

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



Pastor.....
LaVonne Alexander

Office Manager.....
Naomi Tanner

Financial Secretary...
Dalana Tognini

Pianist /Organist.....

Choir Director.....
Patty Fisk

Nursery Attendant....
Marilyn Robinson

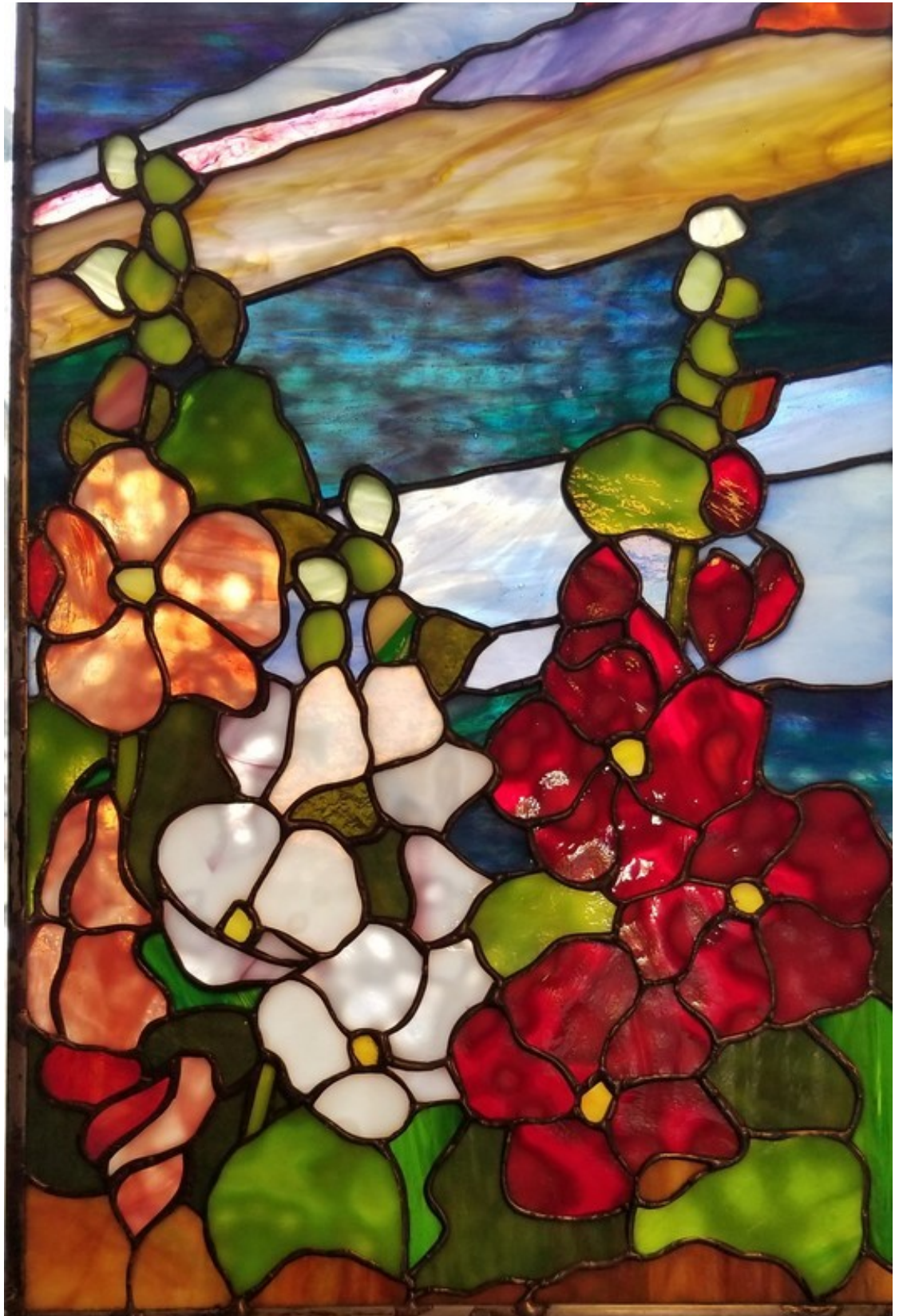
Desert Pulpit Editor....
Naomi Tanner

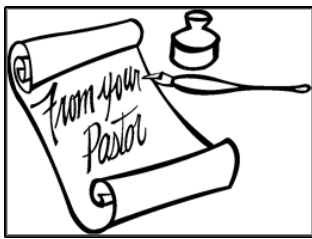
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775-738-3430

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

Website.....
ElkoFirstPres.org

Facebook.....
www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchOfElko





The Vine and The Branches



1 "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. 2He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 4Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. 8My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. 9As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love." (John 15:1- 2, 4- 5, 8-10)

We understand that God, the Father, is the owner/grower/planter of the vineyard. In that vineyard, there is one true vine: Jesus. He is the vine, and we are the branches. In order for branches to actually be able to grow grapes (bear fruit), they must be 1. Attached to the (true) vine, and 2. Be regularly pruned in order to bear more (good) fruit.

“To maintain vineyards, one of the important activities is to regularly trim the grapevines so that you get a better reap of grapes. You must make sure to properly trim the vines. In the first pruning phase, last year’s growth is cut back. Later in the season, “finish pruning,” is done, during which only the shoots are left that will produce fruit in the coming season. Pruning is important for maintaining the structural integrity, consistency, and predictability of the vineyard.” (<https://www.jordanwinery.com/blog/how-to-prune-grape-vines>)



Cut a branch off of any fruit-bearing plant and see how much fruit of any kind that branch will grow. Yet, isn’t that how many of us operate at least from time to time?

A branch (that’s you and me) must be attached to Jesus, the vine (or trunk or stem) in order to receive the nutrients necessary for healthy growth and good results (good fruit).

So, how do we abide in Christ? Like so much of our life journey as followers of Jesus, it’s simple, but it takes dedication and practice. It requires that we make our connection to Christ (the vine) a priority every day. Pastor and author, Voddie Baucham offers a pretty good road map. He says “1. Read your Bible, 2. Think Biblically, 3. Pray Biblically” (repeat daily).

Reading the Bible (the prophets – especially Isaiah as well as the Gospels) reveals that our Lord and Savior was a humble man. We really can come to know Christ by meeting him in the scriptures.

When we think biblically, we must know the teaching of Jesus; we must know what the Bible reveals about God’s priorities. The prophets make it clear that God seeks an open heart, a heart willing to be transformed. Jesus also taught that throughout his ministry. God is interested in the surrendering of our hearts, understanding that true worship comes from an honest and repentant heart. Going through the motions is never enough.

Jesus summed up the Law and the Prophets in two commandments: Love God with all you are and love others in the same way you want to be loved. That requires us to learn how to emulate Jesus’ humility.

When we think and pray biblically, we can recognize things about ourselves – in ourselves – that are not bearing any fruit – good or not. That means submitting to the pruning required if we are to bear good fruit that glorifies God. Pruning is pretty much guaranteed to be uncomfortable, but it’s necessary. The good news is that we are always accompanied by the God who loves us enough to die for us, and who has never, and will never abandon us. The snipping may sting, but the fruit we will then bear for God will be glorious!

May

1-Vicki Matys, Patty Fisk, Judi Boyce

8-Kathy Reyes, Jerry Cooney, Faith Daniel

15 - Ann Nisbet, Jann Webb, LaVonne Alexander

29- Robbie Nickel, Sallt Winsley, Aida Mathews

June

5- Susie Jones, Kathy McLeod, Diana Jones

12- Jenny Byars, Jerry Cooney, Vicki Matys

19 - Patty Fisk, Jan Webb, LaVonne Alexander

26- Ann Nisbet, Kathy Reyes, Donna Gary



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.



DEACONS SPRING REPORT

Submitted by Moderator – Jerry Cooney

Happy Spring Everyone!

On March 27th, the Deacons presented flowers and balloons to pianist Connie Muir during her retirement party after church. We have enjoyed her talents at our church and will definitely miss Connie.

The Deacons prepared Communion for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Easter Services. We will also prepare Communion for the May 1st and May 22nd Church Services.

The Easter Egg Hunt organized by the Deacons was very successful with 17 children participating. A big thank you to the Deacons and others that helped to fill the eggs and that donated eggs and candy. (Our congregation is wonderful when it comes to donating!!)

Our Deacons were happy to usher for all of these fun activities and loved welcoming over 100 people to church on Easter.

We want to wish a Happy Mothers' Day to all of you on Sunday May 8th. Our next Deacons Meeting will be held on May 22nd. Also, if any member is interested in becoming a Deacon, please contact Jerry at (775) 934-3279.

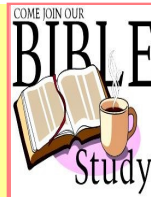
Our Deacon and friend Donna Gary and her husband George are going to be moving in June. We will be so saddened to see them leave our church and community. Donna has been very active in our church and has attended our church for many years. We will miss her skills up in the Taping Loft, as well as missing her friendship. Wishing both of them good luck and happiness in their retirement as they continue on with their dreams.

The Mission and Outreach Committee

We have sent the first quarter of this year's 2 Cents a Meal donations to Community in Schools and are collecting for Head Start this second quarter.

We also sent a check for the money donated to Souper Bowl Sunday to CADV to help with their food pantry.

Our focus has been on learning how to best use our new MicroPantry. We put all the food donated to Souper Bowl Sunday in one of the cabinets in the Fellowship Hall. It has been exciting to see the pantry used – both from the people who are putting food into it and those that need to take food out of it. We are now, hopefully, far enough into spring to put cans in and not worry about whether they will freeze. Some of the supplies that get taken out more often include tuna and chicken in foil bags, peanut butter, hearty soup and stews, canned fruits and vegetables. As we learn about it, we need some help from you all. Please discourage anyone from putting food in it that is out of date, rarely used, or a personal favorite that is not widely liked. And please start putting food directly into it if you see that it has room. Almost all the food we put into the inside pantry has been used, so please be generous. There are a lot of hungry people in Elko and we can tell they appreciate our Micropantry.



Wednesday morning Bible study will be studying Liz Curtis Higg's Bad Girls of the Bible Starting on March 9th
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 Church office hours are, 9:00am-1:30pm Monday –Thursday
Worship services are still available Sunday 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

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



VBS

July 25th—29th

Theme this year is ;

Zoomerang

-Answers in Genesis

Teachers and helpers are needed, contact Sally Winsley.

Year to Date Budget numbers February 28th

Income \$52,359.35

Expense \$61,388.96

- 9,029.61

Submissions for August - September 2022
Desert Pulpit Due **July 19 2022**



Youth Group

Meets the first Sunday of the month for pizza and activities

at 5:00pm in the Fellowship Hall



T G I S

(Take Groceries In Sunday)

Community Pantry

Our Community Micro Pantry is up and being used! Thank you to those who have contributed to this service and a special thank

you to Justin Munson for overseeing the building of the pantry. Non-perishable food donations can be placed in the box in front of the office, in the pantry cabinet in back of the social hall, or directly into the micro pantry. Please remember to check the expiration dates on your donations. Personal hygiene and baby items are also being collected.

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.”

PW Annual
Rummage Sale/Yard Sale

Saturday, July 9th from
8:00am-1:00pm

Set up from 6:30am-8:00am

No clothes

Questions contact

Sally Winsley or Jan Petersen



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

Head start

March collection was \$78.78

April collection was \$52.42

NOTE: next collections May 15th and June 19th

BIRTHDAYS!

May

5/2 Donna Gary

5/2 Jake Kump

5/10 Heather Norero

5/11 Mary Lou Cress

5/13 Spencer Wines

5/18 Jason Norero

5/22 Elaine Knight

5/26 Jan Petersen

June

6/1 Harper Wines

6/8 Carter Kidwell

6/10 Jim Byars

6/10 Roberta Gallegos

6/ 21 Jenny Byars

6/25 Emma

Barrington



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.

THANK
YOU
CONNIE



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

May - 2022

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

June-2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1. 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	2.	3.	4.
5. 10:00 Worship Service	6.	7. 1:00 Room 2 Grow	8. 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	9.	10.	11.
12. 10:00 Worship Service	13. 6:00 Joy circle	14. 1:00 Room 2 Grow	15. 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	16.	17.	18.
19. 10:00 Worship Service 2 Cents Collection	20.	21. 1:00 Room 2 Grow 6:00 Session	22. 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	23.	24.	25.
26. 10:00 Worship Service Birthday Sunday	27.	28. 1:00 Room 2 Grow	29. 9:30 Bible Study 1:00 Prayer Retreat	30.		