

The Trumpet

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Carson City

Vol. 59 No. 07

September 2022

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Growth. That's the topic for this month: Growth.

Growth is good. It is something for which we pray, which we hope, which we desire. Seeing new faces coming and getting involved is encouraging. Growth makes things more joyful, easier in many respects, and inspires creativity for what else could happen.

And, growth means change.

"Sure," you might be thinking to yourself, "of course it means change. So why make a big deal about it?"



Change always means loss – of the status quo, of things "as I like them," of how things are done. That is the reason I am mentioning it now as we see the stage set for things to change.

We are seeing new faces and new covenant partners in our midst. We are seeing people returning from COVID isolation. We are seeing new equipment, new renovations (that's for next month), and new kinds of events. Yes, many familiar things are still happening; but they are now intermixed with things that are unfamiliar and new.

Perhaps you are all used to change by now. Certainly this congregation looks and feels different than it did a few years ago – simply going through a pandemic had a huge impact. Because that was an externally imposed reality shift, change was widely accepted as necessary. The anxiety about change was diminished because we COULD not stay the same. Then, many of the things we did to adapt to unprecedented circumstances have now become a part of who we are.

The newer development is the growth in the choir. Within a few months of Stewart's beginning as our Director of Music Ministries, we have seen the Chancel Choir expand beyond the chairs that can be accommodated on the existing risers. There are plans this autumn to begin preparing for the Christmas Cantata, which will involve partnering with another congregation – increasing the number of people that will congregate on the chancel. They all have to be somewhere.

As we began looking at the organization of the chancel area, we realized that trying to pack more into the current configuration may not make sense. Visually, it would be chaotic. Practically, it would be unsafe. Comedically, there is a mental picture that if the choir continues moving forward, they are going to push me (and the pulpit) over the front step into the communion table.

You might not think that moving furniture on the chancel would be a big deal; however, the biggest church dispute I ever had to manage within a congregation was about the color of the pew bibles to replace those that had worn out. I'm not kidding. It was intense.

Rearranging and moving things on the chancel will be a change. We have just begun the conversation about where and how and what – so nothing is set for certain. Yet, because whatever modifications we make will differ from how things are and have been – leading to the often-subconscious perception that "how it was" is "how it is supposed to be" – I want to give you a heads-up that we are looking at making some changes to address the growth we have experienced.

From the Pastor's Desk

This heads-up is based on a reading of human tendency we get from Scripture. Within two months after the people of Israel had been rescued from the charging Egyptians by going through the Red Sea, there were complaints because the new reality was different than they had known. "The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." (Exodus 16:2-3) They had prayed for deliverance, the LORD had delivered them, and then they were not happy with the change.

We have prayed and prayed and prayed for growth. God has given us an amazing "yes" in answering those prayers. Now, we need to prepare mentally, emotionally, and spiritually for the changes that growth will require. Thankfully, we can pray *now* for God to grant us peace and discernment so that we will be ready when change happens.

Your brother in Christ,

Bob Davis

If you are homebound and would like to have your Deacon provide communion at your home, they are willing and able to come to you!

Call the office at 775-882-1032 and your Deacon will be contacted to make arrangements.





"Cookies & Christ" has been a community outreach done the past few years by FPC during the Nevada Day Parade (October 29th this year). Our C&C coordinator, Donald Scherer, has moved away so he is no longer available to coordinate this! If you would be interested in being the point-person for this fun outreach event, please contact the office at 775-882-1032.

TRUMPET DEADLINE FOR

October

is September 16

Send your info / articles / submissions to margo@fpccarsoncity.org

Congregational Giving—General Budget

2022 Projected

Difference **Budget Need** Given August 15, 2022 Yr. to Date \$292,601 \$269,481 - \$ 23,120 Difference Current Income Expense \$ 17.454 \$ 15, 674 + \$ 1.780 TO DATE **ECO Dues** Income <u>Budget</u> \$ 5.200 \$ 1.910

Family Ministries

Thank You!

To all of our volunteers:

Sunday school teachers and substitutes

Event coordinators/helpers

Film crews and on-screen talent

Elders, Deacons and committee members

We couldn't do it without you!

You're



awesome!

Mark your calendars!

You do not want to miss these...



September 11 - Grandparent's Day

Bring your grandkids to church for Sunday school, and games on the lawn after worship service

September 30 - Sock Hop

Roll up your sleeves, put on your poodle skirt and saddle shoes, and join us for a rocking good time!



The Advent Season is Quickly Approaching!

To be a director of music ministries of the First Presbyterian Church means you are planning months ahead with the musical seasons. Currently, the choir is preparing for the Advent season, learning the music to be performed for Christmas, plus working on choral pieces to be performed for September, October, and November! Even though we are currently in the second half of

summer, being a choir member means you need to psychologically prepare your mind to not only sing songs of the current season, but also start learning music for the holidays three months in advance. Even though choir doesn't technically start until September, most of the members have been rehearsing, and singing throughout the entire summer to prepare for the new calendar choir year.

This year the choir will be performing a Christmas Cantata, "Let There Be Christmas." The Cantata takes us all on a journey of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In one great crescendo of purpose, the season of Christmas sweeps us into its arms with an unfettered flourish of festivity. The glare of this explosion of activity often overshadows the fragile light that is the spiritual center of this sacred time.

Simply, and with unexpected gentleness, Bethlehem's star flickers to life like a candle in the winter wind just when the night is longest. It kindles in the open heart a deep hope that warms and illuminates. It is by this dancing light of promise we discover the miracle of the season. Emboldened, we are drawn close to the manger. By this candle of faith we see the Child of God, wrapped in a simple cloth, the Creator embraced and held by His own creation. It is this glorious impossible that proclaims,

Let there be SONG...as a young mother's lullaby becomes a symphony of praise that wakes the nations.

Let there be FAITH...as ancient scrolls unfurl to reveal the living Word of God.

Let there be HOPE...as the promise of a Redeemer opens like a sacred rose in the soul of the believer.

Let there be PEACE...as the Spirit descends like a dove with healing in its wings.

Let there be LOVE...as the world feels the embrace of God's perfect light.

Let there be JOY...as our cup of worship overflows in thanksgiving.

Let there be WONDER...as each seeker's eyes reflect a glory that melts away doubt and reveals the treasure of belief.

Let there be GRACE...and discover the heart of God.

Let there be CHRISTMAS...and let the music of life begin and never end!

This will truly be an exciting time for all of us!

God's Blessings,

Stewart Peebles

Director of Music Ministries



Thank you to these lovely ladies for the beautiful music in August:

Mary Law, harp; Carol Doede, clarinet; and Naomi Adams, cello





Here are some upcoming opportunities to share your time, talent, or treasure.



ZEPHYR POINT FALL WORK DAY

Saturday, September 10

Plans are being made for the fall work day at Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center. Join us to spend an enjoyable day at Lake Tahoe. Various maintenance projects are always needing volunteers to help complete: carpentry, gardening, staining, demolition, and more.

Coffee and goodies are available Saturday morning at 7:30 am. Work will begin about 8:00 am. Work all day or until you are tired! Lunch will be provided by Zephyr Point

Sign-ups are happening now in the Narthex. See Grace or Bob Speicher for more information.

The next CIRCLES dinner is September 14. Sign up with Sharon Hughes on Sunday, September 11 to provide a main dish of chicken wings or chicken nuggets or a vegetarian dish. We also need salads and desserts.



What is CIRCLES? CIRCLES of Carson City meets every Wednesday in the FPC Family Life Center and Library. CIRCLES CIRCLES members are people trying to improve how they interact with the world. A group of community people (Allies) also attend to act as mentors. If interested, you can apply to be an Ally.

FPC provides their dinner meal every second Wednesday of the month. If you want to provide food in the future, that is when we will be asking for help with this.

Contact Sharon Hughes for more information or to sign up.





Operation Christmas Child Samaritan's Purse

Boxes will be ready to pick up and fill at the end of September.

Each box that you fill enables the gospel to reach children, their families and friends around the world with the gospel. In many of the areas people have never heard the gospel before. Last year we were able to send 80 boxes because of your faithfulness.

If you would like to help get boxes folded, or like more information call Lynne Weaver.

Our church is once again signed up to provide Christmas gifts to children of inmates through the Prison Ministries

Angel Tree Project. We will be supplying a total of 20 gifts: one toy and an article of clothing for each child. Each gift should cost around \$10.



The names will be sent to us at the end of October or beginning of November and will be distributed after receipt.

Volunteers are needed to help with this project. Families need to be contacted to coordinate pick up of the gifts - it would be very helpful to have someone who speaks Spanish! We hope to have all the names chosen before Thanksgiving, on the 6th and 13th of November so gifts may be purchased and returned after Thanksgiving on Sunday, November 27th or December 4th to allow the gifts to be picked up December 11th and 18th.

Contact Sharon Hughes for more information or to sign up.



ON OUR PRAYER LIST

Names removed for privacy

Requested as of 08-16-2022



Removed for privacy



Names removed for privacy





Active-Duty Military:

Names removed for privacy

Do you have an active-duty military family member or friend you would like to put into our prayer list as well as having their picture posted in the hallway? Contact the office 775-882-1032.

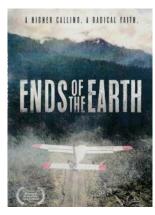




Women's Thursday Afternoon Bible Study—Starting September 8

We meet the second Thursday of each month, September--May at 1:30 PM in the church library. We are studying 1 & 2 Peter using Life Guide Bible Studies, and we are on 1 Peter chapter 4. If you would like to join us, or would like more information, call Lynne Weaver or see me at church.





First Presbyterian Church Presents:

Mission Aviation Fellowship's Movie
"Ends of the Earth"

Friday, September 16, 2022 at 6:00 pm
Enter through Musser Street door
All are welcome! Childcare available if needed.
Movie snacks to be served.
Contact 775-781-7875 for details.

"Imagine flying over rugged, breathtaking terrain only to land on an airstrip hand-dug by local villagers on a remote mountain deep in the jungle. It sounds like an adventure movie, but for pilots of Mission Aviation Fellowship, it's real life. This faith-based documentary ... brings viewers face-to-face with hard-to-reach villages, awe-inspiring panoramas, and incredible people who are willing to risk it all for the sake of sharing Christ's love.

Meant to challenge and inspire, *Ends of the Earth*, shows the unexpected ways God uses people's passions to transform lives. The documentary explores stories of faith, calling, and adventure by weaving together true stories of MAF pilots – past and present – who strive along with other missionaries, churches, and organizations to take the gospel to the most isolated and inaccessible places on Earth."

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Would you like to become better acquainted with others from our FPC church family? If so, sign up for either hosting or attending our next Fellowship Supper which will be held on either Friday, September 23 or Saturday, September 24 — your choice. Sandy Ehresman will be taking sign ups after the service starting September 4. For more information call Sandy or Diane Young .



It's TIME TO GET YOUR DANCIN' SHOES ON!

September 30 from 6:30—8:30 pm is the Family Ministries SOCK HOP. Break out your saddle shoes and poodle skirts and come to the gym (Family Life Center) and bring your steady date to dance the night away. This will be a great event to which you can invite neighbors and friends of all ages! Light snacks will be available. More details will be announced soon!

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Corner of North Division & West King Streets Administration Office 306 West Musser Street Carson City, NV 89703 Non-profit Organization U.S. Postage PAID Carson City, NV 89701 Permit Number 173

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THE TRUMPET

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Carson City, NV 89703

775-882-1032

The Rev. Bob Davis pastorbob@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 George & Connie Stanton.

This Month's Sermons

September 4 John 14:15-31 "The Advocate"

September 11 John 15:1-17 "Love One Another"

September 18 John 15:18-16:4 "Persecution"

September 25 John 16:4b-33 "Work of the Spirit"

See us and "Like" us on





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