jack Swigert (Kevin Bacon). A terrible disappointment for Mattingly, as well as his crewmates.

Of course, you will know that there is an explosion on board that has the potential to strand the astronauts irretrievably in space. Mattingly, having been left behind, proves to be a significant part of figuring out how to successfully power up the capsule and get the men back to earth.

During the film, there is a flashback to an interview with Jim Lovell. He tells the story of when he was a Navy carrier pilot and, while flying over the Pacific, his instruments failed; he was flying blind, and he was running out of fuel. It was dark everywhere; how could he see to land on the carrier?

That is when he saw a green trail in the ocean. It was the radiant glow of planktonic algae that the carrier’s giant propeller had stirred up, leaving a glowing trail of the organisms’ bioluminescence in its wake. Lovell could never have seen that pale glow if his instruments had not failed, yet that was what showed him the way to safety.

In both instances, a “bad” thing proved to be what was needed to save the situation, and the turnaround came pretty quickly. It doesn’t always work out that way.

In Genesis, we have the story of Joseph, Jacob’s favorite son, who his brothers so hate that they conspire to kill him, but instead, they sell him into slavery in Egypt. A truly terrible thing that ultimately led to the salvation of Joseph’s family and thousands of others during a famine. But this turnaround took 22 years, 13 of which saw Joseph in prison before he was reunited with his family.

Joseph explains to his family that “God sent me before you to preserve life. The famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So, it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.” (Gen. 45:5b-8)

We’ve had two strange and challenging years with the pandemic, which is clearly a bad thing. No one knows what this year will bring nor what “normal” will look like in the future. What I do know is that the God of the Bible, the God we worship, loves us and is always for us. We don’t set a timetable, but we can trust that the God who comes to us with hope, peace, joy, and love will redeem his creation in the perfect way and at the ideal time. Let us begin this new year in confident faith and trust in God and God’s plan for his creation.



Our annual Birthday for Jesus was once again a wonderful success.



The items were again donated to the OB Department at NNRH in Elko, and were the following:

1 lg. mom size warming blanket	1 pair booties
253 diapers	33 pajamas
19 onesies	3 baby 3 piece outfits
11 baby hats + 20 hand crocheted	8 washcloths
10 bibs	15 receiving blankets
6 pkgs. baby wipes	

Thank you to everyone for your generosity,
Janet & Bill Strickland



Elko First Presbyterian Church Deacons – December 2021

The Deacons have been busy with Fall and Winter Outreach Activities. On November 20th the Deacons assembled the Thanksgiving “Thinking of You” Pumpkin Centerpieces in which we presented one to each family that attended church on November 21st. Both days were fun and we found out about our Deacons’ decorating talents.

We have sent over 90 Christmas cards out to our congregation and to others in our community that we haven’t seen for a while. We want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and let them know we are thinking of them and keeping them in our prayers at Elko First Presbyterian Church.

Our Sugar Plum (Angel) Tree Nametag Project had great participation from our congregation. All 25 names were taken, purchased for and gifts returned to the church in a timely fashion. (Deacons took 5 names to be responsible for with their funding.) A big thank you goes to each and every one of you that participated in our Christmas Community Outreach Project.

Charlie’s Angels (also part of the Deacons’ Mission) organized and prepared a very nice reception for Michael Nahnacassia’s funeral on December 11th. We will also be preparing a loving reception for Charlie Cress’s funeral on December 18th. Blessings to Michael and Charlie’s families. As we all know - Charlie and Mary Lou started the Charlie’s Angels’ Program many, many years ago.

The Deacons are prepared to help purchase supplies for the Micro pantry when it is built and we are continuing to reach out to others in need.

During this past year we have prepared and served Communion 22 times to our congregation. Our Minister has also taken Communion into home settings. Thank you Ann Nisbet for preparing the bread for Communion. Thank you Donna Gary and Jerry Cooney for donating the grape juice.

I want to thank our active Deacons: Robbie Nickel – Secretary, Kathy Mcleod – Treasurer, Donna Gary – Taping, Pam Anderson, Vicki Matys, Barbara Pearson, Mike Jones, Priscilla Mason & Matt Niday.

Submitted by Jerry Cooney, Moderator

January

2 - Judi Boyce, Sally Winsley,
Kathy Reyes
9 - Jenny Byars, Jan Webb, Faith Daniels
16 - Aida Mathews, Ann Nisbet,
LaVonne Alexander
23 - Susie Jones, Robbie Nickel,
Kathy McLeod
30 - Pam Anderson, Jan Petersen.
Fran Schain

February

6- Patty Fisk, Donna Gary, Vicki Matys
13 -Jerry Cooney, Kathy Reyes,
Diana Jones
20 -Sally Winsley, Ann Nisbet, Judi Boyce
27 -Jan Webb, Susie Jones, Aida Mathews



You will also need to help set up and clean up

Everyone Welcome!

Join Us!



Choir practice is on Tuesday nights at
5:00.

we will sing on
Sundays

We would love to have some new
voices join us.



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12-29-2014

MY NEW YEARS RESOLUTION THIS YEAR IS
TO DO THE THINGS I SHOULD HAVE BEEN
DOING LAST YEAR

Mission Committee

The Mission Committee was able to respond to Jeff and Christy Boyd, our missionaries working in the Congo, because a member of our congregation donated money above our budget. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance reported that a volcano destroyed villages in the Congo and they needed tarps for temporary – and portable – housing, as the damage advanced. The gift from a member enabled us to help an area that Jeff and Christy know about personally.

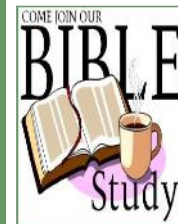
We also sent our final quarter's pledge to FISH to help with their Christmas support of our community.

Your donations to 2 cents a mail have continued to be generous and will go to FISH on time to help restock their shelves this winter. The funds from the next quarter will be sent to Community in Schools.

We are collecting food and supplies for the micro pantry that is still in the works. We hope to have it soon.



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 be watching the second season of "The Chosen", then discussion .

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 December 31st

Income \$162,453.06

Expense \$160,797.79

+ #1,655.27

Submissions for
March—April 2022
Desert Pulpit Due
February 21st 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.

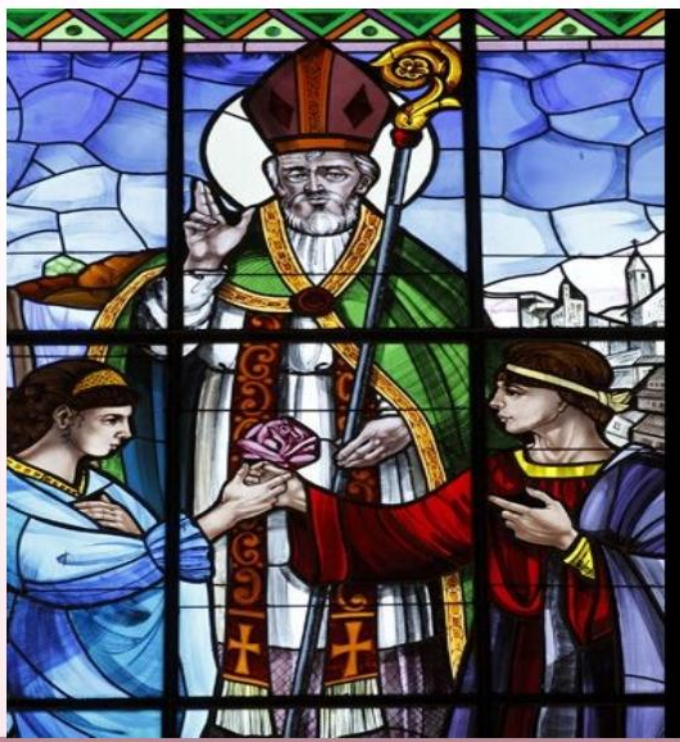
Attention Church Members:

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.”



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

Community in Schools

November collection was \$63.37

December collection was \$77.18

NOTE: next collection January 16st and February 20st

BIRTHDAYS!

January

Larry Hall 1/2

Rick Glass 1/6

Pam Anderson 1/9

Liz Better 1/9

Sally Winsley 1/12

Frances Schain 1/19

Toni Mendive 1/26

Ann Nisbet 1/26

Steven Boyce 1/27

Evan Munson 1/30

February

Vicki Matys 2/4

Mark Ports 2/6

Joseph Norero III 2/8

Justin Munson 2/9

Tamra Boyce 2/15

Clarice Gamboa 2/17

Dennis Petersen 2/18

Floyd Fisk 2/20

Nick Halton 2/25



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.



02-15-2013

JESUS STOPPED BY AND NOBODY LOVES MORE THAN HIM, BUT BEFORE YOU GET JEALOUS OR ANYTHING YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT IT IS FOR YOU TOO

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.



Presbytery of Nevada 31.83

Synod of the Pacific 5.22

General Assembly 8.95

Per Capita is \$46.00 per member

January -2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>The Sunday School classes available , on Sundays.</p> <p>7:00am Zoom Sunday school , Contact Mike Jones for information.</p>						1.
<p>2.</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service</p> <p>Communion</p>	3.	4.	<p>5.</p> <p>9:00 Tai Chi</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study</p> <p>1:00 Prayer Retreat</p>	6.	7.	8.
<p>9.</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service</p> <p>Communion</p>	<p>10.</p> <p>6:00 Joy Circle</p>	11.	<p>12.</p> <p>9:00 Tai Chi</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study</p> <p>1:00 Prayer Retreat</p>	13.	14.	15.
<p>16.</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service</p> <p>Congregational Meeting after worship</p> <p>2 Cents collection</p>	<p>17.</p> <p>OFFICED CLOSED</p>	<p>18.</p> <p>6:00 Session</p>	<p>19.</p> <p>9:00 Tai Chi</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study</p> <p>1:00 Prayer Retreat</p>	20.	21.	22.
<p>23.</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service</p>	24.	25.	<p>26.</p> <p>9:00 Tai Chi</p> <p>9:30 Bible Study</p> <p>1:00 Prayer Retreat</p>	27.	28.	29.
<p>30.</p> <p>10:00 Worship Service</p>	31.					

February-2022

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