



The Trumpet

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Carson City

Vol. 53 No. 10

December 2016

From the Pastor's Workshop

"What if They Don't Know it's Christmas?"

As I have been preparing this, after a campaign fraught with bitterness and accusation; one that has polarized and filled our nation with angst, Donald J. Trump has been elected our 45th President. For some this is cause for celebration and for others it is deeply disappointing. As followers of Jesus we are called to realize that God is sovereign in his perfect will and that our hope is ultimately only in his election. In times of sorrow and division we are called to "bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." (Galatians 6:2) We are called to "weep with those who weep" (Romans 12:15) and "as much as it depends on you [us] live peaceably with one another." (Romans 12:18). We need to show empathy to one another in the name of Jesus so that he may bind us together as a nation and as the body of Christ. Only as we live this way will we find the way forward to which Jesus leads; and that way is to the manger. But what if people don't know the way?



I want you to think about something with me. What if you discovered that as the days of the Christmas Advent season came upon us, every time you said to someone, "Merry Christmas" you were met with a blank stare. What if every face had a look of puzzlement; not resistance or resentment, but a look that said, "I'd LIKE to know what your joyful greeting is about, but I don't. Could you tell me?"

I want us to think about this because I think we are in a time when this is the case. Oh, I know people might THINK they know what Christmas is. Or people might have some warm fuzzy recollection of eggnog or Santa or chestnuts roasting on an open fire, but I think many if not the majority of people do not really know what Christmas is about.

Do WE know the central point of Christmas? I think it gets easily buried today because our culture seems to be at a low point in terms of personal responsibility. The idea of saying, "I did that. I broke it. I didn't follow through. I didn't keep my promise" just doesn't seem to be lived out much. But in Christmas we see the ultimate example. God took responsibility for his creation. When we failed; when we ran away; when we broke what God had made perfect God stepped in to redeem and make over. He did this with his own Son.

Christmas is an amazing time to be telling this story to people who don't know and they aren't hard to find. Ours is the opportunity to tell why we say, "Merry Christmas". How? Be creative. Sing along to the carols in line at the store. (Not every tune is "Here Comes Santa Claus, you know!") So KNOW the words. The theology of the carols may be our best telling of the Gospel in Christmas music. Be subversive. Include the poem, "One Solitary Life" with the cookies you give or in the card you send. Decide to be filled

Continued next page

Continued—From the Pastor's Workshop

with the joy of God taking responsibility for you. Let it show. Choose to NOT be too busy or bogged down in these days. Let the light of God's greatest gift lead you to KNOW why Christmas is God's greatest gift.

There will be lots of ways to invite people to know it is Christmas around here: Worship and the great music of the season, the children's Christmas Pageant, the Advent Workshop, the Ring and Sing potluck and concert, The First Presbyterian LIFT Christmas Tree Lot where you can volunteer or send your friends to get their Christmas Tree; there are so many ways to let people know it's Christmas. Let's not miss one.

Joining you in celebrating the joy of telling people the greatest story ever told,

Bruce

2016 ANNUAL REPORT INFORMATION DUE

Do you lead a ministry group or help spend the church's money? In preparation for the Annual Report, church officers, group leaders, staff and other members of the congregation that serve at First Presbyterian Church will need to submit their year-end report. In order to allow sufficient time to assemble the Annual Report, we ask that your submission be received by Thursday, December 29th. Please email your report to dawn@fpccarsoncity.org. You may also deliver your information to the Church office via a flash drive.



Reminder as we get close to years end; the Church office is closed Fridays.

The Church staff wishes you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Congregational Giving-GENERAL BUDGET 2016 Projected

	<u>Budget Need</u>	<u>Given</u>	<u>Difference</u>
November 18			
Year to Date:	\$487,094	\$505,533	+\$18,439
<u>Current</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expense</u>	<u>Difference</u>
	\$505,533	\$477,088	+\$28,445
	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Received</u>	<u>Bricks</u>
Walkway	\$37,529	\$36,855	124

Thank you for your great response to our Walkway campaign. Spring 2017 it will come together And a beautiful thing it will be!

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!!

ALTERNATE WAY OF GIVING



Are you tired of writing checks? Do you write it but forget to bring it to church? Well there is another way of giving so that you don't have to think about it and the church receives your giving on a regular basis even if you are on vacation.

If you bank on line you could contact your bank and asked them to issue your FPC check weekly, monthly or any way you would like. The bank will then mail your check to the church, it will be posted and will show up on your quarterly giving statement.

If you have any questions, please call the church office, 775-882-1032 and ask for Charlene or leave her a message at x215.

Thank you for your faithful giving.



THE KING'S KIDS: DECEMBER



...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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Sunday, December 4th: 2:00 – 4:30 PM Advent Workshop:

A make-It-Take-It workshop of Christmas crafts. Come enjoy your kids and grandkids as they make decorations, celebrating our Savior's birth. We'll decorate cookies, and wrap up the afternoon with pizza!



Saturday, December 10th: 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Pageant rehearsal for ALL King's Kids & Youth Actors

Sunday, December 11th: 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Pageant (King's Kids and Youth)

"With All Your Heart, All Your Mind, and All Your Strength"

KING'S KIDS BIBLE EXPERIENCE:

We have been walking with the Israelites through their exodus from Egypt and the beginnings of their wilderness wandering. We have seen how GOD has been faithful throughout their experiences.

As we enter into Advent, we're learning the shema, the ancient blessing: "Hear O Israel. The Lord is our God. The Lord is One. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your mind and with all your strength." We're looking at how each of the people in the nativity story loved God is this way, and in how WE can love God with all OUR heart, mind and strength.



ANCHORED IN CHRIST -

This time of year, it is not uncommon to have storms cross the Sierra and dump precipitation in one form or another. As the storm approaches, there is most often wind of a gusty quality that can be very destructive as it tosses items that are not tied down.

In some ways, this could very well be a picture of where we find ourselves at this moment, both as God's people and as His people living in the USA. Ephesians 4:2 challenges us to "Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love." Even though Paul is speaking to the Body of Christ, there are those that are watching us as the Body of Christ to see how we react to the events occurring in the world and in our nation. It would be really easy to stir up a lot of dust that makes it hard to see what really matters. The more prudent course, in my mind, is to point to Jesus in how we live and love others.

Further in Ephesians, Paul challenges us to be mature Christians - vs. 14 "Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. 15. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is Christ." And 17."So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking. 18. They are darkened in their understanding and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the hardening of their hearts."

We are called to be anchored in Christ, not in the world. No matter what our circumstance may be. We are told to put off the old self (our old ways of doing and living) and be made new in the attitudes of our minds (vs. 22-23). As Paul admonishes the Ephesians, let us also "rid ourselves of bitterness, anger, rage, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice." If we are of The Way, let us be a humble, patient, gentle, and loving example to others who need The Way, for Christ came that all might believe in Him and live.

In Christ,
Karen



GRACE NOTES PRESENTS: RING AND SING

Sunday December 11th

Come at 5:30 p.m. for an all church POTLUCK dinner hosted by our Deacons.

Last name ending:

A—G bring an *Entrée*,

H—O bring a *Salad*,

P—Z bring a *Dessert*.

Then Stay for Ring and Sing at 7:00 p.m. Ring and Sing is a worship concert of Christmas hand bell music interspersed with Christmas carols sung by the congregation. Please come and enjoy!

Christmas Luncheon

WOMEN'S THURSDAY AFTERNOON Bible Study group will meet Thursday, December 8th for their Annual Christmas Luncheon at Sandy Ehresman's house, 1612 N. Nevada Street. The potluck will begin at 11:30 a.m.

Our study will be in Chapter #9 Taking the initiative, THE SHUNAMMITE WOMAN. For further information contact Charlotte Fenlon at 775-885-8894.

WE WILL HAVE ONE SERVICE beginning with the Children's Pageant Sunday, December 11th through January 1st.

Two candlelight services will be held on Christmas Eve, 5:00 & 7:00 p.m.



The beautiful quilt donated and handmade by Norma Summey was auctioned and a total of \$650 was raised for the new walkway project.

Many, many thanks to Norma and to all who bid!

Also, thank you to the generous donor who made the final bid!

A very special Thank You to Kay Glanzmann for decorating the Church with fall harvest décor. The entire Church was so beautiful during the season!

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. - Colossians 3:17

The Deacons place poinsettias in the Sanctuary for worship services in memory or honor of your loved ones. These will be acknowledged in a bulletin insert. The deadline to order plants is Monday, December 12 and the cost is \$10.00 per plant. People who wish to take their plants may do so after the Christmas Eve services. Place this completed form in the offering plate along with your check marked "Poinsettia" or bring it to the church office. Thank you for helping.



Your name: _____

Phone: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

_____ I will pick up plant after the Christmas Eve services.

_____ Deacons may deliver plant to someone.

_____ Number of plants ordered (limit of 3).

\$ _____ Amount enclosed



DECEMBER

2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Nov 2016

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			

Jan 2017

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	7:00 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Joanie's Creekside Cafe	2	OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 AM Men's Berean Bible Study, Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Empty Bowls Set-up 9:00 AM Exercise Lite 5:00 PM -8:00 PM Empty Bowls	3	
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4	8:30 AM NURSERY 9:00 AM & 10:45 AM Worship 9:00 AM King's Kids Bible Experience 9:00 AM Sunday School - Adult 10:15 AM Coffee Fellowship, FLC 2:00 PM Advent Workshop	5	9:00 AM Exercise Lite 6:30 PM DEACONS 7:00 PM Praise Team	6	6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Library 7:00 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co. 9:00 AM Grace Notes Lite 1:00 PM Staff	7	7:00 AM Men's Study Group @ Joanie's Creekside Cafe 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	7:00 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Joanie's Creekside Cafe 1:30 PM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Christmas Lunch at Sandy Ehresman's	9	OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 AM Men's Berean Bible Study, Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Exercise Lite Jan/Feb Trumpet Deadline	10	9:00 AM Praise Team
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11	9:00 AM Sunday School - Adult 9:30 AM NURSERY 10:00 AM Childrens Pageant - One Service 11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship, FLC 5:30 PM Potluck Dinner 7:00 PM Ring & Sing	12	9:00 AM Exercise Lite	13	6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Library 7:00 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co. 6:00 PM MISSION COMMITTEE 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM Angel Tree Gift Distribution, FLC	14	7:00 AM Men's Study Group @ Joanie's Creekside Cafe 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	15	7:00 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Joanie's Creekside Cafe	16	OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 AM Men's Berean Bible Study, Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Exercise Lite	17	
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18	9:00 AM Sunday School - Adult 9:30 AM NURSERY 10:00 AM King's Kids Bible Experience 10:00 AM Worship 11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship, FLC	19	9:00 AM Exercise Lite 7:00 PM Praise Team	20	6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Library 7:00 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co. 1:00 PM Staff 5:30 PM SESSION	21	7:00 AM Men's Study Group @ Joanie's Creekside Cafe 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 Circles Dinners	22	7:00 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Joanie's Creekside Cafe	23	OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 AM Men's Berean Bible Study, Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Exercise Lite	24	5:00 PM Candlelight Service 7:00 PM Candlelight Service Christmas Eve
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25	9:00 AM Sunday School - Adult 9:30 AM NURSERY 10:00 AM Worship 11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship, FLC <i>Unto Us a Child is Born</i>	26	OFFICE CLOSED 9:00 AM Exercise Lite	27	6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Library 7:00 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co. 11:30 AM Desert Schooners, Fellowship Hall	28	7:00 AM Men's Study Group @ Joanie's Creekside Cafe 9:00 AM Exercise Lite 9:00 AM Grace Notes 9:00 AM Grace Notes 10:00 AM & 5:30 PM BIBLE STUDY 11:30 AM PRAYER	29		30	OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 AM Men's Berean Bible Study, Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Exercise Lite Annual Report Deadline	31	
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SAVE THE DATE

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT

With Julie Elias



Friday, December 23, 7:00 p.m.

The Village Church
736 McCourry Blvd.
Incline Village, NV

FREE ADMISSION

Join us for cookies and hot chocolate following the concert in our Fireside Room.

Incline Village local Julie Elias will lead a festive, family Christmas concert Sing along with your favorite carols and enjoy special performances as we celebrate this special time of year in our amazing community!

For more about Julie Elias, please check out www.julieeliasmusic.com

23rd Annual Christmas Tea and Holiday Boutique

**Saturday, December 3rd, 2:00pm to 4:00pm
at The Village Church in the Fireside Room**

736 McCourry Blvd.
Incline Village, NV

Music by the Barefoot Trio

Come prepared to enjoy a delightful "English" tea complete with homemade finger sandwiches, cookies, candies, tea and coffee. Plan to shop the bazaar for specially selected treasures to enhance your home for the holidays. But most of all come to enjoy this incredible time of fellowship.

Please see Charlene Rodman or contact her at 775-882-1032, x215 if you are interested in attending.



Names omitted in online version for privacy.

ON OUR PRAYER LIST

Requested as of 11-20-2016

Names omitted in online version for privacy.



Names omitted in online version for privacy.

**January/February 2017
Trumpet Deadline
Friday, December 9th**

Have something to share?

Please send articles to:

dawn@fpccarsoncity.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**One Service at 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, January 29, 2017**

followed by the

Annual Congregational Meeting



COFFEE CHEFS

A BIG THANK YOU to the 54 coffee chefs who spend extra time (and money) to make our Sunday morning “coffee hour” such a festive fellowship time. We enjoy the “eatables” you provide. The throng of the people in the Family Life Center shows that worshipping doesn’t stop when Pastor Bruce ends his sermon.

We also want to thank those of you who respond positively when your Deacon calls to ask you to help serve with the Chefs. We can’t do it without you!



ATTENTION TRAVELERS & 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 Office 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.

YEAR END GIVING

We are so grateful for your generous hearts in giving to the mission of First Presbyterian Church in 2016. It has been a year of many blessings.

We would like to remind you that if you are giving in December and would like your donation to be credited to calendar year 2016, your gift must be in the church offering by the morning of Sunday, December 25, 2016, or postmarked by December 31, 2016.

Thank you again for your gifts to this church!

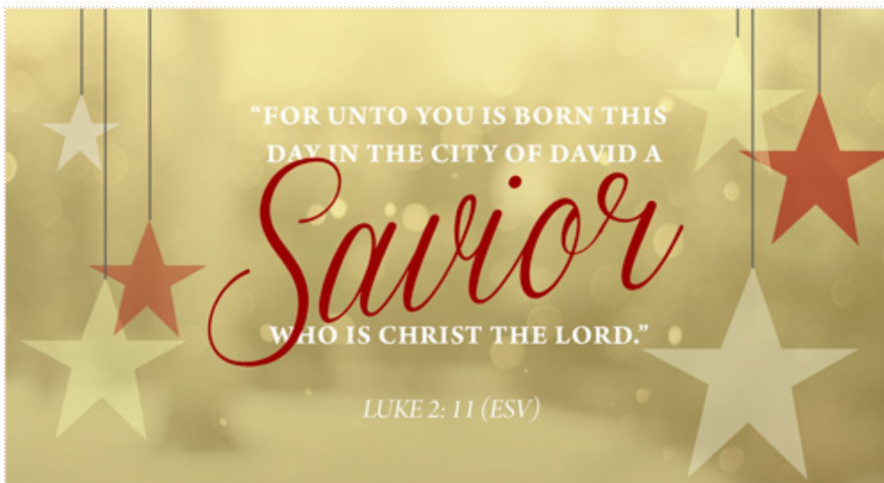
2017 GIVING ENVELOPES

This is a reminder that if you have a contribution number between 1 and 100 you may pick up your new 2017 **PINK** envelopes mid-December in the narthex.

Some notes:

- If you have had envelopes but do not want them in 2017, please notify Charlene Rodman at the church office as soon as possible. Your giving number will then change.
- If you did not have envelopes in 2016 but want them for 2017 please notify Charlene as soon as possible.

PLEASE DISCARD YOUR 2016 CANARY ENVELOPES.



SATURDAY, December 24

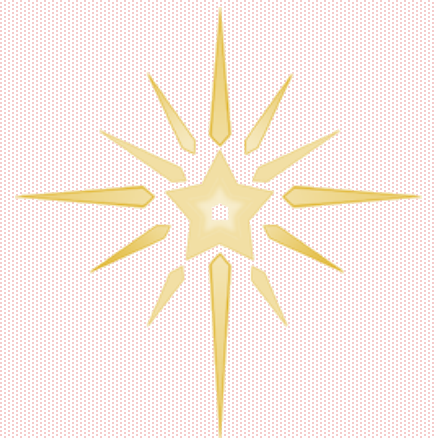
**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Services**

at

5:00 & 7:00 P.M.

**PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE
THE BIRTH OF CHRIST.**

Bring a Friend!



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Corner of North Division & West King Streets
Administration Office
306 West Musser Street
Carson City, NV 89703

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THE TRUMPET

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115 N. Division St.

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fax 775-882-8095

The Rev. Bruce Kochsmeier
bruce@fpccarsoncity.org

Worship Services

9:00 AM & 10:45 AM

ONE Service, 10:00 am
beginning December 11 through January 1, 2017

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 Linda Poole.

December Sermons

December 4, Two Services, 9:00 and 10:45 AM:
"He is Our Peace" Isaiah 7:10-16, Romans 1:1-7

December 11, One Service, 10:00 AM:
Children's Pageant "Do You Hear What I Hear?"

December 18, One Service, 10:00 AM:
"Set Free by Joy" Isaiah 35:1-10

December 24, Christmas Eve, 5:00 and 7:00 PM:
"Unto to YOU" Luke 2:1-20

December 25, One Service, 10:00 AM:
"Because God So Loved" John 3:1-16



See us and
"Like" us on

