

September 2017

## From the Pastor's Workshop

# "Listening for God's Direction"

I don't know where I heard it, but the question has long stayed with me, "How old would you be if you didn't know how old you are?" I think I wrote about this, 22 years ago when I first came here. 22 years! I think it seems like a long time and then I remember my dad worked in the same aircraft plant for 38 years! NOW I know how amazing he was. Like my dad, my greatest strength is my greatest weakness – endurance – being able to keep on when weary. I think I learned something from my dad about this. There is a time to make a change for the good of all and it is good to know this well before the change is needed.

Someday this congregation will need a new pastor to lead us to the next chapter of mission. *It is time now* to start listening for God's direction for this new chapter. Your session has selected a search team with whom I will be working to discover the best way to make a transition over the next two years. Our hope is to find a co-

pastor; not an associate, but someone who would become the senior pastor when retirement comes. This model of succession has been shown to be the most effective at the end of a long and healthy pastorate.

In the 155 year history of this congregation no pastorate has had more consecutive years than the one we now find ourselves in. This has been a healthy and fruitful time of mission and ministry. It is our calling to ensure that we continue this. Your search team will be working with you; listening to you and with you for God's direction. We know that God has just the right person to continue what HE has begun.



How old would you be if you didn't know how old you are? As I said 22 years ago, I would answer, "Lots of ages", but as I listen to God, regardless of numbers, I know for God's glory and the growth of this body it will be time to pass the baton to someone else in a couple of years. What I covet, (this part of coveting is OK!) are your prayers and understanding and continued support as we undertake this search for God's direction.

Some will say, "You can't go!" (Others will say, "Oh yes he can!"). But what we need to accept is that chapters come and go. Change happens. God blesses change for his glory. When this chapter is finished we plan to stay in the community. We will still be around. I'll still be walking the dogs in the hills, but a new person will be pastoring and that is God's direction and because it is God's direction it is a very good thing.

So let's pray and give thanks. Let's dedicate the new walkway. Let's envision for the next person what the new chapter can be. God can do great things as we let ourselves be his tools. Let's keep growing and serving.

Please know this is just as positive a chapter as we have ever known and are grateful for what God has done and will do as we listen for his direction.

Faithfully yours in Christ, Bruce

# YOUTH MISSION TRIP - SUMMER 2017 YOUTH WORKS - SAN DIEGO, CA

THIS WAS OUR SECOND YEAR SERVING WITH YOUTH WORKS IN SAN DIEGO! WE INVITED HILLTOP CHURCH YOUTH TO JOIN US, SO ALL TOGETHER WE HAD 22 WITH US ON THIS TRIP. THIS WAS A LIFE SHAPING EXPERIENCE AS WE WERE ABLE TO SERVE AND FELLOWSHIP WITH HOMELESS FAMILIES, WE VISITED THE TIJUANA/SAN DIEGO BORDER, WE WORKED IN 100-DEGREE WEATHER AT THE CHALLENGE RANCH, WE VISITED PARKS AND BEACHES, WE WORSHIPPED JESUS AND STUDIED HIS WORD TOGETHER AND WE LAUGHED AND BONDED TOGETHER FOR 20 HOURS IN A VAN!























### 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

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

Kids will begin in Worship and be dismissed upstairs to the Throne Room.



This school year, as King's Kids study the King's Book, the Bible, we'll be looking at the faith of God's Super-Heroes, then taking what we've learned into God's City (our homes, our schools, our play-places) as WE are becoming God's Super-Heroes! DAVID is our Bible Super-Hero for September. We'll see how David was a hero for God and we'll look at his example of Faith-in-Action for us.

# KING'S KIDS BIBLE EXPERIENCE – FALL 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

# REFORMED THEOLOGY

Friends, I received this from my friend, Dr. James Goodloe IV that describes how our citizenship is first and foremost in God's Kingdom. Our world is struggling because it is not recognizing this. May we be reminded by these ancient words, what it means to reflect citizenship in the City of God. ~ *Bruce* 

#### Dear Bruce.

Augustine (A.D. 354-430), pastor and theologian, helped guide the church and the empire through the fall of the capital city of Rome.

Consider what he wrote comparing and contrasting the (temporal) city of man and the (eternal) city of God:

"Although there are many great peoples throughout the world, living under different customs in religion and morality and distinguished by a complex variety of languages, arms, and dress, it is still true that there have come into being only two main divisions, as we may call them, in human society: and we are justified in following the lead of our Scriptures and calling them two cities. There is, in fact, one city of men who choose to live by the standard of the flesh, another of those who choose to live by the standard of the spirit. . . .

"We see then that the two cities were created by two kinds of love: the earthly city was created by self-love reaching the point of contempt for God, the Heavenly City by the love of God carried as far as contempt of self. In fact, the earthly city glories in itself, the Heavenly City glories in the Lord. The former looks for glory from men, the latter finds its highest glory in God, the witness of a good conscience. The earthly lifts up its head in its own glory, the Heavenly City says to its God: 'My glory; you lift up my head.' In the former, the lust for domination lords it over its princes as over the nations it subjugates; in the other both those put in authority and those subject to them serve one another in love, the rulers by their counsel, the subjects by obedience. The one city loves its own strength shown in its powerful leaders; the other says to God, 'I love you, my Lord, my strength.'...

# Focusing on What Really Matters ~

Way back in April, Good Friday actually, I heard that I was going to need some surgery to get rid of cancer. At the time, I remember thinking how ironic that I should get this diagnosis on Good Friday - of all days. But I think the message from God was clear, that I needed to cut out anything that was standing in the way of my being focused on what really matters.

The Lord gave me some time to think about what is important in this life that He has called me to. And I have come to the conclusion that Christ is the only way to move toward the Father. That means all else that gets in the way toward this goal is unimportant. An account of my life will need to be made -- for me in the nearer future than perhaps some of you -- and I want my life to count for spreading the Gospel, the good news of what Christ has done on my (our) behalf. He has forgiven all my (our) sins, He has claimed my (our) life (lives) for Him, in order that I (we) might also bring that news to others through the way I (we) live and model His love for others.

You, the congregation of FPC, have been so supportive in my struggle to be healthy again. Through prayer, phone calls, texts, emails, cards and messages of love, you have communicated your wish for me to be whole and back among you. This outpouring has been felt quite keenly and it has helped me enormously to know that even though I needed to be away from you for awhile, you would welcome me back into your midst when I was strong enough. Thank you all for that and thanks be to God for His healing!

Blessings,

#### Karen

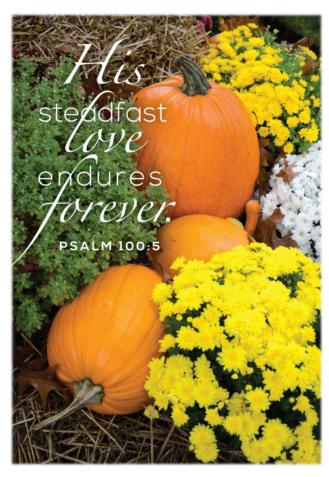
P.S. We will begin our fall programs again the first week of September. Chancel Choir will rehearse on Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> and be back to service on Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be running without a few of our regular choir folks that first month, so we need all the singers who can join us to begin in September with us. Praise Team will be back in service on Sunday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> having returned to rehearse on the last Monday of August and will continue with their rehearsals in September. We will work all the other groups and individuals that have blessed us with music in the past into our one service format as well.

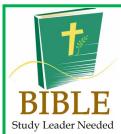


#### COME SING IN THE CHOIR!

Our choir needs some more singers! If you ask anyone who is already in the choir, they'll tell you they enjoy the camaraderie and blessing of singing for the Lord. We pray and care for each other as well as provide music for FPC's worship service. If you have interest in this please see Karen or call her at 775-721-3549. Our first rehearsal is Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. We will begin in service in October, but have music we need to learn, so join us for our September rehearsals. See you there!







The Women's Thursday afternoon Bible study group is in need of a leader. Will you prayerfully consider? They meet the second Thursday of each month but without a leader will not be able to do so.

If you are interested in leading this group, please contact Norma Summey to find out what it entails. Norma may be reached at 775-267-1917.

#### MISSIONARY NEEDS ASSISTANCE

Lu Hawley, the missionary who grew up as a member

of FPC Carson City and visited us this past spring, needs our help. Her vehicle is on its last legs and will need to be replaced in the next several months. Due to the harshness of the roads in rural Thailand, Lu's vehicle has seen challenging circumstances over several



years of mission work. Because the vehicle is hers personally, Lu is unable to raise funds for its replacement through her nonprofit sponsor; so, she is seeking direct support. If you are able to make an extra-mile contribution, checks can be made payable to Lu Hawley and deposited in US Bank account #153 656 027 379, or mailed to Mary Kalesse, 1201 E. Fulton Street #10, Newberg, OR 97132-1774.



#### "ALL TOGETHER NOW"

For some years now we have pondered whether it was time to worship year round as one congregation. There have been lots



of considerations about time, music, Christian education, and hours have been spent sorting through what will me most effective for us as a body. We have concluded that it is time to stay with one service at 10:00 AM for now through the first of the

year to see how it works. The choir will be back, the praise team will still be active, children will have Sunday school during worship, middle schoolers will have a Sunday morning program with Timothy during worship, and coffee hour will happen as it has during the summer following worship.

The reality is that with an extended summer schedule from early June into late September and our various special services we are at one hour for over a third of the year already. This brings consistency and intentionality. Our prayer is that this works well for all. Please let me know personally if this is a hardship for you. We will try this through the New Year to see how it works.

Bruce

### LOOK-NEW KITCHEN RULES

All items to be left in the refrigerator and/or freezer for over 3 days must be labeled as follows:

- 1. Date put in units,
- 2. Date to be used,
- 3. Name of person or group items belong.

Details are posted on the refrigerator/freezer units. Items not labeled will be discarded. Thank you for your assistance in keeping the units clean!



# 2018 REFORMATION RHINE CRUISE with Bruce and Nancy

It has been our privilege to help you all grow in faith by showing you the scriptures and church history in their original context. We have been to Israel with many of you. In the fall of 2018 we will be leading a Reformation tour on the Rhine River from Amsterdam to Switzerland. It will be a powerful way to commemorate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. We will visit some of the most significant places of the Reformation period including Strasbourg where John Calvin pastored for three years and Heidelberg where our beloved catechism was written. The tour is a breathtaking and inspiring experience aboard a brand new and intimate ship with only 150 passengers. There are four different tour options at each countryside port. They are all included in the price which is as low as \$2498 plus airfare. (You can use your points and do your own flight if you wish.) We are always in sight of land and the scenery is filled with history and beauty. We welcome you to join this experience and invite you to talk with us about the details of this great view of our Reformed heritage as we tour Europe in the most comfortable way possible. Pick up a brochure at church and give us a call. You will be so glad you did.

Faithfully, Bruce and Nancy



Names omitted in online version for privacy.

#### ON OUR PRAYER LIST

Requested as of 08-20-2017

Names omitted in online version for privacy.



Names omitted in online version for privacy.



Shepherd of the Sierra Lutheran Church will hold a blood drive on Sunday, September 24, 2017 from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM. Watch for posters on how to register.



# OCTOBER TRUMPET DEADLINE Friday, September 8<sup>th</sup>

Please send your articles to: dawn@fpccarsoncity.org

## **OFFICE CLOSURE**

The church office will be closed Monday, September 4<sup>th</sup> in observance of Labor Day.



"I classify the human race into two branches: the one consists of those who live by human standards, the other of those who live according to God's will. I also call these two classes the two cities, speaking allegorically. By two cities I mean two societies of human beings, one of which is predestined to reign with God for all eternity, the other doomed to undergo eternal punishment with the Devil. . . .

"One of them, the earthly city, has created for herself such false gods as she wanted, from any source she chose-even creating them out of men--in order to worship them with sacrifices. The other city, the Heavenly City on pilgrimage in this world, does not create false gods. She herself is the creation of the true God, and she herself is to be his true sacrifice. Nevertheless, both cities alike enjoy the good things, or are afflicted with the adversities of this temporal state, but with a different faith, a different expectation, a different love, until they are separated by the final judgement, and each receives her own end, of which there is no end....

"A household of human beings whose life is not based on faith is in pursuit of an earthly peace based on the things belonging to this temporal life, and on its advantages, whereas a household of human beings whose life is based on faith looks forward to the blessings which are promised as eternal in the future, making use of earthly and temporal things like a pilgrim in a foreign land, who does not let himself be taken in by them or distracted from his course towards God, but rather treats them as supports which help him more easily to bear the burdens of 'the corruptible body which weighs heavy on the soul; they must on no account be allowed to increase the load. Thus both kinds of men and both kinds of households alike make use of the things essential for this mortal life; but each has its own very different end in making use of them. So also the earthly city, whose life is not based on faith, aims at an earthly peace, and it limits the harmonious agreement of citizens concerning the giving and obeying of orders to the establishment of a kind of compromise between human wills about the things relevant to mortal life. In contrast, the Heavenly City--or rather that part of it which is on pilgrimage in this condition of mortality, and which lives on the basis of faith--must needs make use of this peace also, until this mortal state, for which this kind of peace is essential, passes away. And therefore, it leads what we may call a life of captivity in the earthly city as in a foreign land, although it has already received the promise of redemption, and the gift of the Spirit as a kind of pledge of it; and yet it does not hesitate to obey the laws of the earthly city by which those things which are designed for the support of this mortal life are regulated; and the purpose of this obedience is that, since this mortal condition is shared by both cities, a harmony may be preserved between them in things that are relevant to this condition....

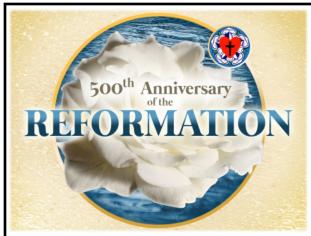
"While this Heavenly City, therefore, is on pilgrimage in this world, she calls out citizens from all nations and so collects a society of aliens, speaking all languages. She takes no account of any difference in customs, laws, and institutions, by which earthly peace is achieved and preserved--not that she annuls or abolishes any of those, rather, she maintains them and follows them (for whatever divergences there are among the diverse nations, those institutions have one single aim--earthly peace), provided that no hindrance is presented thereby to the religion which teaches that the one supreme and true God is to be worshipped. Thus even the Heavenly City in her pilgrimage here on earth makes use of the earthly peace and defends and seeks the compromise between human wills in respect of the provisions relevant to the mortal nature of man, so far as may be permitted without detriment to true religion and piety."

Augustine. Concerning the City of God Against the Pagans, translated by Henry Bettenson (London: Penguin Books, first published 1467, this translation 1972 with introduction by David Knowles, reissued with new introduction 1984, reissued with new introduction, notes, and chronology by G. R. Evans 2003), pp. 547, 593, 595, 842, 877, 878.

Think about these things.



Grace and Peace,
Dr. James C. Goodloe IV, Executive Director
Foundation for Reformed Theology
4103 Monument Ave., Richmond, VA 23230
Office/Mobile Phone: 804-678-8352



The Adult Bible School has been studying a 12-week video lecture series; by Dr. Godfrey and facilitated by Paul Douglas, of the 16th century evolution of the church which covers the "Dark Ages" period of the Protestant Reformation that is attributed to the workings of Martin Luther and John Calvin. We will be celebrating the 500th anniversary of Reformation Sunday in our congregation on October 29th. In preparation for this historic occasion, the Adult Bible Study class which meets in Fellowship Hall at 8:45 AM will begin on September 10th a 7-video series by Stephen Nichols entitled "Reformation Profiles" and facilitated by Don Churchill. In this series we will explore the 5 Sola's of Martin Luther - 1. The Authority of Scripture; 2. The Rediscovery of Grace; 3. The Rediscovery of Justification by Faith; 4. The Blessings of Christ Alone; 5. Glorifying God in Everything. The profiles to be covered include Martin Luther,

Ulrich Zwingli, Lady Jane Grey and John Calvin among others. We have plenty of room in Fellowship Hall and study guides of the 7 lectures will be provided at the start of the first class and available to those coming later so we encourage everyone who wants to discover what the Reformation is all about to join us.



#### WELCOME TO THE WWF

Not the World Wrestling Federation, not the World Wildlife Fund! It is the Worship-Work-Fellowship weekend at Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center, starting with Friday dinner, September 29<sup>th</sup>, ending after Sunday lunch, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Come join our community of workers, eaters, and singers for a weekend of growth in the Lord, fellowship and muscles. Friday evening, after dinner, we will select our work projects and have our traditional hymn sing led by the piano wizardry of Paul Weaver. Saturday morning starts with devotions and coffee at 7:00 a.m., breakfast at 7:45 a.m., followed by a day of work. Saturday evening entertainment features Kit LeFevre. Sunday morning, Paul and Kit will provide music and Dan Skinkis, former Assistant Pastor at Last Harvest Church, will deliver the message. The rest of Sunday morning can be used to finish projects or simply to enjoy being close to God in this beautiful place.

Housing (cabins) are provide at no cost, and the cost for 6 meals is \$77. Talk to your registrar about meal options. Registration is now underway. COME JOIN THE PARTY!

Other Questions? Please contact: Dave or Jan Brees at 775-883-0224 or Bob or Grace Speicher at 406-431-9073.

P.S. You are always welcome to come and work Saturday only.



# SEDIEMBED 2017



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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8:45 AM Adult Sunday School 9:30 AM NURSERY 10:00 AM King's Kids Bible Experience 10:00 AM Single Worship Service 11:15 AM Coffee Fellowship, FLC	9:00 AM Exercise Lite 6:30 PM DEACONS	7:00 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co. 7:00 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Library 7:00 PM Praise Team	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	7 7:00 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Joanie's Creekside Cafe	OFFICE CLOSED  6:30 AM Men's Berean Bible Study, Library 9:00 AM Exercise Lite  Trumpet Deadline	g
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# HIGH SCHOOL & MIDDLE SCHOOL CAMPS ZEPHYR POINT - LAKE TAHOE, NV - SUMMER 2017

WE SPENT 2 AMAZING WEEKS AT ZEPHYR POINT THIS SUMMER! BOTH WEEKS WERE FILLED WITH FUN OUTDOOR ADVENTURES, SWIMMING & DIVING IN LAKE TAHOE, PRAYING/STUDYING GODS WORD & THE MEANING OF "TOV", SINGING CAMP SONGS, PLAYING GAMES, DANCING & SINGING, AND MEETING NEW FRIENDS FROM TAHOE, TURLOCK, AND COLUSSA, CA.





















# YOUTH ADVENTURE CAMP – ROCK-N-WATER COLOMA, CA – SUMMER 2017

WE TOOK A GROUP OF 10 ADVENTUROUS PEOPLE TO A SECLUDED PLACE CALLED ROCK-N-WATER. WE SPENT 1 DAY ROCK CLIMBING, REPELLING, AND CONYONEERING, AND 2 DAYS WHITE WATER RAFTING. WE HAD AN AMAZING TIME BEING DISCONNECTED FROM ELECTRONICS, LEARNING TRUST, TEAMBUILDING, CAMPFIRE WORSHIP, AND OVERCOMING FEAR AND CHALLENGES!



















#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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#### THE TRUMPET

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The Rev. Bruce Kochsmeier bruce@fpccarsoncity.org

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 Linda Poole.

# September Sermons

September 3: "Which Door?" Deuteronomy 30:15-20

September 10: "A Great Cloud of Witnesses" Hebrews 11:29-12:1-2 – Walkway Dedication following worship with Farewell to Deacons Doug and Lynne Morton

September 17: "Silent Nights"

September 24: "Overcoming Your Shadow"

See us and "Like" us on



