



The Trumpet

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Carson City

Vol. 60 No. 06

August 2023

TRANSITION: FINDING GOD'S BEST WHEN LIFE HAPPENS

We've heard the statements: "Life happens." "Change is the normal." "Transition can lead to better things." All of that is well and good (and generally well-meaning), but what do you do when the inevitable transitions of life become a personal reality? While not all changes are bad and some are self-chosen, the life transitions we all face deeply affect our lives. Transitions are sometimes eagerly anticipated, and other times they are unplanned and unwanted. But they always involve a change.



Throughout history, Christians have faced change. How we respond to life transitions – both small and large – can bless others who will face what we are navigating today. With the right approach, attitude, and action, life transitions can be manageable and even positive. Here are five principles that will equip us to walk confidently through periods of transition.

1. PRAYER

"Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, let our requests be made known to God" (Phil. 4:6).

The most beneficial discipline to calm the spirit and prepare us for what needs to be done is prayer. It's the spiritual resource we often neglect. Through prayer, we cry out to God and seek to understand His will. Through prayer, we ask for His power to obey even when we don't have all the details.

When we are tempted to worry and complain, we make our requests known to God. We pray for His peace, "which surpasses every thought," to guard our hearts and minds (Phil. 4:7). Prayer keeps our focus where it should be – on God, His desire for our lives, and His protection and guidance. Let's make prayer a daily priority, even during [this] season of transition.

2. PLANNING

"Commit your activities to the Lord, and your plans will be achieved" (Prov. 16:3)

It's always best to plan and organize according to God's will. We don't allow ourselves to fall in the trap of busy work. As we seek God's will through prayer, Bible study, and wise council from other Christians, we can write in a journal or notebook what we hear Him saying. Planning will help us prioritize and keep our focus on God-given goals during times of transition.

3. PEOPLE

"A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for a difficult time" (Prov. 17:17)

Others can and should be a significant source of help. When we call on friends during transitions, we often will find the encouragement we need and expertise we didn't know others have. This significantly lowers our stress levels. When we're faced with a time of transition, instead of being overwhelmed, we can contact friends, neighbors, or relatives who will be willing to assist. Frequently, others who are part of a Sunday School class or church are glad to have the opportunity to help. Let's not deny them the blessing, thinking we don't want to seem "needy." All will be richly blessed as ministry is given and received.

4. PERSPECTIVE

"God is our refuge and strength, a helper who is always found in times of trouble." (Ps. 46:1)

We need to take a fresh look at God and His word, not at the present circumstances. We must not become

Continues on next page

discouraged or disheartened when times are especially hard. Life may be hectic and harried. There may be difficult and painful days ahead, but God is in control. He can bring good out of the most difficult, painful, or confusing circumstances (Rom. 8:28). In times of transition, God's peace can comfort our hearts. God's perspective can encourage us as we remember, "Weeping may spend the night, but there is joy in the morning" (Ps. 30:5b).

5. PERSEVERANCE

"If you do nothing in a difficult time, your strength is limited" (Prov. 24:10)

We must never give up hope, no matter what! There will be days of adversity for all of us. But God is able to do in our lives what we could never do. When we feel overcome, weary, or defeated, we need to remind ourselves that it's not our strength that count, but God's. He loves His children. And though He doesn't remove all the problems of life, He is with us as He takes us through them. As He guides, we will experience triumph in the midst of transition.

(EDITOR'S NOTE – This article by Marvin Owen originally appeared in Deacon Magazine, January 2014. Marvin Owen is a church health strategist for the Wyoming Southern Baptist Convention in Casper, WY)

CONGRATULATIONS REV. AL FRY!

On June 25th, we celebrated the Rev. Al Fry's 60 years of Ordination! Al has been a blessing from God to many congregations, including ours,, and we appreciate his (and Dorothy's) many years of service to our Lord. A Certificate of Appreciation for his service was presented by Vern Manke.,



TRUMPET DEADLINE FOR

SEPTEMBER

Is August 14

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



Family Ministries

John 15:5 - I 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.

Recently I was watering the plants and trees in our little garden. This is one of the few times I take to be quiet and present in the moment, as I tend the plants, and check on their health. Last year, due to a late freeze, we ended the season with a handful of apples and one pear. This year, our apple and pear trees are weighed down with fruit. Our plum trees have a few plums. And our cherry tree... Well, it has beautiful leaves. But as I stood at that tree, right at eye level, where I couldn't possibly miss it, was one large unripe cherry. And in that moment, the Holy Spirit opened my eyes and gave me the lesson I needed now, in this season I am going through. Maybe you've experienced this, and could use this encouragement also.

All of those trees received the same sunlight, water and pruning. They were fed and nurtured. And yet, something happened with the cherry tree. It didn't produce fruit like the others. Maybe it was one of our gusty winds that blew the blossoms away, or the hailstorm that ripped through plants and damaged property. Whatever it was, the tree had been established years before and stood solidly where it was planted. But there was seemingly no fruit. Then I spotted that one little cherry, and since then a handful more.

Have you experienced stormy times (illness, grief, hardships) even knowing that you are firmly planted, your faith is strong, you recognize your need for God's love and guidance in your life, but it feels like you're not producing His fruit? That one little cherry reminded me of God's faithfulness (to a thousand generations). The fruit is there. Sometimes we go through seasons or circumstances that challenge our yield. But it is there. Because God is faithful. He produces fruit in us even when we are going through the storms of life. It may not look like we want it to. We may find it frustrating that our branches aren't drooping with the weight of the fruit we want to see. But not every season is a perfect reflection of God's love. Sometimes we have to recognize that in this season, due to whatever storms we are weathering, it is time to rest in God's love and faithfulness, and we may be surprised and delighted to find that He is producing fruit in us through the tumult. First Presbyterian is experiencing stormy weather as we process and work through Bob's sudden passing, and we aren't where we want to be. Rest in His faithfulness. Know the fruit is there, and this season will pass. Look for the fruit, no matter how small or hidden it may be. It is there, and soon our branches will be heavy laden.

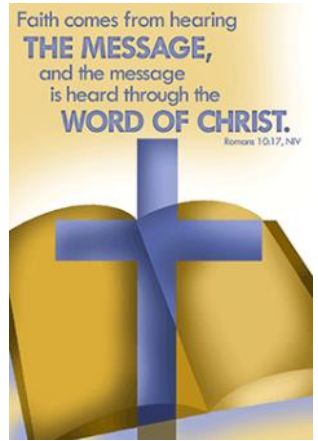
“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28



Music with a Message

This summer has been a challenging one without our dear friend and teacher, Pastor Bob. Selecting music has become a time of trying to find the correct songs and words to go with our interim speakers for each Sunday, not knowing only a couple weeks ahead of time what is going to be the message of the week. In the past, music would be decided months ahead of time, matching what the Pastor had planned as the message. Music is being decided by previous services from years past, to make sure that we are keeping up with the scriptures and their message through music. This summer we're selecting music from various Psalms and Readings, bringing back some of the old favorite hymns that help ground us and our beliefs.



The choir will be returning with arousing hymns and introducing new anthems that will lift us up within our soul. One of the new anthems that will be introduced this fall will be "Go Down Moses," words and music written by Mark Hayes, that has been adapted from a traditional spiritual. The spiritual tells us the story about Moses going down to Egypt land, where it seems the Pharaoh had taken control of the Israelites, forcing them into slavery, causing them grief and shame. Well, the Lord in the heavens looked down and saw His people and their pain, sending Moses to free them and sending them to the Promised Land. The music in this anthem is upbeat with a driving tempo, drawing the attention of the listeners that absorb the message of the story.

The Praise Team will be singing upbeat songs to draw the listener and singer into the worship service. One of the new pieces they'll be singing is "I Speak Jesus." This piece tells a story of speaking the Name of Jesus, over every heart and mind, giving peace and declaring hope. Telling us that Jesus' name is full of power, healing, and life that breaks every stronghold, shining through the shadows, burning like a fire. Songs like this one send a message that helps us all grow even more as Christians, strengthening our faith in our Lord and Savior.

Blessings,

Stewart



Selah Concert



Thank you to everyone who helped us support our local Life Choices Community Pregnancy Clinic mission, by purchasing tickets to the Selah Concert. Fifty-two tickets were purchased just by members and friends of First Presbyterian Church. On June 15th, as best as I could see, thirty-nine individuals from FPC attended the concert. Those who didn't attend for varied reasons, still supported Life Choices mission to save one baby at a time through counseling, sonograms and support when

the parents choose life. A grateful thank you to all of you. It was a lively Christ-centered evening of beautiful music and fun with fellow Christians in our community.

We will continue to help celebrate the 40th Anniversary of Life Choices in Carson City in the Fall with their second fundraiser on Friday, September 15, 2023 at the Atlantis Casino in Reno. Kirk Cameron will be the keynote speaker. Watch for more information to come!

Charlene Rodman



PLAN ▶ AHEAD

PLAN ▶ AHEAD

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FRIENDSHIP SUPPERS (OR BRUNCH OR LUNCH...)

Do you have a special summer garden or yard that you'd like to show off? Why not share it with us by hosting a *Friendship Garden Party*? Our next Friendship Supper will be held on **Friday/Saturday August 4 or 5**. You could have a brunch, luncheon, or supper. Some have shared that it is difficult to go out in the evening so we thought that this would be fun to give a choice of having an earlier get together.



Fellowship Meals

We will be announcing sign ups and more details in the coming weeks. If you are interested or have questions, talk to Sandy Ehresman or Diane Young.



Adult Sunday School is back!

Beginning **August 6 at 8:45 am** in the Fellowship Hall. Join Sherri Gurney to explore "An Ordinary Day with Jesus" – a video and discussion series. All adults are welcome!



Holiday Art & Craft Fair



*Second annual FPC Craft Fair is scheduled for
Friday, October 13 and Saturday, October 14.*

We look forward to another successful fundraiser for the Old Sanctuary Preservation fund. We already have eleven vendors registered to show their beautiful and often whimsical creations.

Calling all of you creative crafters in the church to consider donating one or more of your creations to sell at the FPC craft booth. Contact Grace Speicher if you are willing to share your creations at spikr54@hotmail.com, #####, or see me at church.

A small group of interested individuals are already working on making this years' craft fair a success. At the same time, we will be requesting more volunteers as the Fair comes closer: set-up, marking spaces, sales, cookie baking, staffing the doors for Blue Barrel donations and entry fees, and resetting the tables and chairs for the Family Life Center for Sunday.

Thank you for your interest and help. Grace Speicher

OTHER FUN THINGS ON THE HORIZON:

Fall Friendship Suppers
Winter Friendship Suppers

Deacons Thanksgiving Lunch
Deacons Luncheon

Autumn Alliteration Potluck
Christmas Caroling

We've Had a Busy



Thanks to all of you for donating your Saturday morning to GraceWorks this past May 20. First Presbyterian was joined by our neighbors from the United Methodist and Calvary Chapel in providing fifty volunteers for six community events. It was a beautiful day weather-wise of sharing God's love with our community and each other!
Please plan to reserve a few hours on Thanksgiving Day morning for our annual GraceWorks help feed local shut-ins. God's blessings to you all! The GraceWorks Team

Starting the day with a good breakfast and entertainment!



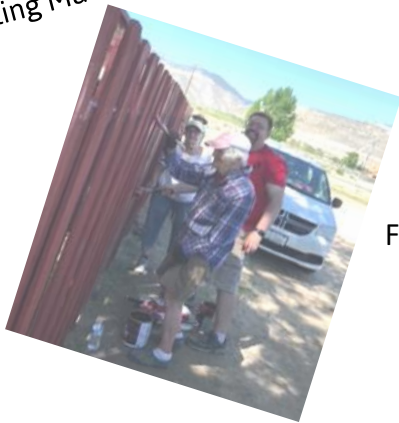
Filling Mac 'n Cheese bags



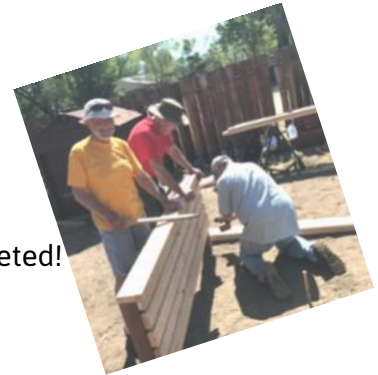
Singing at the Lodge



Cleaning Up at Ron Woods



FISH got a lot of outside tasks completed!



Ladies from the congregation made 22 beautiful military-theme quilts for our active-duty military

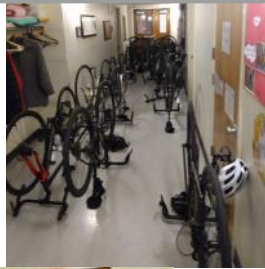


Summer at FPC!



Two events coincided on June 16th—Miriam and Mark from **Frontera de Cristo** came to do a presentation on the work they are doing and what they see happening at the border with Mexico. We also hosted 30 young men from **Journey of Hope—The Ability Experience** who stayed overnight in the Family Life Center on their annual bicycle trek across the country. A delicious potluck was held to feed everyone's tummies and souls!

Bicycle parking lot!



which were then prayed over and blessed, and taken by family and friends to give to the troops.





The judges hard at work!



... and the band played on!



A good time was had by all!



Congrats to Bob Speicher, Jenny Scanland and Don Hataway!



Getting your ice cream is serious work...!



Don't Forget Your Tithe

Summer is upon us. Our thoughts are on vacations - time to get away - so many things to do! This is just a reminder that to please remember your giving during the summer months. These are the months that giving is down but our expenses continue.

We thank you for your faithfulness to First Presbyterian Church.

The Stewardship Committee



ATTENTION TRAVELERS and ADDRESS MOVERS

Did you know? Each month we mail you The Trumpet, as well as other correspondence throughout the year, to keep you informed about the activities of the church. However, when you move or stop your mail because you are away, the Post Office returns your newsletter or other mail 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 move or depart so we could either forward your Trumpet to the new address or stop it for the time that you are away. We appreciate your help with this any time throughout the year! Notifying us beforehand helps in many ways.

Thank you, the Office Staff



In light of the scam that recently targeted our congregation, JUST A REMINDER:

First Presbyterian Church staff and officers will NEVER contact you via text or email seeking money. Members of the church should also not contact you via text or email.

The church will NEVER ask you to personally front money for ministry, mission, or compassionate purposes. We have the Deacons' fund that has been specifically designated to address these kinds of events. So, if you receive something purporting to be from us — particularly on a weekend or during a time when the office is not open — please contact the person directly by the phone number in the church directory to confirm what is going on. If you believe you have been contacted by a church member, it is best to speak with them on the phone or face-to-face, not via email or text, to confirm their name is not being used in a scam..

We want to discourage those who would seek to take advantage of the trust and fellowship we have in Jesus Christ.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Names removed for privacy

ON OUR PRAYER LIST

Requested as of 07-20-2023

Names removed for privacy † Fire and Law Enforcement, First Responders, Front-line Caregivers; our Local, State, and National leaders

Active-Duty Military: Names Removed for Privacy



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Names removed for privacy















Joe Hawley
June 17, 2023

Dave Fenlon Memorial
August 6 at 2:00 pm



AUGUST

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY 1	WEDNESDAY 2	THURSDAY 3	FRIDAY 4	SATURDAY 5
		8:30 am: SON Rise Women's Bible Study – Location Varies	8:00 am: Men's Bible Study – Eagle Valley Golf Club 5:00 pm: CIRCLES Mtg – FLC & Library 7:00 pm – Praise Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary	8:00 am: Wilson Men's Fellowship – Eagle Valley Golf Club  Watermelon Day 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary	OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 am: Berean Men's Bible Study – Library 	
6 8:45 am: Adult Sunday School (Fellowship Hall) 9:30 am: Prayer Gathering – room by Nursery 9:45 am: Grades 1-3 Sunday School 10:00 am: Communion Worship followed by Coffee Fellowship 2:00 pm: David Fenton Memorial	7 International Cat Day 	8 8:30 am: SON Rise Women's Bible Study – Location Varies 5:30 & 7:00 pm: Cmte Mtgs – all rooms	9 8:00 am: Men's Bible Study – Eagle Valley Golf Club 5:00 pm: CIRCLES Mtg – FLC & Library 7:00 pm – Praise Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary	10 8:00 am: Wilson Men's Fellowship – Eagle Valley Golf Club  7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary	11 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 am: Berean Men's Bible Study – Library	12  World Elephant Day
13 8:45 am: Adult Sunday School (Fellowship Hall) 9:30 am: Prayer Gathering – room by Nursery 9:45 am: Grades 1-3 Sunday School 10:00 am: Worship followed by Coffee Fellowship	14	15 8:30 am: SON Rise Women's Bible Study – Location Varies  TRUMPET DEADLINE	16 8:00 am: Men's Bible Study – Eagle Valley Golf Club 5:00 pm: CIRCLES Mtg – FLC & Library 7:00 pm – Praise Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary	17 8:00 am: Wilson Men's Fellowship – Eagle Valley Golf Club 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary	18 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 am: Berean Men's Bible Study – Library	19  World Aviation Day
20 8:45 am: Adult Sunday School (Fellowship Hall) 9:30 am: Prayer Gathering – room by Nursery 9:45 am: Grades 1-3 Sunday School 10:00 am: Worship followed by Coffee Fellowship	21 Barnyard Dance Day 	22 8:30 am: SON Rise Women's Bible Study – Location Varies 5:30 pm: Session Mtg– Fellowship Hall	23 8:00 am: Men's Bible Study – Eagle Valley Golf Club 9:00 am: Grace Notes Rehearsal – Narthex 5:00 pm: CIRCLES Mtg – FLC & Library 7:00 pm – Praise Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary	24 8:00 am: Wilson Men's Fellowship – Eagle Valley Golf Club 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary	25 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 am: Berean Men's Bible Study – Library  Banana Split Day	26
27 8:45 am: Adult Sunday School (Fellowship Hall) 9:30 am: Prayer Gathering – room by Nursery 9:45 am: Grades 1-3 Sunday School 10:00 am: Worship followed by Coffee Fellowship	28 Bow Tie Day 	29 8:30 am: SON Rise Women's Bible Study – Location Varies	30 8:00 am: Men's Bible Study – Eagle Valley Golf Club 9:00 am: Grace Notes Rehearsal – Narthex 5:00 pm: CIRCLES Mtg – FLC & Library 7:00 pm – Praise Team Rehearsal - Sanctuary	31 8:00 am: Wilson Men's Fellowship – Eagle Valley Golf Club 7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary		



OLD SANCTUARY PRESERVATION UPDATE

The church was listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the West Side Historic District in 2011. Renewed interest to preserve, restore and renew our old, historic church sanctuary began in 2020. A steering committee was created for the Old Sanctuary Preservation consisting of Craig Clark, John MacSween, Ken Pearson, Jon Ruitter, Charlene Rodman, Bob and Grace Speicher. Please contact any member for further information.

The committee has been meeting periodically to consider our objectives; consult with Melvyn Green, Structural Engineer; determine the scope and plan of action; set priorities; and proceed with maintenance projects. All work can be completed by phase. We will not proceed with any work until we have sufficient funds to complete each phase and no dollars from the general fund will be used on the original sanctuary.

To-date, the roof of the Old Sanctuary has been replaced. New sheeting and asphalt shingles replaced the old roofing. It was discovered that there were up to five layers of shingles in some places. By removing those layers, the overall weight of the roof decreased and the roof was strengthened with new sheeting.

The two crumbling sets of stairs leading to the Old Sanctuary and the two-story addition were replaced; the railings were sandblasted and powder-coated, and the original granite slabs were reinstalled.

The committee has met with Melvyn Green several times. He has outlined his recommendations for preservation by phase:

- Repoint the exterior of the bell tower
- Strengthen/seismic retrofit the tower by installing framework to brace it and convey lateral loads to the ground
- Strengthen the wall separating the old sanctuary from the two-story building
- Brace the tall walls at the gable ends of the building
- Wall anchors to connect the walls to the roof
- Evaluate footings and floor

We are currently looking into work on the bell tower as suggested by Melvyn Green to be the first phase. Paint samples are being evaluated, estimates for repointing are being calculated, and designs have been requested for the strengthening of the tower.

Several fundraising activities have been held that you have graciously supported over the past few years including the Chili Cook-off, the rummage/garage sales, the *Mark Twain* event by McAvoy Layne, and the Holiday Craft Fair.

A special thanks for your many generous donations made to the Old Sanctuary Preservation fund. Your free-will offerings are a blessing to our efforts.

OLD SANCTUARY FINANCIAL SUMMARY BY YEAR			
	Income	Expense	Year End Balance
Year			
2020	\$ 7,772.75	\$ 420.38	\$ 7,352.37
2021	\$51,616.17	\$32,970.00	\$18,646.17
2022	\$68,478.57	\$ 7,844.80	\$60,633.77
2023	\$36,107.05	\$ 416.00	\$96,324.82

Thanks for your continuous support as we strive to preserve our Old Sanctuary.
Members of the Old Sanctuary Preservation Committee

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Webpage
www.fpccarsoncity.org

Trumpet & Sunday bulletin articles can be sent to margo@fpccarsoncity.org; they may be edited for space. See calendar for due dates. Trumpet mailing prepared by a team led by George & Connie Stanton.



See us and
"Like" us on

