



The Trumpet

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Carson City

Vol. 59 No. 02

March 2022

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

At our annual meeting in mid-February, I mentioned that we are looking to emphasize three things this year: growth, participation, and production. Growth includes both a maturing discipleship for our covenant partners (members) as well as increasing in numbers.

Growth and Lent are not words usually found in the same sentence, never mind the same paragraph. I want to challenge us to think differently about it. It is going to take a few steps but hang in there – I will circle back around to how they fit together.



Step 1. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 2. Historically and traditionally, most non-church people think of Lent in terms of “giving up something.” Whether you give up chocolate, sweets in general, wine, bread, whatever; the common perception is that Lent is about giving up something that is either pleasing to us or a vice. As a child, the Roman Catholics in our neighborhood were required to give up meat on Fridays, often leading to a rather pungent smell as fish were overcooked in half the houses around us. I remember joking with some of them, “Presbyterians don’t have to give anything up; but in solidarity with you, we are giving up fresh air.” (There was a mixed response to that line.) The upshot is: give up something.

What people generally miss is the reason *why* Christians participate in giving up something. Again, the common perception is that people are to give up something that is bad in order to be a better person. Although that is not altogether wrong, it is inaccurate to list self-improvement as the primary goal. The purpose of giving up something is to create discomfort in our lives; discomfort that reminds us to turn our attention in prayer to God. It is discomfort to remind us of our dependence upon God for life, for our salvation, for our redemption and adoption as children of God (and brothers and sisters with Jesus Christ). The twinge we get when we would normally enjoy a bite of chocolate or when we think about having a slice of fresh warm bread serves as a physical reminder to intentionally turn our attention to God.

Step 2. This is where the general perception is partially correct. By paying attention to God and by seeking God in prayer, we are drawing closer to God and following the example of Jesus. The more we are conformed to the image and example of Christ, the better we will be. It is not self-improvement per se; rather, it is improvement by proximity to the One who is honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, excellent, and worthy of praise (Philippians 4 – “think about these things”). We are not making ourselves righteous, we are trusting that Jesus – the pioneer and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12) – is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. (Philippians 2).

Lent is the time of year when we intentionally think about Jesus’ walk of obedience to the cross. The “suffering” we experience in giving up something we enjoy is a physical and tangible tweak to make us think of how Jesus bore our sin to the cross so that we might be forgiven and set free. Our suffering – in our Lenten tradition and in life generally – pales in comparison to the burden Jesus carried.

Yes, we are sinners. Yes, repentance is a big deal. Yes, we need to be honest with ourselves and honest with God about the sin in our lives. Yes, that is unpleasant and difficult. Remember, though, “a broken and contrite heart, the LORD will not despise.” (Psalm 51).

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From the Pastor's Desk

Step 3. We do not want to take the cross for granted; but we also do not want to ignore the fact that Jesus was crucified, *but death could not hold him*. On the cross, Jesus declared, "It is finished." The work he was sent to do had been accomplished – and has been accomplished for us. We can rejoice because we have [a great high priest] who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin." Thus, [we can] approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need." (Hebrews 4)

Misery for misery's sake is not pleasing in God's sight. It denies the gift we have been given by grace. If the chief end of mankind is "to glorify God and enjoy Him forever," (Westminster Shorter Catechism), the joy of discipleship includes the thanksgiving for our salvation – *and* – the confident boldness to seek to draw ever closer to God.

Step 4. Here is where I want to circle back to the idea of growth and Lent together. Because the real purpose of the Lenten tradition was to draw closer to God, perhaps a better way to approach the season is by adding something rather than eliminating something. When we "diet," we tend to think in terms of short-term changes that have a definitive end date. Oh, the sugar highs on Easter as those who had been deprived of chocolate over-indulged!

What would happen if, instead, we chose to commit to 15 minutes of prayer each day, focusing on the mission and ministry of First Presbyterian Church. Each day, every day, add fifteen minutes – whether when you wake up, at lunch, when you lie down to go to sleep at the end of the day, or anytime in between – commit 15 minutes to praying that God would guide our steps in opening the gospel to Carson City and beyond. You need not treat it like a mantra, "God, open the gospel to Carson City and beyond, open the gospel to Carson City and beyond...".

No, engage it as a conversation. Ask God to show us *how* He would like us to open the gospel to Carson City and beyond. Pay attention to the ways God reveals that He already has, is, and is preparing to use us to open the gospel to Carson City and beyond. Praise God for the ways we have seen. Pray for opportunities to share with others the stories of how God has been active and moving among us.

That is just one example of "growth." As we look to participate in the mission and ministry God has set before us, let us be honest about our sin, grateful for our salvation, and hopeful for our participation in God's work of building for the ultimate realization of the Kingdom of God.

What do you say? Can we "grow" as our Lenten discipline?

Your brother in Christ,

Bob Davis



TRUMPET DEADLINE FOR
APRIL
is March 11
Send your info / articles / submissions
to margo@fpccarsoncity.org

Congregational Giving—General Budget			
February 14, 2022			
2022 Projected			
	Budget Need	Given	Difference
Yr. to Date	\$ 66,071	\$ 62,883	- \$ 3,188
Current	Income	Expense	Difference
	\$ 22,642	\$ 21,528	- \$ 1,114
TO DATE			
ECO Dues	Income	Budget	
	\$ 1,230	\$ 5,200	
THANK YOU, ALL!!			

Family Ministries

Looking to the future

2022 Events



Looking forward to seeing you there!

Questions?

Contact Sherri

775-882-1032
sherri@fpccarsoncity.org



August 20 - Picnic in the Park



June 17 - Aceball



March 4 & Nov. 4 - Movie Night

December 16
Christmas Caroling



May 21 - Bicycle Poker Run

July 16 - Ice Cream Social





Our wonderful Praise Team continues to bless FPC by providing God-centered music for worship each week. With John Shoaf returning to New Zealand, we are fortunate to now have Randall Gray join the team! All of our music continues to be wonderfully coordinated by Elder Jacque Dyer. Thank you *all* for your hard work!

Randall Gray was born in Ft. Worth, Texas; later his family of six moved to Mesquite, Texas and this was his home until after high school graduation. Randall had a passion for protecting the water environment and spent 45 years operating/managing wastewater treatment plants around the country.

Randall met Sherri the love of his life in Sparks, Nevada. They have been married for 21 years. They have three daughters, Kimberly, Andrea, and Leila, along with six grandkids.

Randall attended Baptist and Christian churches until the age of 35. At age 35 there was a personal need to learn more about different religious groups and beliefs. The end result of this study was attending the Saint Andrew Presbyterian Church in Longview, Texas. "I love the teachings provided and the openness of discussion related to the Bible in the Presbyterian Church."



During his time in Longview, Texas Randall visited Mexico doing missionary work. "This was truly a life changing event which opened up a higher level of understanding of my role in this world."

Randall moved around the country over his career and lived in Texas, Arizona, Oregon, and Nevada. During the last five years of his career, they moved to Carson City, found First Presbyterian Church and have attended FPC for two years. One of the many good things about First Presbyterian that Randall likes is the kindness, church history, and the music.

Randall has recently been invited to be a participant of the Praise Team playing guitar. He started playing guitar in his late teens and later in life started participating in bluegrass jams and festivals. "The music is a nice mix between the traditional hymnal songs and more modern Christian music." "I feel so honored to play music for the church and be part of the Praise Team"

Jacque Dyer was born in Pasadena, California to a musical family and is the oldest of five children. She



remembers watching her mom and dad practice with their musical theatre group in their garage and longing to be a part of it. Her mother played both the piano and accordion by ear, and if you mentioned any phrase or words, her mother would amazingly know a song with that phrase. Dad was the family member who was always called on to sing at weddings and funerals and also sang in barbershop quartets. Singing in harmony could be heard on almost every family car trip.

A key time in Jacque's life was when her mother was seriously injured in a car accident by a drunk driver. Jacque was twelve years old with a younger brother who had recently been diagnosed with Autism. Aunts and cousins came to help with caring for the family, but as the oldest she always felt it was her job to take care of her brothers and sisters, especially her autistic brother. Everyone did the best they could and eventually her mother came home but it was not the same.

Jacque was active in church youth groups, participated in sports, music and drama, even playing Humpty Dumpty one year. After college she joined the Army medical corps reserves, got married and had three children, divorcing many years later. God has always been with her, even through struggles with giving Him control of her whole life. He has certainly guided her, sometimes despite her resistance in many areas including her career in a non-profit business, developing a health care coalition, and running a home for homeless mothers and their children.

Jacque learned that she is a seed planter—she plants the seeds and God takes it from there. It has helped her through many life situations even eventually leading her to worship with her husband, Buzz, at First Presbyterian Church, Carson City.

Worship and music are her passion and she feels so blessed that God has placed her in places to serve in that way. Is all this joy always perfect---NO! Does she always get it right---NO! Does she still try to control things.....YES! Does God know who she is, still love her and guide her through her imperfections.....YOU BET!

ACTIVITIES DURING LENT



February 27, following worship, we will be doing the annual burning of the palms fronds out in the Nevada Street yard area. The tradition is that the palm branches used during the previous year's Palm Sunday celebrations are burned, creating ashes for the current year's Ash Wednesday worship. These are the ashes used to 'mark' worshippers foreheads. The ashes symbolize **both death and repentance**. During this period, Christians show repentance and mourning for their sins, because Christ died for them.

Ash Wednesday worship will be held on **March 2 at 7:00 pm** in the Sanctuary. Please join Pastor Bob for this meaningful worship service leading into the Lenten season in preparation for Easter and our Lord's resurrection.



April 11-15, please plan to listen to the reading of the Passion Gospel Readings which will be posted each morning on YouTube by 8:00 am. In order, the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John will be read by members of our congregation.

A simple soup supper followed by worship will be held on Maundy Thursday, April 14. Supper will begin at 5:30pm and will be followed by a Tenebrae service starting at 7:00 pm.



The FPC presentation of the **ROAD TO THE CROSS** returns this year! **APRIL 15** (Good Friday) will be the fifth presentation of this inspiring, moving event after having to cancel in 2020 and 2021. We are excited to again offer it to our church family and community.

Have you helped with this event in the past or would you like to get involved in something new by lending a hand this year? Contact Charlene Rodman to volunteer or with general questions. Join us for an information and organization meeting on **Sunday, March 6th after worship service, in the library.** Here are some of the things we need help doing:



- Many of the team members who helped set this event up in the past are no longer available, so we are looking for church volunteers and friends to step up and work on individual stations. All supplies are provided. Call Ron & Sigrid Hobbs with questions about the stations
- We will need folks to come at 9:00 am on April 13 & 14 to help with set up as well as on April 15 at noon; people are also needed to tear down after the event on Friday evening starting at 7:00pm.
- Another way to help ahead of this event is in getting the word out to Carson City and the surrounding communities. Contact Charlene Rodman about delivering posters to businesses or churches.
- Live plants as well as cookies/bars will also be needed for the day of the event. Sign-up sheets to provide these items can be found in the Narthex.

This is a wonderful spiritual event for all who participate by helping or just attending on your own or with friends and family. Please plan to invite them to come and walk the streets where Jesus walked.

All are welcome!

Join us for
Palm Sunday worship—April 10 at 10:00 am
Easter worship—April 17 at 10:00 am



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ON OUR PRAYER LIST

Removed for privacy

Requested as of 02-20-2022

HAVE YOU RECENTLY MOVED OR CHANGED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?



Please be sure to notify the office if your home address, phone number, or email address changes!

You may be missing out on information when mail (like The Trumpet) or emails are returned to us because the address is incorrect. Please help us keep our records current by calling the office (775-882-1032) or emailing your new info to margo@fpccarsoncity.org. Thank you



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PLEASE CUT THIS OUT & PUT IT SOMEWHERE YOU'LL SEE IT TO REMIND YOU TO

PRAY FOR THE TEAM TAKING GOD'S LOVE TO SEINE BIGHT, BELIZE IN EARLY MARCH

Prayers for safe, uneventful travel

Prayers for safety while doing the physical labor to be done during this trip

Prayers that all the necessary financial needs for the trip are met

And most of all:

Prayers that the people the team members come in contact with will see and feel God's Love through each of the team members





CHILI COOK-OFF THANKS 2022

We had a wonderful evening of good Christian fellowship. Even during the continued Covid uncertainty, we had a great group of about 110 people enjoying the events of the evening. A huge thank you is extended to all who volunteered to assume a responsibility and did such a good job. This event would not have been possible without you! We cannot list all the volunteers working behind the scenes, but know that this would not have been successful without you.

We would like to express appreciation to all of you who took time to make delicious chili, soups, corn bread, other breads, salads, and desserts, and also bring hotdogs.

Congratulations to the winners:

First place, Joe Gurney; Second place, Mary Burgoon-Spradley; and Third place, Chris & Cindy Torres.

Of course, a special thank you is extended to all of you who donated items for the Silent Auction and the Raffle. A special thank you to Jenny Scanland and the "Red Hot Chili Peppers" team for making all the items look spectacular!



The proceeds will be used toward projects to preserve the Old Sanctuary. To that end, the main roof replacement is complete and we next will look to replace the deteriorating exterior steps on Nevada Street, and to paint the exterior windows and clean the plexiglass coverings.

We look forward to doing this fun event again in 2023 – save the date Saturday, February 4, 2023!

Grace and Bob Speicher
Chairmen



OTHER HAPPENINGS
COMING SOON!



MOVIE NIGHT! Are you a fan of "The Duke?" Family Ministries is hosting a showing of "Rooster Cogburn" starring John Wayne and Katherine Hepburn on March 4 in the Family Life Center. This is a fun event to invite friends and neighbors to as well. Watch the bulletin for details!!

Don't forget to set your clocks **AHEAD** on



March 13 when Daylight Saving Time begins.



We heard such good reports about all the Friendship Suppers that we hope you are eager to attend the next one. You can be a guest or a host either Friday, April 1 or Saturday, April 2. Sign ups will begin starting March 13 at coffee hour. Call Diane Young or Sandy Ehresman for more information.

MARCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		<p>1</p> <p>8:30 am: SON Rise Women's Bible Study – Location Varies</p>	<p>2</p> <p>8:00 am: Men's Bible Study – Mallard's 9:00 am: Grace Notes Rehearsal – Narthex</p> <p><i>Ash Wednesday</i></p> <p>7:00 pm: Ash Wednesday Worship</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:00 am: Wilson Men's Fellowship – Mallard's</p> <p>6:30 & 8:00 pm: Holy Week recording</p>	<p>4</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>6:30 am: Berean Men's Bible Study – Library</p>  <p>6:30 pm: Family Ministries Movie Night "Rooster Cogburn"</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>8:30 am: Adult Sunday School - Library 10:00 am: Communion Worship Service – Sanctuary 11:30 am: Coffee Fellowship 11:30 am: Road to the Cross info meeting - Library</p>	<p>7</p> <p>11:00 am: Women's Bible Study – Library</p> <p>7:00 pm: Praise Team Rehearsal – Sanctuary</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:30 am: SON Rise Women's Bible Study – Location Varies</p> <p>12:00 pm: Staff Meeting</p> <p>5:30 & 7:00 pm: Cmte Mtgs – all rooms</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:00 am: Men's Bible Study – Mallard's 9:00 am: Grace Notes Rehearsal – Narthex 10:00 am: Pastor's Study – FH & Zoom</p> <p>5:00 pm: CIRCLES set up & Meeting – FLC & Library 6:30 pm: Pastor's Study – Presbypod Studio & Zoom</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:00 am: Wilson Men's Fellowship – Mallard's</p> <p>1:30 pm: Women's Monthly Bible Study – Library</p>	<p>11</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>6:30 am: Berean Men's Bible Study – Library</p>  <p>TRUMPET DEADLINE</p>	<p>12</p>  <p><i>Plant a Flower Day</i></p>
<p>13</p> <p>8:30 am: Adult Sunday School - Library 10:00 am: Worship Service – Sanctuary 11:30 am: Coffee Fellowship 11:30 am: Deacons Meeting – Library</p> 	<p>14</p> <p>11:00 am: Women's Bible Study – Library</p> <p>7:00 pm: Praise Team Rehearsal – Sanctuary</p>	<p>15</p> <p>8:30 am: SON Rise Women's Bible Study – Location Varies</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>8:00 am: Men's Bible Study – Mallard's 9:00 am: Grace Notes Rehearsal – Narthex 10:00 am: Pastor's Study – FH & Zoom</p> <p>5:00 pm: CIRCLES set up & Meeting – FLC & Library 6:30 pm: Pastor's Study – Presbypod Studio & Zoom</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:00 am: Wilson Men's Fellowship – Mallard's</p>	<p>18</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>6:30 am: Berean Men's Bible Study – Library</p>	<p>19</p>  <p><i>National Quilting Day</i></p>
<p>20</p> <p>8:30 am: Adult Sunday School - Library 10:00 am: Worship Service – Sanctuary 11:30 am: Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>21</p> <p>11:00 am: Women's Bible Study – Library</p> <p>7:00 pm: Praise Team Rehearsal – Sanctuary</p>	<p>22</p> <p>8:30 am: SON Rise Women's Bible Study – Location Varies</p> <p>11:30 pm: Lunch Bunch – Fellowship Hall 12:00 pm: Staff Meeting</p> <p>5:30 pm: Session Mtg Mtgs – Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:00 am: Men's Bible Study – Mallard's 9:00 am: Grace Notes Rehearsal – Narthex 10:00 am: Pastor's Study – FH & Zoom</p> <p>5:00 pm: CIRCLES set up & Meeting – FLC & Library 6:30 pm: Pastor's Study – Presbypod Studio & Zoom</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:00 am: Wilson Men's Fellowship – Mallard's</p>	<p>25</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>6:30 am: Berean Men's Bible Study – Library</p>  <p><i>National Waffle Day</i></p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27</p> <p>8:30 am: Adult Sunday School - Library 10:00 am: Worship Service – Sanctuary 11:30 am: Coffee Fellowship</p>	<p>28</p> <p>11:00 am: Women's Bible Study – Library</p> <p>7:00 pm: Praise Team Rehearsal – Sanctuary</p>	<p>29</p> <p>8:30 am: SON Rise Women's Bible Study – Location Varies</p>	<p>30</p> <p>8:00 am: Men's Bible Study – Mallard's 9:00 am: Grace Notes Rehearsal – Narthex 10:00 am: Pastor's Study – FH & Zoom</p> <p>5:00 pm: CIRCLES set up & Meeting – FLC & Library 6:30 pm: Pastor's Study – Presbypod Studio & Zoom</p>	<p>31</p>  <p><i>National Crayon Day</i></p>		

