



The Trumpet

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Carson City

Vol. 50 No. 8

November 2013

From the Pastor's Workshop

"What I Got to Do"

It is November. The fullness of fall is upon us. We are blessed to live where there is a season that ushers in a time of reflection. It says time is moving on. A time of looking inward is upon us. It is a season of gratitude and Thanksgiving. For Christians it is a time of remembering the gift of *getting to be stewards* of what God has entrusted to us. We will celebrate this with a Thanksgiving meal on November 24 following *one service* that begins at 10 AM. In that service we will dedicate our pledges; most of all, the ones we make in our hearts, as we remember what we got and get to do because God is faithful.

Recently I said in a sermon that instead of making a "bucket list" I am making a list of things I have been privileged to do already. Instead of what I *WANT* to do, I am exploring the wonder of gratitude that comes from thanking God for what I have been gifted to be a part of. At the very top of this is the list of stuff I didn't hold on to; things I might have desperately wanted, but that either did not come to or remain in my life. The reason this is at the top is because it is my way of thanking God for *His Way* in the life I have been given. By not being able to have or hold on to the things and dreams I had imagined there is room only for what God knows is best to happen to and through me.

As I make this list I am learning what a gift it has been to let money and time and energy flow out of me to the people and situations God knows have needed to be touched. And I am grateful that I didn't hold on because of how empty I would have felt if I had. I am grateful as hard as it has been at times that I didn't play it safe or by the rules of culture in trying to protect myself. I would have lost out. I might have been in my cozy place of "control" but I would have been so sorry.

Ann Voskamp's little book *One Thousand Gifts* has been very helpful. She reminds me that our best giving comes from receiving as she writes, "Receiving God's gifts is a gentle, simple movement of stooping lower." "Is this too", she asks, "why I'm often joy starved? Why a narcissistic, gluttonous world lives emaciated?" "Yes" is my answer. I cannot give if I will not receive what GOD has for me; if I am not simply giving thanks for the invitation to let go of life to God. Voskamp remind us, "*Eucharisteo* means 'to give thanks,' and to *give* is a verb, something that we do. God call me *to do* thanks. To *give the thanks away*. That thanks-*giving* might literally become thanks-*living*. That our lives become the very blessing we have received."

What have I received? What thanks have I been gifted to do? If I never live another year or day I got to be a servant of God, I got to be pastor of this church for 18 years, I got to be Nancy's husband for 37 years and Kate's dad for 25, I got to learn to not be attached to this world and I got to learn to take hold of God's kingdom as I walked with so many people in so many ways, so many of you, in learning what it means to point ever and always to Jesus. I got to let go of thinking that anything I think I *HAVE* to have in this life for meaning is likely the *FIRST* thing I need to let go. And my list is growing.

How about you? What do you know that God is enabling you to do as an act of Thanks-*giving*? As we *spend* time this fall and in the few years we have I encourage you to discover the treasure of this act and how it sets us free to give away the life Jesus gave us. It is so liberating to know we need so little in this world because we have everything in Jesus Christ and that we *GET* to give him to the world.

Getting to *DO* thanks with you in Christ, **Bruce**

2013/2014 THEME FOR YOUTH MINISTRY AT FPC

¹⁷Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the Day of Judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. ¹⁹**We love because he first loved us.** – 1 John 4:17-19

The new year of youth ministry is off to a great start! We had a great summer with terrific participation in the second year of Camp Zephyr (14 and two half kids for six days!). The momentum from summer camp has been super obvious – our weekly youth groups have had as many as 23 middle and high school-ers. The additional numbers mean that our games are more fun, our prayers are longer, and our fellowship is stronger.

But why does it matter? What's the point of having young people attend church? What do we hope to happen when we gather with other Christians?

Our mission is to introduce our youth to Jesus Christ, the risen Son of God and the only Savior we know. And we're going to do that by loving them the same way that Jesus has loved us. I'm pleased to say that our ministry has grown to the point that it's no longer just "us" adults helping "them" kids. We – the people doing youth ministry – now include a solid core of youth, parents, and friends. We know that Jesus loves us and has given us new life. And we trust that life *with Jesus* is always going to be better than life *without Jesus* in every conceivable way. That is why we love – because *He first loved us*.

Dan

There is Love that came for us
Humbled to a sinner's cross
You broke my shame and
sinfulness
You rose again victorious

Faithfulness none can deny
Through the storm and through
the fire
There is truth that sets me free
Jesus Christ who lives in me

You are stronger
You are stronger
Sin is broken
You have saved me
It is written
Christ is risen
Jesus You are Lord of all

- From *Stronger* by Ben
Fielding & Reuben Morgan



Megan, Jack, Chase, Skyler, Heather, Lexi, Makayla, Matt, Tiffany, Justin, & Stacey at the Zephyr Point Work Weekend in September



THE KING'S KIDS – NOVEMBER



...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

Kids experiencing Jesus and community as we walk through God's Big Story --- asking WHO is the King?

NOTE: November 10th through Dec. 8th: King's Kids go immediately upstairs at 9:00 a.m. so we can practice our carols for the Christmas Pageant!

Nov. 3: "The King's Kindness" (David is kind to Mephibosheth: 2 Samuel 9)

Nov. 10: "The Wisest King" (God gives Solomon wisdom: 1 Kings 3)

Nov. 17: "Building the Temple" (Solomon builds a Temple for God: 1 Kings 5-8)

Nov. 24: "Thanksgiving Celebration" (only 1 Worship time; **King's Kids meet at 10:00**)

The Children's Ministry Committee is happy to announce a NEW class: the "Serfs"! Pre-kindergarten and kindergarten King's Kids will experience our Bible story with the Minstrels (Grades 1-3) and the Knights (Grades 4-5), then go to their own Royal Court for the Life application portion of each lesson! We're delighted to have our "new" teacher: Deana!



NOVEMBER BIBLE VERSES

Memorize these verses as a family and see how God uses them in your lives!

Kids receive a jewel on their SON-Castle shield and a gold coin toward purchases at the Royal Market.

****Kids in kindergarten & first grade may learn just the first line!*

"A friend loves at all times." Proverbs 17:17

***"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him and He will direct your paths." Proverbs 3:5,6

"Whatever you do, in word or deed, do ALL in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." Colossians 3:17

Older King's Kids' challenge:

Old Testament books: Books of Law: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy
Books of History: Joshua; Judges; Ruth; 1, 2 Samuel; 1, 2 Kings; 1 & 2 Chronicles; Ezra; Nehemiah; Esther



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



Friday-Saturday, December 6th & 7th: Food for Thought sponsored Ladies' Night Out & craft show – Watch for further information

Sunday, December 8th: 2:00 – 4:30 **Advent Workshop:** Make-It-Take-It workshop of Christmas crafts. Come enjoy your kids and grandkids as they make ornaments and other decorations, decorate cookies, and we'll wrap up the afternoon with pizza!

Saturday, December 14th: 9:00 a.m. Pageant rehearsal for ALL King's Kids & Youth Actors

Sunday, December 15th: 10:00 a.m. Christmas Pageant (King's Kids and Youth)

REMEMBER: GREAT DVD's & books are in the Kids' section of our church library!

2014 KING'S KIDS CALENDARS will go on sale in November!
(We have yet to decide to which Mission Project the proceeds will go!)



Worship - Repentance and Transformation

If you've been reading this column for the past few months, you've become acquainted with some of the key elements in a book I have read that is called, *The Way of the Worshiper*. The author is Buddy Owens. Some of you may know that his parents are the songwriters Jimmy and Carol Owens. Their song, *If My People* is in our church hymnal. I really appreciate Buddy's down to earth explanation of worship and I highly recommend this book if you would like to go deeper.

Last month we looked at conforming versus transforming. This month, I would like to take a look at one of the ways God transforms us.

Repentance is defined in various dictionaries as deep sorrow, compunction, or contrition for a past sin, wrongdoing, or regret for any past action. Repentance is spoken of in terms of transformation (Romans 12: 1-2 "do not conform any longer... but be transformed"). Repentance is not just an apology with the idea that we'll do better next time. We cannot repent once and forever be changed--our feet are stuck here on earth and we are a fallen people. True repentance is reflected in the choices we make. When we repent, we have to go a different way, moment by moment and day by day -- a 180 degree turn if you will.

The very act of repentance is an act of worship, because we are telling God we don't know all the answers and we are looking to Him to shape us. Repentance is surrender; its cooperating with God in our transformation. We don't repent to earn forgiveness -- we can't earn forgiveness, (Romans 5:8). Our sin has made us dead. Dead people cannot help themselves. At this point you might say, "how do you know I've sinned?" Remember that sin is our condition, from before we are born, because of the sin against God and broken relationship between God and Adam and Eve, (Genesis 3). All have "missed the mark".

Our response to the fact that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us -- repentance and gratitude. Buddy calls that our "heart posture" -- Surrender and thanksgiving. God's mercy and forgiveness makes me want to be a better disciple. Even though I don't always see myself as God sees me, in faith, having surrendered, I trust that He is making me into the person He wants me to be. He is transforming me. I am so grateful that God is able to do that through Christ's death and resurrection - because otherwise I will keep missing the mark; making a project out of my life that cannot be pleasing to God -- remember dead people cannot help themselves, that's why we need Christ.

As we come through November and this time of thanksgiving, God is calling us to reflect, repent and be renewed in His grace and mercy.

Blessings,
Karen

P.S. - For opportunities to serve out of our gratefulness, see this month's church calendar. God needs our hands, feet and willing hearts.

NEWS FROM THE OFFICE

We are very aware of the growing nature of electronic communication through the internet. As part of our effort to do the most effective job in communicating our mission we are pleased to announce the addition of Dawn Berger as Communications Coordinator on a part-time basis. She will be handling portions of our web and Facebook presence as well as the Trumpet and bulletin. Dawn's email will be dawn@fpccarsoncity.org. We would also like to thank Sandy Hatchell for her faithful work serving as she has as we have moved into this new chapter. We are grateful for both Dawn and Sandy.

How Would You Like To Join This List Of Famous People?

Jimmy Stewart, Fred "Mr." Rogers, Ronald Reagan, Ruth Graham, Dwight Eisenhower, and others. What do they all have in common? All served as elders or deacons during their membership in the Presbyterian Church.

Each year in February, a few members join the ranks of elder or deacon in our church: *have you thought about serving God in one of these roles?* There are so many opportunities to serve in our vibrant church, but none more important than the ordained positions of elder and deacon. The terms of several elders and deacons expire each year in February, and *willing servants are always needed* to continue their work.

Won't you *consider joining the Session (Board of Directors) or Deacon Board (church and community support)?* Both of these roles are vital to our mission and ministry, and are steeped in tradition going back to the earliest days of Christianity. In fact, the term "Presbyterian" is derived from the word presbyteros, which means elder.

Give it some prayer and *consider attending a meeting of the Session or Deacon Board* to see what it is all about. Should you be interested in serving, your term would not begin until February of next year (2014), and experienced members will ensure that the transition into your new role is smooth (and fun!).

If you are interested or have questions, call Todd Butterworth (Elders) at 813-5537 or Sandy Hatchell (Deacons) at 882-3802. May you be blessed to be a blessing, in service to Christ.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

KIVA UPDATE

The Mission Committee has completed their 45th \$100 loan through KIVA, a non-profit organization that alleviates poverty through lending.

The above loan was made to Francis Nakuru in Kenya to purchase a water tank that will benefit six members of his family. KIVA works with field partners which provide financial and technical support. The field partner, SMEP, is a leading Christian microfinance organization in Kenya, operating since 1999. Their primary goal is to improve the standard of living of the poor and marginalized by providing access to credit and other services that stimulate economic growth. It is a nationwide institution with 20 branches and 18 satellites covering all major towns in Kenya.

This loan is part of SMEP's loan program to provide clean drinking water in partnership with Water.org. This program is designed to increase access to water by improving sanitation and constructing boreholes, shallow wells, water towers, and treatment plants.

This loan is not a loan to start a business, but a loan to improve the quality of life for Francis and his family.

Nina Davis and the Mission Committee





November Birthdays

Names omitted in online version for privacy.

ON OUR PRAYER LIST

Requested as of 10-23-2013

Names omitted in online version for privacy.

WINTER IS HERE and Carol Allen will distribute warm *Scarves of Love* to the needy but she needs help. Look in your winter clothes for usable, warm scarves that can be donated, and place them in the receptacle in the narthex. Thank you for your generosity.

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP will be on hiatus. Please contact Bonnie Martinkus to express your interest in future meetings.

CAPITAL CHRISTIAN CENTER is collecting toiletries to assist those in need in our community. We would like to support them by gathering travel size toiletries. If you would like to contribute, please purchase & place toiletries items in the *Blessing Bucket* located in the Narthex.

ATTENTION TRAVELERS AND ADDRESS MOVERS

Did you know that each month we mail you our Trumpet to keep you informed about the activities of the church? However when you leave the area for a period of time the Post Offices returns your newsletter to the church and we are required to pay for its return. At that time we take you off the mailing list until we are notified of your return. That notification sometimes doesn't happen and you are then missing out on the church news.

Please notify us before you depart as a "snowbird" or just for a few weeks or months away so that we can either forward your Trumpet to the new address or stop it for the time that you are away.

We would appreciate your help with this as you make your travel plans any time throughout the year. If you are moving it is also important to call the office or e-mail your change of address to char@fpccarsoncity.org

Thank you, Office Staff



November Anniversaries

Names omitted in online version for privacy.

NOVEMBER 2013

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Oct 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Dec 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

1
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 AM FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Church
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
12:00 PM O. A.

2
9:00 AM O.A. (Lib)

3
8:30 AM NURSERY
9:00 AM & 10:45 AM Worship
9:00 AM Sunday School
5:00 PM The Oasis

4
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
5:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous
6:00 PM Basketball
6:30 PM DEACONS
7:00 PM Praise Team

5
6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co.
9:00 AM Grace Notes Lite

6
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
9:00 AM Grace Notes
10:00 AM & 5:30 PM BIBLE STUDY
11:30 AM PRAYER
7:00 PM Chancel Choir

7
6:30 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Carson Station
6:30 PM Young Adult Bible Study

8
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 AM FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Church
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
12:00 PM O. A.

9
9:00 AM O.A. (Lib)

10
8:30 AM NURSERY
9:00 AM & 10:45 AM Worship
9:00 AM Sunday School
5:00 PM The Oasis

11
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
5:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous
6:00 PM Basketball

12
6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co.
9:00 AM Grace Notes Lite
1:00 PM Staff
5:30 PM MISSION COMMITTEE
7:00 PM ALL COMMITTEES

13
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
9:00 AM Grace Notes
10:00 AM & 5:30 PM BIBLE STUDY
11:30 AM PRAYER
7:00 PM Chancel Choir
7:00 PM Nominating Committee Meeting (Lib)

14
6:30 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Carson Station
1:30 PM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

15
Trumpet info due
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 AM FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Church
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
12:00 PM O. A.

16
9:00 AM O.A. (Lib)

17
8:30 AM NURSERY
9:00 AM & 10:45 AM Worship
9:00 AM Sunday School
5:00 PM The Oasis

18
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
5:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous
6:00 PM Basketball
7:00 PM Praise Team

19
6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co.
9:00 AM Grace Notes Lite
5:30 PM SESSION

20
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
9:00 AM Grace Notes
10:00 AM & 5:30 PM BIBLE STUDY
11:30 AM PRAYER
7:00 PM Chancel Choir
8:00 PM Praise Team (with Choir)

Circles Dimers

21
6:30 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Carson Station
6:30 PM Young Adult Bible Study

22
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 AM FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Church
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
12:00 PM O. A.

23
9:00 AM O.A. (Lib)

24
9:30 AM NURSERY
10:00 AM Single Service
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:30 AM Deacon Thanksgiving Meal
5:00 PM The Oasis

25
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
5:30 PM Overeaters Anonymous
6:00 PM Basketball

26
6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co.
9:00 AM Grace Notes Lite
1:00 PM Staff
7:00 PM Chancel Choir

27
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
9:00 AM Grace Notes
10:00 AM & 5:30 PM BIBLE STUDY
11:30 AM PRAYER

28
Thanksgiving Office Closed
6:30 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Carson Station

29
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 AM FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Church
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
12:00 PM O. A.

30
9:00 AM O.A. (Lib)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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THE TRUMPET

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Pastors

The Rev. Bruce Kochsmeier
The Rev. Dan Aument

Worship Services

9:00 AM & 10:45 AM

Webpage

www.fpccarsoncity.org

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

November Sermons

Nov. 3 – “Close Enough to Help” - Luke 7:36-50

Nov. 10 – “Spiritual Inertia” - Joel 2:12-17

Nov. 17 – “The Difference Giving Makes” - Mark 12:41-44

Nov. 24 – “Wanting What God Wants” - Luke 19:1-10
Single 10 AM Service

