



The Trumpet

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Carson City

Vol. 55 No. 01

January/February 2018

From the Pastor's Workshop

"BUILDING BLOCKS"

Dear Friends,

As we begin a new year we are standing on 500 years of Reformation tradition. For many of us we don't know enough about this treasure. I'm reminded of the story of the G.I. who jumped into a foxhole during battle, pulled out his Bible, and in a panic asked his buddy, "Do you know how to work this thing?"

The Reformation was and is a time in which the Church was called back to the roots of knowing the treasure of finding hope and salvation in grace alone, through Christ alone, by faith alone to the glory of God alone in scripture alone so that the world may know the wonder of God's plan.

I know this could sound terribly academic and doctrinal, but it is really more of an adventure in discovering why we can believe what we believe. We live in a world that seems determined to live by feelings alone. The power of the Gospel is that God did not send us a feeling; God sent a promise fulfilled in his Son and made known to us through his word delivered by his Holy Spirit. Together as we worship this month we will explore the wonder and power of this gift that came in the flesh.

Someone might ask, "Why do we need to know this?" I think the answer is: Because this won't be on the final; this IS the final. God reveals himself to us as an invitation back to himself as our only hope. To not know this is to miss the great treasure of eternity. Think about it this way: If this is the greatest news EVER, wouldn't you want to know it in its fullness? And if you knew about it, wouldn't you want to be able to show others this promise?

Someone once asked me what it means to be "Reformed" and I said, "I think it means that God is taking us apart and putting us back together one piece at a time by his grace and for his glory so that we will be his new creation."

This month, each week will unfold a new and deeper chapter of what it means to be claimed by God's sovereign and amazing grace. I know you will want to be in worship as we explore this together.

On January 28 following worship we will have our annual congregational meeting to receive the budget and elect elders, deacons and the nominating committee for 2018.



Continued- page 2

From the Pastor's Workshop - continued from page 1

Thank you for being so faithful as we enter another year together for God's glory.

Since this is a double issue, remember that Lent begins on Valentine's Day February 14 with a soup supper at 6:00 PM followed by worship at 7:00 PM

Faithfully yours in His reforming grip,
Bruce

CHRISTMAS TREE LOT THANKS!



We would like to thank all of the generous hearts at FPC. Thank you for all of your help with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Christmas Tree Lot. Thank you to all who came out to set up the lot, to unload the trees and then worked at welcoming the customers and selling the trees. What a witness you were to our community! Thank you to all of the fantastic cooks who kept the workers warm with soups, pizzas, chili and more. Your the best! Thank you too to everyone who kept our sweet tooth satisfied. The cookies and candies kept us going.

And then there were Christmas stocking to fill and how you all stepped forward to help make so many children in our community happy. Thank you ALL for stepping up to help with this fun Christmas project.



The Tree Lot Committee Thanks all of you.

DESERT SCHOONERS ANNUAL

Saturday, February 3, 2018
In the Family Life Center

TIME: 5:00 p.m. Judging ~ 6:00 p.m. Dinner

Back by popular demand!

Entertainment by the "Back Forty"



CHILI COOK- OFF

Raffle and Silent Auction. Please bring raffle and silent auction items to the church on Friday, February 2nd between 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, February 3rd, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Silent auction baskets are needed. Please contact Jenny Scanland at 775-297-2061 for more information on Raffle and Silent Auction.

Chili Sign-ups Coming Soon
Watch for details!

If you're interested in helping with the Chili cook-off please contact Chuck Beattie at 775-882-8727.

Childcare available upon request.



THE KING'S KIDS



...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

HIGHLIGHTS of the ADVENT WORKSHOP

Twenty kids enjoyed making Christmas crafts, frosting (and eating!) cookies, hearing a Christmas story, and eating pizza. It was a great time for all! **Many thanks** to our helpers: Rachel Conrad, Deana Ercanbrack, Cheryl & Katie Gorton, and Kyle Hamilton; and Youth helpers: Brandee Bowen, Katrina Creek, Aleyna & Andreas Gilson, Dylan & Chayace Friend, and Austin Hernandez.



KING'S KIDS BIBLE EXPERIENCE – Sundays at 10:00 a.m.



As we continue our look at God's Super-Heroes, we'll be looking at God's Super-Heroes around Jesus' childhood, and we'll look at some Old Testament Super-Heroes, as well. We'll talk about how we can take what we've learned from their examples of Faith-in-Action into God's City (our homes, our schools, our play-places) as WE become God's Super-Heroes!

KING'S KIDS –MEMORY VERSE(S):

“Be alert. Stand firm in your faith. Be courageous. Be strong.
Let everything you do, be done in love.” 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

SIMPLE IN EVERYTHING -

I've been accused of naiveté over the years. I will admit to an almost Pollyanna trait, but I also think it helps me to see the larger picture. It seems we humans think that in order to be relevant, we need to be and make things as complicated as possible. It gives us the edge over others — we think. However, and maybe its my naiveté, I don't think that God sees us as complicated, nor do I believe that His plan is complicated. Counter-intuitively, He sent a tiny baby (uncomplicated), Who grew up into Jewish culture (original laws given by God became complicated by all the add on's), was beaten, tortured and crucified on a cross (again, because of the Jewish law and human self-rationalization). But God raised this Son from the dead. Now, we can't explain THAT except in terms of a miracle, but we certainly try to explain it away! I am SO grateful that God loved(s) us enough to offer His Son Jesus to us and for us.

I long ago gave up on New Year's resolutions, because I think I made them too complicated and far reaching to keep them. The experts say the more complicated the resolution, the less chance of actually keeping it. I wonder what a resolution that could be kept might look like. What if I changed my focus from complicated life as I know it, and work to simplify my life in all areas possible. What does that look like? Life that is used to love God and others. Life that is pared down to only the things needed in order to achieve that goal.

Here's an example of what I mean: I have a garage full of stuff that I need to get rid of and what is left needs to be cleaned and organized. Until I do that, I will be possessed by what is there and that task will always be nagging at me. Likewise, by paring down what I own and need and focusing only on the essentials that yield His peace, I will be much more useful to others and a much less anxious presence.

God's simple act of giving His Son to the world in order that He would bridge the gap between God and man has yielded eternal life beginning now. By focusing on Jesus, and filtering EVERYTHING through His eyes, He can use me to further His kingdom.

As long as I'm trying to complicate things and hold onto stuff that I don't need, I will not be ready to be used by Jesus. So this time around the calendar, my goal is to let God show me how to simplify.

To God be the Glory,

Karen

STEWARDSHIP - PER CAPITA APPORTIONMENT

The 2017 Per Capita Apportionment is \$15 for ECO. Per Capita Apportionment is paid each year by all Presbyterian congregations. Per Capita is the first major expenditure for First Presbyterian Church each year, this year amounting to \$5,500.00. Every member is encouraged to contribute their personal Per Capita Apportionment. If you received a box of offering envelopes, there is a canary envelope for your per capita donation. Special Per Capita envelopes will be located in the pews or mark your check "Per Capita".

The Per Capita Apportionment for 2018 is \$15 per active member of First Presbyterian; for a family with two active members, husband and wife, Per Capita Apportionment for the family would be \$30 (\$15 x 2).

NEED 2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES? PLEASE CALL STACEY AT THE OFFICE.

ASH WEDNESDAY

SERVICE & SOUP SUPPER, FEBRUARY 14TH

We will begin the evening with a potluck soup supper at 6:00 p.m. Pastor Bruce will lead us in worship at 7:00 p.m.

Please join us and if you are able bring a crockpot of soup and/or a loaf of bread to share between 5:30 and 6:00 p.m.



ASH WEDNESDAY



Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, a season of preparation for Easter.

UNDERSTANDING THE SEARCH TEAM PROCESS

Your Search Team wants you to understand the process that we are ALL in. The concept of a “co-pastor” is like a relay event where one pastor passes the baton to the next. The best transitions are the ones we barely see. For a slight moment both runners have the baton. In the Team’s study of Next – Successful Transitions in Pastoral ministry (available for your reading at the information desk outside the sanctuary) we have learned that churches that can undertake this “hand-off” maintain the greatest momentum in ministry with the least expense.



So, the term “co-pastor” isn’t what it could sound like. Our hope is to find our candidate sometime between January and July of 2019. If we accomplish this we would have two pastors on staff at one time as we have had in the past. The difference would be that the newest pastor would be in place to become the senior pastor in July of 2019 when Bruce retires...(and rides off into the sunset on his Harley.)

This approach is a "new product" for both pastors who are searching and for congregations, but it can be a very good one. This can work better than the interim model which is why we are using it. Another facet is that interims are expensive and in ECO, scarce.

Our plan is to stop using the "co-pastor" term and simply say we are searching for the next senior pastor. During any overlap there would be a time of transition for the sake of continuity and maintaining of momentum. We will spend less money in this model than any other. It could be that the overlap would be as little as thirty days, but it could be as much as six months. Keep in mind that the salary for the outgoing pastor would be in force for a maximum of six months, probably less.

The new pastor will know that they are the incoming senior pastor. They will gain valuable insight from the overlap that in the past has not been possible. A pastor in a new setting is overwhelmed with many big changes and really only starts to become effective after a year, (or more) of adjustment and “learning the territory”. With this transitional model we believe we can compress that time and enable the new pastor to start stronger, sooner.

We hope this helps you to understand the transition process and the benefits of a “baton pass” in keeping this very successful ministry moving as seamlessly as possible.

Please let us know if you have any questions about this or any part of the process. We need to hear from you.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Your Search Team

Barbara MacSween and Laurie Trotter-Bopko, co-chairs

Elders Rob Scanland, David Berger, Paul Douglas, Shirley Parks, and Wil Euler, Deacon Mary Berge and Jennifer Crawley

Your search team would like to hear from you:

1. Where would you like to see our congregation 5, 10 and 20 years from now?
2. What character traits are you looking for in a new pastor?
3. What specific tasks/duties should the new pastor perform?
4. If you brought someone to church what would you want him/her to hear as your pastor's highest priority?
5. What kind of church manager or pastor administrator do you want the new pastor to be?

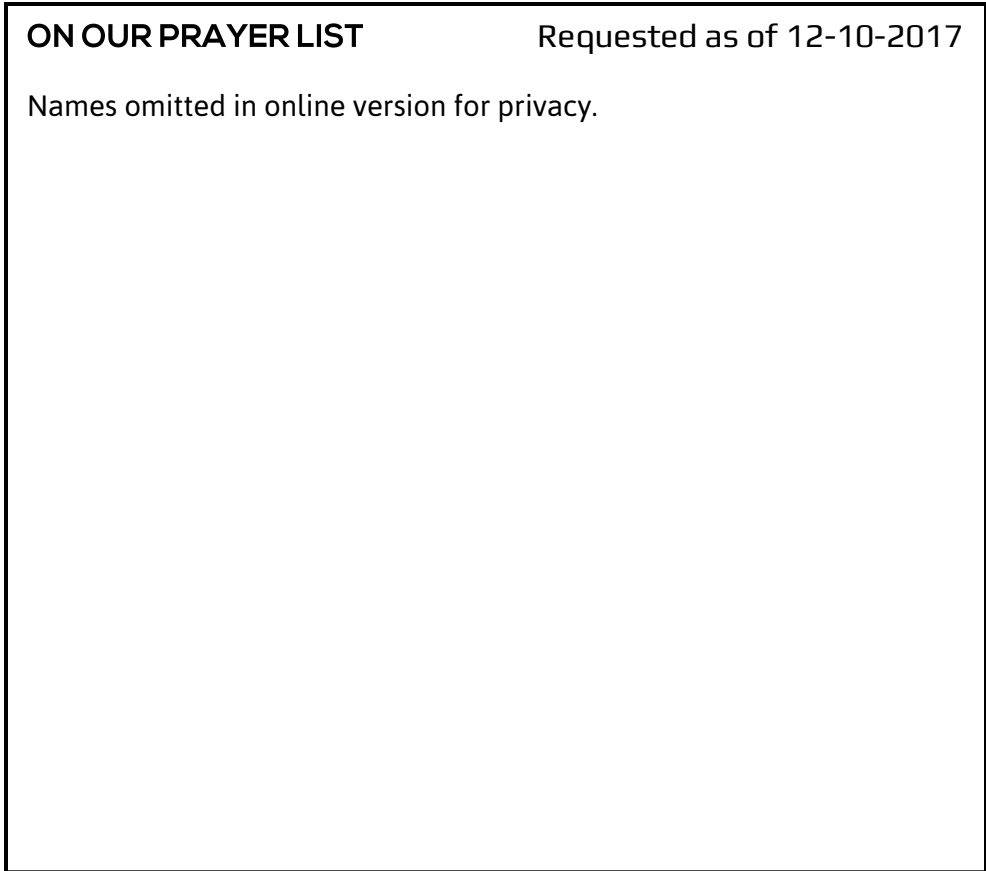


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ON OUR PRAYER LIST

Requested as of 12-10-2017

Names omitted in online version for privacy.



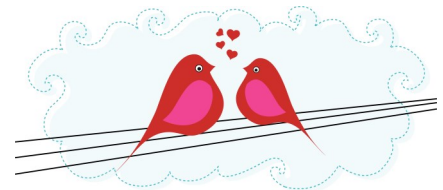
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**MARCH 2018 TRUMPET DEADLINE
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH**

Have something written or a photo to share?

Please send your 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 Winter, 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 elimination. 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 six 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. The cost is a little more than \$100 per couple or individual. Our class will meet every Monday evening from 7:00 to 8:30 in the Church Library for 9 straight weeks. We will start on January 22, 2018 and end on March 19, 2018. If you need financial assistance or babysitting, please let me know.

You will be able to sign up at church and online. You can contact me at burytone@yahoo.com or 775-750-0174. If you are not interested in attending, this course might make a great gift for a family member or young couple that is contemplating a matrimonial commitment. I look forward to joining with you this Winter as we work to become better stewards of the riches that God has blessed us with. *RLS*

Jesus was born to mend our relationship with God the Father. What better way to celebrate this perfect gift than to give a gift that will help heal the relationship between a parent and child! Angel Tree gifts were distributed to 34 children the week of December 18, 2017. The Mission Committee would like to THANK YOU for your love and generosity by giving the child of an incarcerated parent the joy of Christmas. **Angel Tree** is a program of **Prison Fellowship** and focuses on transformation in the lives of the children of prisoners by fostering reconciliation between the child, prisoner-parent and family.



Dear Church Mouse,

I just love the coffee cart!!! Do I have to have prior experience to be a church barista?

Sincerely,
Caffeine Cathy

Dear CC,








Goodness no! Most church baristas barely knew the front side of a tea kettle before they started! Baristas are always needed and the training is quick, easy, and fun! If you would like to help with the coffee cart ministry please ask one of the baristas to direct you to Candi Euler, or call her at 775-240-7049. Go make yourself a latte!

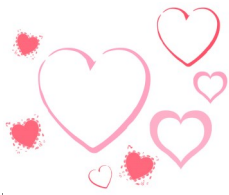
With Much Love,
The Church Mouse



JANUARY 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																								
 <p style="text-align: center;">Start the New Year Right</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">1</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">OFFICE CLOSED</div> <p>9:00 AM Exercise Lite 6:30 PM DEACONS</p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">2</p> <p>7:00 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - LA Bakery 7:00 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Library</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p>8:00 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</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p>7:00 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Joanie's Creekside Cafe</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">OFFICE CLOSED</div> <p>6:30 AM Men's Berean Bible Study, Library 9:00 AM Exercise Lite</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6</p> 																																																																																																								
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FEBRUARY 2018



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border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>6:30 AM Men's Berean Bible Study, Library</p> <p>9:00 AM Exercise Lite</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p>Desert Schooners Annual Chili Cook-off - 5:00 PM Judging, 6:00 PM Dinner</p> <div style="text-align: right;"> </div>	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p>8:45 AM Adult Sunday School</p> <p>9:30 AM NURSERY</p> <p>10:00 AM King's Kids Bible Experience</p> <p>10:00 AM Worship Service</p> <p>11:30 AM Coffee Fellowship, FLC </p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Communion</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p>9:00 AM Exercise Lite</p> <p>6:30 PM DEACONS</p> <p>7:00 PM Financial Peace University, Library</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <p>7:00 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - LA Bakery</p> <p>7:00 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Library</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <p>8:00 AM Men's Study Group @ Joanie's Creekside Cafe</p> <p>9:00 AM Exercise Lite</p> <p>9:00 AM Grace Notes</p> <p>10:00 AM & 5:30 PM BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>11:30 AM PRAYER</p> <p>7:00 PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <p>7:00 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Joanie's Creekside Cafe</p> <p>1:30 PM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Library</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <p style="text-align: center; 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THE TRUMPET

Published by the
First Presbyterian Church
 115 N. Division St.

OFFICE

306 West Musser Street
 Carson City, NV 89703
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 bruce@fpccarsoncity.org

Worship Services

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 Linda Poole.

January/February 2018 Sermons**THE FIVE "SOLAS" OF THE REFORMATION**

January 7: "Grace Alone" Romans 3:23-25, Romans 11:5-6, Ephesians 2:4-10

January 14: "In Christ Alone" Romans 8:1-3 II Cor. 5:21, Galatians 2:21, 5:2-4

January 21: "Through Faith Alone" Romans 4:4-5, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 2:8-10

January 28: "Glory to God Alone" Ephesians 1:4-6, 11-12, Romans 11:33-36, Isaiah 2:12-17

February 4: "Scripture Alone" Galatians 1:6-9, I Cor. 14:37-38, Jude 1:3-4

"LENT – THE ROMAN ROAD"

February 11: "Nothing Missing" Romans 1:6-17

February 14: Ash Wednesday 6 PM Soup Supper & 7 PM Ashes and Communion – "Because He Wants Us" – John 15:12-17

February 18: "Our Need for God" Romans 1:18-32

February 25: "What's My Excuse?" Romans 2:1-16

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