



The Trumpet

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Carson City

Vol. 52 No. 06

August 2015

From the Pastor's Workshop

"The Bridge"

In June the Supreme Court of the United States by a narrow 5-4 decision ruled that "same-sex marriage" is legal in all 50 states. As one whose college degree was focused largely in US History I was puzzled by this because it is my understanding, (and incidentally that of Justice John Roberts) that it is not the place of the Supreme Court to decide this for the states. As a theologian I was even more puzzled because I do not believe it is the place of the United States Supreme Court to rule on something that THE Supreme Court has said is defined as being between one man and one woman. We may change human laws, but we cannot change what God has told us about himself.

My larger concern is what is going to happen to our culture; our world when it reaches "The Chasm". The Chasm is described by a series of drawings in which people are shown carrying crosses. One by one they discover their cross to be too heavy so they stop again and again to cut off part of the cross to make it lighter. They all do this; all except one person. In the final picture, the group arrives at a huge chasm. Across it lies their true home. But there is no way across the chasm except for the one person who has left his cross intact. The heavy cross becomes a bridge to home that is able to bear the weight of its carrier because it is heavy and because it is long enough to span the distance between humanity and God.

As the Church in the modern world we are surrounded by a context that wants to pare down the cross or get rid of it completely because it doesn't know or believe in the chasm. It does not therefore see the need for the bridge of Jesus' cross. But we have the testimony of the life and death and resurrection of Jesus revealed in scripture, that not only will this bridge be needed, it will be essential. And we get to show that we ALL need the bridge and that Jesus is THE WAY.

We will not do this by getting angry at what has happened in the courts. We will not do this by arguing with people or circulating nasty emails. Resentment and bitterness never communicate hope. We WILL show that Jesus is the bridge by letting people know in word and action that we love them, that God loves them, and that the bridge is open to them. We do this as we show how Jesus has carried us across. We do this as we show that the only thing that has made us whole is the grace of Jesus Christ. We may be a tiny remnant; the only ones, holding on to the whole cross, but it is the cross that makes us whole. It is as we confidently and gracefully walk across this bridge that we best invite the world across the chasm.

Yours in Him as we glorify God and enjoy God forever,

Bruce

REMINDER

We will return to two worship services, 9:00 & 10:45 a.m., on Sunday, September 13.



2015 SUMMER YOUTH CAMP

What a week it was at beautiful Zephyr Point! We had 34 amazing teenagers go with us to camp this year, praise God! So many great memories and friendships were made as we laughed, played, ate, worshipped, talked, and cried together. Camp truly was a life-changing experience for so many of these young people, and their faith and relationships with Christ were strengthened for God's glory!



THE KING'S KIDS: AUGUST

...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

VBX 2015: F.B.I. (Faith-Building Investigations) – a glimpse at our week



Theme verses:

“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

Agents-in-Training raised over \$800 for First Love Nepal!

Thank you for your prayers and support!

SUMMER SUNDAY BIBLE EXPERIENCE: FAITH FINDERS

Where kids are on a MISSION to find FAITH IN ACTION

Jr. Detectives continue to time-travel to investigate Bible people whose faith depended on God to deal with: family, fighting, honesty, fear, the future, temptation, choices, courage & kindness.

Further investigation leads them to implement Faith-In-Action plans for their own lives.



God's Faithfulness -

Lamentations 3: 22-23 - Because of the LORD's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

Over the last three quarters of a year, I've had the privilege of writing songs via Skype with another Christian that I met a few years ago at a retreat. This writing partnership has yielded some interesting discussions regarding theology and life. I very much appreciate the opportunity to sharpen my skills with another believer. Recently, our discussion has turned to the subject of God's faithfulness. In discussing this topic, I've begun to realize how faithless I can be. Anytime God's light shines on the dark corners of our lives, we get to learn how just and perfect He is and how lacking we are. I say this not to discourage, but to point up the juxtaposition and reality of our humanness and His divinity. Our very breath is dependent on God. He "gives and takes away" like the song says (Blessed Be Your Name).

God's faithfulness, fortunately, is not dependent on us. Though we might not acknowledge Him as we should, God still provides for our needs, regardless of our heart position. This is so convicting to me and urges me to do better. But overall, our faith is not dependent on ourselves and how we feel on a given day - thankfully! It really is a trust issue. Do we trust God is Who He says He is? Do we trust Him to handle our lives - the good times and the difficult times? Increasingly, my answer is YES! There was a time when I would panic when I had more month than money, or was concerned about a particular relationship that was having a rocky time. Now, giving it up to the Lord is both a relief and a blessing, because He knows all the details even before I ask for Him to take these things from me. I need to be faithful to "clear the decks" with Him regularly. And watch as He works my concerns out as part of His greater plan. Sometimes we don't see the fruit for a long time and sometimes we have more immediate answers. When I started learning to write songs - a long time ago - I didn't think there would ever be a song that was "good". As the Lord has led me deeper into this writing process and provided mentors and folks to write with, I am seeing some of the fruit of His labor in the songwriting.

Another writer, Thomas Obadiah Chisholm, who wrote the words to "Great is Thy Faithfulness", struggled in life. Chisholm was frequently bedridden with illness. When he was feeling well, he often had to work doubly hard in order to make ends meet. God was faithful to provide for his needs. Chisholm wrote poetry. His friend, William Runyan set the hymn to music. The lyric "Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow" hints at Chisholm's need to lean into God's strength when he was ill. The refrain of the hymn comes directly from the Lamentations passage, above. A favorite of many, the song actually didn't get much notice after it was published in 1923. But after the Moody Bible Institute began using it in chapel services, it became better known. The hymn finally gained worldwide popularity when sung by George Beverly Shea at the Billy Graham crusade in 1945.

Another, more recent song speaks of God's faithfulness. "Help Me Find It", written by Ben McDonald, David Frey and Jason Ingram, talks about God never failing. The tone of surrender ("I will wait for You - come fill me up again; Have Your way my King - I give my all to You") is the corresponding action we are called to when we trust. To truly trust, we must surrender. That often means over and over. The second verse says: "I'm giving You fear and You give faith; I'm giving You doubt You give me grace; For every step I've never been alone. Even when it hurts You'll have Your way, Even in the valley I will say, With every breath You've never let me go".

God's faithfulness will never let us go. Our response is trust and surrender. God's plan will be worked with or without us. When we lean into His faithfulness and love; when we believe, trust Him and surrender, we gain His peace, joy and eternal life.

In joyful surrender,

Karen

MEN'S CHORUS

We will meet for rehearsal on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 11th and 12th at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. Bill Schulz, formerly of our Chancel Choir will be back to sing with us. Men's Chorus is scheduled to sing at the offertory time on Sunday, August 16th. Hope you will join us to bring praise to the Lord!



The Welcome Wagon needs YOU! Recently you read about the desire to welcome people with a "Welcome Wagon". That concept is becoming a physical reality as we start a coffee cart welcome station ministry this fall. We will need people to learn to make specialty coffees and to staff a welcome center that helps people know where places are in the church as well as the various offerings in the life of the church. Are you ready to be part of the welcome wagon? YOU are needed once a month. Call Charlene in the church office, 775-882-1032, ext. 215, to let us know you

want to serve or to find out more.

We have been blessed with the opportunity to purchase a complete coffee bar that will be a great outreach on Sunday mornings and weekends, particularly to the 20-30 crowd. On Friday evenings and Saturday afternoons the narthex and sidewalk outside will allow us to spill out with a welcome as the musical sounds and coffee smells waft to passers by. If you are able to help support this with a second mile gift to help cover our investment we welcome it (please note "coffee cart" in memo section on check). Thank you as we reach out to the world beginning at our doorstep.

WOMEN'S THURSDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY GROUP will begin their 2015/16 study on September 10 in the church library at 1:30 p.m. They will be studying "PARABLES, The Greatest Stories Ever Told" by John White. The study will be #10 "The Pharisee & the Tax Collector. This group meets the second Thursday of every month. For further information please contact Charlotte Fenlon at 775-885-8894.



The ENUF Committee is sponsoring Fall Friendship Suppers on October 3. This is a potluck meal, and we need hosts and guests. Please see Marylee Branson to sign up, or if you have any questions.

A good time will be had by all!

Work and Worship Weekend September 18-20, 2015 Zephyr Point Conference Center

COME, enjoy a sunny fall time with God's creation, Lake Tahoe.

EAT fabulous food while taking in views of "the lake".

FELLOWSHIP with a rowdy group of "frozen chosen" while working with and for our friends at Zephyr Point.

WORSHIP our living God with hymns and a Sunday service with Bedford Holmes delivering the message.

It all begins with dinner Friday evening, September 18, and concludes with lunch Sunday, September 20. Zephyr Point provides the cabins at no charge, however you need to bring sheets (or sleeping bags), pillowcases, soap and towels. You also should bring a sharing attitude since we ask 2 couples to share a cabin, and not all cabins have 2 bathrooms. The 6 meals for the weekend cost \$70 per adult (children 4-12 are somewhat less).

If you think of summer at Tahoe as a place of congested madness, think again, Zephyr is an island of Christian serenity, a quiet place to enjoy and to worship. Sign up will begin on Sunday, August 16. Please join us!

DESERT SCHOONERS ANNUAL PICNIC

Come join the Desert Schooners for their annual picnic. It will be held on Saturday, August 1, at 1:00 p.m. at the home of Gus and Sandy Ehresman, 1622 Nevada Street. Please bring meat of your choice to barbeque and a favorite side dish to share. Grills, table service, and drinks will be provided. Everyone is invited and we hope to see you there. For more information please call Sandy Ehresman, 775-885-8230 or Norma Summey, 775-267-1917.





August Birthdays

Names omitted in online version for privacy.

ON OUR PRAYER LIST

Requested as of 07-19-2015

Names omitted in online version for privacy.

New Sunday Adult Bible Class to begin in September and Summer Study Ongoing

In the fall the adult Bible class will begin a study of Paul's letter to the Galatians. The epistle to the Galatians is said to be the Magna Charta of the Christian liberty. This study will follow a Bible study guide by Charles R. Swindoll as well as other commentaries. (Primary source being the inspired word of God—The Bible). Paul's letters are just as applicable today as they were then. Facilitator for the study will be Duane Glanzmann.

One can still attend the adult Bible study being held each Sunday this summer at 8:45 a.m. The class is using a book and video by Max Lucado on Grace. See Pat Angel or Carol Paz for further information about this class.

OUR NEW INSURANCE CARRIER recommends that we do an inventory of the items in our church. If you could volunteer to do one or two rooms please contact Ken Pearson at 775-721-7373. Ken will give you a form to use that includes an explanation of the type of items to count. Thank you in advance for helping.



August Anniversaries

Names omitted in online version for privacy.



SEPTEMBER TRUMPET DEADLINE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14

Have something to share?

Please send articles to Dawn Berger:

dawn@fpccarsoncity.org

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Hello FPC members. This is your fellow member, Robert Stansbury informing you of an opportunity to take a very exciting class, this fall, at our church. Financial Peace University is a biblically based course that has been taught for over 20 years and has helped over 4 million participants. The purpose of the course is to help people with their personal finances, budgeting and debt management. I will be the facilitator but I don't teach the course. The creator of the program, Dave Ramsey, is the teacher and DVD's are used each week as part of the classwork activities.

I took this class three years ago and have been working the program ever since. It has changed my outlook on finances and has allowed me to retain a lot of income that was slipping away because of bad management. I want to assure you that you will never be asked to divulge any of your personal financial information at any time during the course. Your information will remain confidential because you won't be pressured to reveal it.

There will be a financial expense to this course. If you sign up you will have to purchase the classroom materials from the Dave Ramsey website. The cost is a little less than \$100 per couple or individual. Our class will meet every Monday evening from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Church Library for 9 straight weeks. We will start on September 21st and end on November 16th, which is a week before Thanksgiving. If you need financial assistance or babysitting, please let me know.

I will be taking signups at church and also online. You can contact me at burytone@yahoo.com or 775-297-3866. I look forward to joining with you this fall as we work to become better stewards of the riches that God blesses us with. RLS

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

If needed, we have various pieces of medical equipment in storage that may be loaned. If you have a need please stop by the church office first to check on availability and to sign-out the equipment.

NEW CHURCH PHOTO DIRECTORY

The new church photo directory should be available for distribution by the end of August. Please watch the announcements in the Sunday bulletin for further information.

CHURCH SECURITY

From time to time it is necessary for us to be reminded of building security procedures. Recently we have found lights left on overnight and doors opened. It is essential that anyone using the building and responsible for a group be in charge of turning off all lights and using the standard lock up procedure (see it if you have a question) to secure all doors. One might think that only one door was used but the reality is that every door becomes a possible entry once a group has been in. Therefore it is essential that when a group leaves the person who opened needs to check ALL doors and lights before leaving. If you do not know how this works come to the office for an orientation.

2015 LAKE TAHOE WOMEN'S RETREAT September 18-20, 2015

Sharon Coleman, pastor and leader of various women's ministries for 30 years in the Bay Area asks the question: Is it Well with My Soul? To help her worship, Sharon brings an accomplished musical artist, Julie Elias, to share her popular worship songs from her newly released CD. Come join and draw closer to God in whatever stage of life and spiritual growth you may find yourself.

Call The Village Church office at 775-831-0784 or Michele Young at 908-768-1822 for more information. You may also contact Charlene Rodman on Monday or Tuesday in our church office at 775-882-1032, ext. 215, for information.

AUGUST 2015

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

Jul 2015						
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	

Sep 2015						
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		

1
1:00 PM Desert Schooners Annual Picnic, Ehresman's House



2
8:45 AM Sunday School - Adult
9:30 AM NURSERY
10:00 AM Kings's Kids Summer Bible Experience
10:00 AM Single Worship Service
11:30 AM Coffee Hour Fellowship, FLC

3
9:00 AM Exercise Lite

4
6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co.
6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Narthex
9:00 AM Grace Notes Lite
1:00 PM Staff

5
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
9:00 AM Grace Notes
10:00 AM & 5:30 PM BIBLE STUDY
11:30 AM PRAYER
5:30 PM Youth Group Dinner
6:00 PM Youth Group - Chill Night

6
Youth Tahoe Thursday, Sand Harbor
6:30 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Carson Station

7
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 AM Men's Berean Bible Study, Fellowship Hall
9:00 AM Exercise Lite

8
12:00 PM Youth Group - Backpack Outreach Event, Park Terrace



9
8:45 AM Sunday School - Adult
9:30 AM NURSERY
10:00 AM Kings's Kids Summer Bible Experience
10:00 AM Single Worship Service
11:30 AM Coffee Hour Fellowship, FLC

10
9:00 AM Exercise Lite

11
6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co.
6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Narthex
9:00 AM Grace Notes Lite
6:00 PM MISSION COMMITTEE
7:00 PM ALL COMMITTEES
7:00 PM Men's Chorus

12
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
9:00 AM Grace Notes
10:00 AM & 5:30 PM BIBLE STUDY
11:30 AM PRAYER
5:30 PM Youth Group Mid-week Dinner
6:00 PM -8:00 PM Youth Group
7:00 PM Men's Chorus

13
6:30 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Carson Station

14
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 AM Men's Berean Bible Study, Fellowship Hall
9:00 AM Exercise Lite

Trumpet Deadline

15

16
8:45 AM Sunday School - Adult
9:30 AM NURSERY
10:00 AM Kings's Kids Summer Bible Experience
10:00 AM Single Worship Service
11:30 AM Coffee Hour Fellowship, FLC

17
9:00 AM Exercise Lite

18
6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co.
6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Narthex
9:00 AM Grace Notes Lite
1:00 PM Staff
5:30 PM SESSION

19
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
9:00 AM Grace Notes
10:00 AM & 5:30 PM BIBLE STUDY
11:30 AM PRAYER
5:30 PM Youth Group Mid-week Dinner
6:00 PM -8:00 PM Youth Group
Circles Dinners

20
6:30 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Carson Station

21
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 AM Men's Berean Bible Study, Fellowship Hall
9:00 AM Exercise Lite

22

23
8:45 AM Sunday School - Adult
9:30 AM NURSERY
10:00 AM Kings's Kids Summer Bible Experience
10:00 AM Single Worship Service
11:30 AM Coffee Hour Fellowship, FLC

24
9:00 AM Exercise Lite

25
6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co.
6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Narthex
9:00 AM Grace Notes Lite

26
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
9:00 AM Grace Notes
10:00 AM & 5:30 PM BIBLE STUDY
11:30 AM PRAYER
5:30 PM Youth Group Mid-week Dinner
6:00 PM -8:00 PM Youth Group

27
6:30 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Carson Station

28
OFFICE CLOSED
6:30 AM Men's Berean Bible Study, Fellowship Hall
9:00 AM Exercise Lite


29

30
8:45 AM Sunday School - Adult
9:30 AM NURSERY
10:00 AM Kings's Kids Summer Bible Experience
10:00 AM Single Worship Service
11:30 AM Coffee Hour Fellowship, FLC

31
9:00 AM Exercise Lite
7:00 PM Praise Team

SANCTUARY ANGELS ARE NEEDED once a month to assist in keeping the sanctuary in order. If you would like to help with this task please contact Mary Lou Pawley at 775-461-0061.

We would also like to thank Marian Johnson for



August 1, 2015

Dear Friends in Christ

Israel – The Holy Land – a place about the size of New Jersey, or for us who grew up in Southern California, about the size of San Diego and Los Angeles Counties combined. It has shaped and continues to shape the spiritual, social and political nature of the world. Since 2000 it has been my privilege to travel in this amazing place and to lead hundreds of people to know and understand biblical and world history as a result of walking where Jesus walked.

I would like to invite you to join us in a small group as we explore the wonders that unfold for those who venture to Israel September 11-23, 2016. Maybe this hasn't ever been on your "radar screen"; maybe you think, "I'd never go to Israel"; or maybe you've always wanted to go; but in any case, I believe this is the best travel adventure anyone can take because of what it will do for body, mind and soul.

This tour focuses on understanding the story of the Bible. Along the way you will gain social and political understandings that cannot happen without being there. There will not be lectures, but rather time to explore at each site what the stories of the Bible mean as we read and reflect upon them.

Our tour is one of the most extensive of its kind, one that we have custom developed to allow travelers to truly experience the biblical narrative while still "having time to breathe". We spend a significant time in the Galilee region staying out in the country, living right on the water where Jesus taught. Should you desire to use your own abilities to travel to Israel and meet at the beginning of the tour, you are free to do so. The ground-only cost is \$2498 per person. If you are interested in this approach, please contact me for details.

We hope you will give thought and prayer to joining us for this time that truly fulfills the cliché, "Trip of a Lifetime". Israel has become a second home for us and in many ways feels like our first home. Join us, and we think you'll say the same. Let us know of any questions you may have.

Next year Jerusalem!

Bruce and Nancy



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OFFICE

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Carson City, NV 89703
775-882-1032
fax 775-882-8095

The Rev. Bruce Kochsmeier
bruce@fpccarsoncity.org

Summer Worship Service
10:00 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 and Pat Angel.

August Sermons

August 2: "The Way" Colossians 1:9-14

August 9: "Why Jesus is a Big Deal" Colossians 1:15-23

August 16: "Mystery Revealed" Colossians 1:24-29

August 23: "Be Not Deceived" Colossians 2:1-15

August 30: "Walking with Jesus" Colossians 2:20-3:11

REMINDER—SUMMER WORSHIP HOURS

Our summer worship runs through September 6.
We will have one worship service at 10:00 a.m.

See us and
"Like" us on

