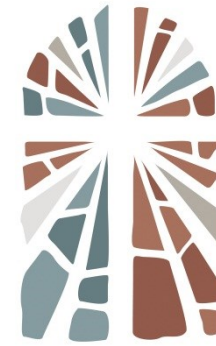


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Corner of North Division & West King Streets
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306 West Musser Street
Carson City, NV 89703

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The Trumpet

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Carson City

Vol. 56 No. 04

May 2019

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From the Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

In the office you have given me, there are several items embossed or engraved with the answer to the first question of the Westminster Shorter Catechism. It is a theme you will hear me repeat – perhaps redundantly, over and over again – in sermons, classes, and conversation.

Question 1: What is the chief end of man?

Answer: Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy him forever.

Over the years I have found this to be helpful in finding calm in the center of storms. "Glorifying God" encompasses obedience and participation of both elements of the Great Command: loving God with all our heart, soul, mind and strength; and loving neighbor as self. We glorify God as we do those things.

Popular Christian culture picked up on this a few years ago with the bracelets that read, "WWJD" or what would Jesus do? When we look at Jesus' relationship with the Father, we see the pure version of glorifying God and enjoying God forever. Even Jesus' anguish in the Garden fits that description – including "enjoy." "Look to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who *for the sake of the joy* that was set before him endured the cross, *disregarding its shame*, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God." (Hebrews 12:2) Jesus endured and disregarded the shame of the cross in the hope and trust of the joy of God's presence. Jesus' unyielding commitment to obeying God's leading was the fullest expression of what it means glorifying God. In all times – solitude, small groups, and before the masses – Jesus' life brought glory and honor to God.

I would love to be able to tell you that I have followed Jesus' example at all the high and low points of my life. I have not. My awareness of the ways in which I have fallen short makes me immediately and profoundly grateful that God has given me the victory that Jesus has won. The assurance of God's grace picks me up after I have fallen and allows me the hope to try to glorify him going forward.

It is the second part of the answer that provides me tremendous encouragement. We are to enjoy God forever. God has not structured the walk of discipleship to be drudgery. It is not intended to be a perpetual obligation. God is not waiting for us to fail so that he can smite us with a lightning bolt. Yes, God wants us to have a clear and awesome view of who he is – that's the "fear" or wonder – but God also wants to envelope us in the love which will bless us beyond the ways we could imagine for ourselves. Our faith is the growing relationship with God in which we discover daily the delights of his great love for us.

Do you ever allow yourself to think about how God has created you to *enjoy* him? What would enjoying God mean to you?

It is the contemplating of enjoying God forever that puts all the trials and tribulations of today into perspective. I think of the times when I have felt closest to God, like mountaintop experiences or moments of connection with others. It takes some effort to dwell on those moments without immediately countering, "yes, but..."; however, when I do, I get really excited about who God is and what it will be like to spend eternity in



"Glorify God and enjoy him forever 2/10/19"

THE TRUMPET

Published by the
First Presbyterian Church
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The Rev. Bruce Kochsmeier
bruce@fpccarsoncity.org

Worship Services
10:00 AM

Webpage
www.fpccarsoncity.org

Trumpet & Sunday Bulletin articles can be sent to margo@fpccarsoncity.org and may be edited for space. See calendar for due dates. Trumpet mailing prepared by a team led by Linda Poole.

May 2019 Sermons

May 5: "Plain Speaking"

John 16:16-33

May 12: "Sing to the Lord"

Colossians 3:12-17

May 19: "That We May Know Him"

John 17:20-26

May 26: "Rescue Us"

Matthew 6:9-15

See us and
"Like" us on



(continues on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

God's presence. I begin to resonate with Paul's comments to the Philippians, "Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus."

The prize of our faith is to be able to enjoy God forever. Thus, let us live to glorify God now and always.

Your brother in Christ,

Bob Davis

From Bruce's Workshop

"GRATITUDE"

We have just come through the season of Lent and Easter. This, coupled with a major change in all our lives leaves me reflecting on the power of gratitude. Gratitude comes when we take stock of what has happened and is happening in our lives from about 30,000 feet; that is, from the big picture.

When I am wise enough to do this, I find the first and most important thing I am grateful for is that God loves me and that I know it. I am grateful that I am not who I may have wanted to become, but I am becoming who Jesus died to make me. In this I am grateful, as Amy Grant has sung, "That all I ever have to be is who HE made me." I think in our

hurried approach to life we can so easily miss this on a daily basis. When we do I think we miss the greatest opportunity for evangelism. The reason I say this is because I see a world around us that is increasingly ungrateful because it restlessly wants more on the outside when what it needs is what God alone can do on the inside.

When I was a little boy of four or five we went somewhere and some grown-up said, "Wow! Wouldn't you like to have a car like *that!*" I blurted out, "No, we already have one at home." I remember a man said, "How do you like that? A kid who doesn't want everything." Listen, I have admitted to wanting lots of stuff plenty of times, but in that moment I am grateful that I knew that what mattered was something *I already had!* Our family car was one my dad had rescued from a fire. He restored it and we drove it for ten years; unheard of in those days.

I am grateful for knowing that God has rescued us and restored us and that what we need most we already have "at home". Because I know this I know I really don't need anything else. I am grateful for simple things; for remembering that I have always had everything that I need on every level. I am grateful that I never got things and visions that I was never meant to have. I am grateful that I am who I am because of Jesus Christ. THIS is what our world is longing to have even though they don't know it. It is so utterly simple. We want to be wanted and valued and no one does this better than God. That is what Easter is about; that God wants us and has given us the greatest sign of this.

I know at this season in life there are a lot of things I thought I knew, but I don't and that's OK. I am grateful for knowing that I am loved in ways that mysteriously take me beyond anything this world can offer; but never provide. I am deeply grateful that you are my friends and continually teach me about being grateful for the love that will not let us go.

Thank you my friends. May this spring bring us all a deep sense of gratitude of the love that really matters and may the world be drawn to Jesus Christ through our gratitude. Truly, as one saint has said, "If the only prayer we ever prayed was, 'Thank you', that would be enough."

Gratefully yours in Christ,

Bruce



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Names omitted in online version for privacy:

ON OUR PRAYER LIST Requested as of 04-14-2019
Names omitted in online version for privacy:



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Lottie Scott Memorial Scholarship Award



Attention any high school senior who is currently active or grew up in this congregation. You qualify to apply for the Lottie Scott Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship was established in honor of Lottie Scott who was very involved in the life of our church, especially in the Sunday School and Youth programs. If you are interested in applying, please pick up an application at the church office (Mon - Thurs from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm). **Deadline for applying is May 15, 2019.** If you have any questions, please contact Cecelia Stansbury at 925-200-4360 or cecstansbury@yahoo.com.



THE KING'S KIDS



...Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me...for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.' Luke 18:16

KING'S KIDS BIBLE EXPERIENCE



A vineyard owner hired people throughout to pick his grapes. Some worked all day, others half day, others worked only the afternoon, and some worked just an hour. Each worker agreed with the vineyard owner on what payment would be. At the end of the day, each worker received the same payment. This made the man who had worked all day, very angry. But the vineyard owner replied: "I am NOT being unfair to you. Didn't you agree to work for ONE denarius? Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or is it just that you are angry because I am generous?"

KING'S KIDS BIBLE EXPERIENCE

...Experiencing GOD... Experiencing the BIBLE... Experiencing COMMUNITY...
We'll be looking at Super-Heroes of the Bible, as we learn from their examples.

Memory Verses:

"Be alert. Stand firm in your faith. Be courageous. Be strong. Let everything you do, be done in love."

1 Corinthians 16:13-14



"Rejoice in the Lord always. Let your gentleness show to all. Pray about everything. Be thankful.

And the peace of God will guard your hearts and minds.

Philippians 4:4-7

"Seek first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness, And all these things will be given to you."

Matthew 6:33

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord..."

Colossians 3:23

SUMMER CAMP OPPORTUNITIES:

FORWARD BIBLE CAMP (<https://www.forwardbiblecamp.com/>)

June 12-15: 5th & 6th grade boys (\$165 + gas money)

June 19-22: 5th & 6th grade girls (\$165 + gas money)

July 9-13: 7th - 9th grade boys: (\$195 + gas money)

ZEPHYR POINT: CAMP ZEPHYR (Day Camp) (<https://www.zephyrpoint.org/programs/family/camp-zephyr/>)

Week 2 (June 24-28): \$170 (includes \$20 transportation fee)

Week 5 (July 22-26): \$170 (includes \$20 transportation fee)

SONGS OF ASCENT

In Old Testament times the Jewish religion required all males to worship in the Temple (in Jerusalem) at least three times per year. Presumably, whole families made the trip. On their way, the pilgrims sang songs of reflection and honor to God as they headed up to Jerusalem. These songs of ascent are recorded in Psalms 120-134. Psalm 125, says, "Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people, from this time forth and forevermore."

Carl and I have just returned from the West Coast Presbyterian Pastors' Conference at Mount Hermon in the Santa Cruz Mountains, where we are surrounded by the mountains in a very peaceful setting. We try to make this pilgrimage annually and we are so thankful for the support of First Presbyterian and Christ Presbyterian churches. The retreat consists of Bible teaching, worship and fellowship with other pastors and families, and an opportunity to come away from church duties and be refreshed and reflect on the Easter season we've just come through. One of the perennial favorite hymns as we worship is "Great is Thy Faithfulness," which reminds us that God is faithful. He is our refuge, our strength, and our hope forever. He does not change. He is our stronghold – like the mountains surrounding Jerusalem.

Since we are in the Easter season we also sing "Rejoice, the Lord is King" (Darwall's tune, like in our hymnal). "Rejoice the Lord is King" also has a variant text based on Psalm 148, a "hymnic" psalm, (the hymn with the alternate text is then called *Darwall's 148th*). A more modern rendition of "Rejoice the Lord is King" can be found in the Getty / Townend song "Come, People of the Risen King." Also, Graham Kendrick, another modern hymn writer, has penned "Psalm 148", which we sing from time to time. These are our current day "songs of ascent" as we enter into worship at FPC.

No matter what we sing at the conference, we are always blessed to be there and to fellowship with other people who serve the Lord. The "iron sharpens iron" phrase comes to mind in reference to the retreat. We come away with fresh insight on how the Lord works in our lives and in the lives of our fellow Christians.

Singing the songs of ascent on our journey,
Karen

"WE'VE ALWAYS DONE IT THAT WAY ..."

...And we will continue to maintain our traditional "After-Service Coffee Hour" but now under new management! Jodene and Doug Finch will be overseeing the program going forward, taking the reins that Jan and Dave Brees have held for many years. Jan and Dave want to thank the many volunteer Coffee Chefs who have worked with them, and know you will continue to support the Finches. **To volunteer to help with future coffee hours**, please contact Jodene Finch at 775-600-9281. She would love to talk to you about getting involved!



"Thank you" to Jan and Dave for all the time, effort and love they have put into coordinating this program. This fellowship time is very special to our congregation and all the work that has gone into it by Jan and Dave, as well as all the Coffee Chefs is SO APPRECIATED!

Newsletter DEADLINE

JUNE / JULY—TRUMPET DEADLINE—FRIDAY, MAY 10

Send your articles or information to Margo at margo@fpccarsoncity.org



The Hymn Sing Returns May 9!

Bring your favorite Soup or Salad to share for the potluck starting at 5:30pm (or come even if you don't bring a dish!). The Hymn Sing starts at about 6:15 pm.

No Hymn Sings will take place during June, July and August but plan to come together to sing to the Lord again in September.



Zephyr Point Work Day—Saturday, May 11

Signups have begun in the Narthex after the church service.

Plan to participate for a day of fun, fellowship, fantastic food, and fatigue!!

We will meet at 7:30am at the Zephyr Point maintenance area, next to the office, for coffee & donuts.



GraceWorks

**Saturday, May 18, 2019
8:00 AM to around 2:00 PM**

THE PURPOSE OF GRACEWORKS: Connecting with other Christian believers in our community, fellowship, singing, working side by side, and rejoicing at the opportunities God will provide for this day.

Begin the day at 8 AM with a free breakfast at Mills Park, Pavilion C.

Menu: pancakes, sausages, juice and coffee. Depart for project of your choice 9 AM.

PROJECTS

F.I.S.H. (Friends in Service Helping) – Packaging bulk food into single serving meals. Volunteers are to go to the First Presbyterian Church, the entrance on 305 W. Musser St.

Eagle Valley Children's Home – Sanding and painting benches; and painting inside the facility

Carson Plaza Retirement Center - Enjoy worship music and visit with the residents.

Wearing the red GraceWorks T-shirt on May 18 is encouraged. Additional T-shirts are available.

Sign-ups can be done in the Narthex on Sunday May 5 and May 12 or to sign up online: Google "GraceWorks Carson City 2019" and click on "Get Tickets."

Further information: Kyle Hamilton or Carol Wilson via contacting the church office at 882-1032

Congregational Giving—General Budget

	2019 Projected Budget Need	Given	Difference
April 15, 2019			
Year to date	\$165,315	\$139,127	-\$26,188
Current	Income	Expense	Difference
	\$139,127	\$152,059	-\$12,932

Clarification on ECO DUES

**The \$15 per member is due ONE time in 2019.
THANK YOU, ALL!**



INDEPENDENCE HOLIDAY BBQ LUNCH

June 30

FPC ICE CREAM SOCIAL

July—once the date has been firmed up we will let you know!

FAITH NIGHT AT THE ACES GAME

August 16th—get your mitts ready!