Vol. 52 No. 02 March 2015

From the Pastor's Workshop

"Why Lent?"

We are in the season of Lent. It means literally the lengthening of the days; the growing light leading up to Easter in springtime. But beyond all the history lessons and even good theology, what does Lent mean? Why Lent?

I've come to the conclusion that the reason for Lent is not a discipline before it is a discovery. In Lent we are invited to be encountered by Jesus; and encountered not only in some subjective, esoteric way, but in a way that is substantial. Lent is a time of discovering who we need to be by discovering where we need to be, and perhaps NOT be.

In the Jewish Passover meal there is the saying, "Next year Jerusalem". It means more than going to Jerusalem in person. It means going to THE place God calls us to know his peace; God's sense of wellness that swallows up our darkness. So Lent leads us to where there is light. We experience this as we lean into practices of being like Jesus.

Next year we will *literally* go to Jerusalem, September 11-23, 2016 and I encourage you to consider going with us to experience the difference really walking where Jesus walked, can make. But *right now* we are able to walk where Jesus walked as we LET him show us how to encounter him.

This takes place as we do what Jesus did; we take time out to think and pray about what the Father wants us to do with our fear, our anger, our anxiety, our aging, our finances, our disappointment, our resentment, our illnesses, our heartbreaks, our relationship, our abundance, our questions, and all of life. We are encountered by Jesus when we tell him about all that we are experiencing and then LISTEN in Lent. What are we discovering about ourselves? What do we discover about God when we tell God these things? The *key* is in learning to surrender what we think we cannot let go; what we think defines us or that WE must control.

When I was little I would explore in our canyons all day. My "grown-up" version of this is rides on my motorcycle or bicycle or hikes with my dogs and daily letting God's word saturate me. I'm quite sure I don't do this enough; none of us do. I don't mean this in a critical sense, but in the sense that we don't let ourselves receive enough of God. This only comes from the stillness of letting the light of Jesus encounter all that we are facing.

Why Lent? Because we need to know what it means to love and be loved by God. And this only happens as we let ourselves be led out of the dark; to die to all solutions other than pitching our tent at the foot of the cross and learning from Jesus what it means to be at God's disposal. That is the "why" of Lent. It is really quite simple. The discipline means sitting still and giving God room to work and to show us what he has done to meet our deepest need. For each of us it will be different; and yet very much the same, because what we need is simply to be made over again, (and again and again) by the grace of the ONE who came to show us the way by giving himself to us and for us.

Next year Jerusalem? I hope so. *Today* with Jesus? I pray so. If you need a traveling partner let me know.

Yours for the Lenten journey,

Bruce

GROWING A VISION: PART 2

I would like to thank everyone who attended our Gatherings for Vision this last December and January. It was a neat opportunity for us to think about what it means to be God's people together in a relaxed setting apart from all the normal organizational structures of our church. If you would like to revisit some of the resources we used for those meetings, you can find them on our website (blog post – "Gathering for Vision Resources"). Now on to part 2!

The Vision Team

Your session and pastors are seeking to assemble a team to develop a five-year vision plan for our church. It is our hope that the team will consist of past and present session members, participants from the various committees and ministry groups of the church, and others who feel the Holy Spirit's prompting to challenge our church to match faith with action.

The Vision Team will then spend time in three stages: first seeking to *Understand* our context and calling, then shaping a *Plan* for faithfulness and disciple-making, and finally reporting back so that the church can *Enact* the plan. The Vision Team will engage with each component from a church perspective and their own individual perspective in order to keep the vision grounded and connected to real discipleship.

		Church perspective	Individual perspective	
Understand	Identity in Christ	Our church, our gospel	Personal faith story	
	Context	Our mission field	Personal calling, relationship network	
	Gathered Wisdom	Insights from other contexts	Personal engagement with learning and practices	
Plan	Priorities	Why, How, What	Personal Priorities	
	Organizational Structure	Equipping Disciples for Minis- try	Personal patterns of accountability	
	Goal Setting	Measurable objectives and timelines	Personal goal setting	
Enact	Share the Vision	Communication with congregation	Personal communication through network	
	Align Practices with Priorities	Organizational restructuring, redevelopment	Personal practices	
	Follow Through	Training, experimentation, accountability	Personal training, experimenta- tion, accountability	
	Measure	Metrics and reporting	Personal accountability	

That's a lot of information! What is it really going to look like? The Vision Team will spend time reading and studying various resources. They will also meet together as a group to **pray** and to discuss ideas, models, and personal experiences. The actual format of the team's interactions could take a lot of different shapes – whatever works best for the team. We expect that the *Understand* and *Plan* components will take most of 2015 to complete.

This will be a substantial commitment – both for the team throughout the process and the congregation as the plan is enacted. But can we settle for anything less? Discipleship is in our spiritual DNA, but we can't take faithfulness for granted. We can't just assume that we're already doing a good enough job listening for God's Holy Spirit together. Please pray for our church. Wherever we go – God has a plan for us. Let's take this opportunity to grasp and follow that plan.

Dan

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

The hearts of our children ---

On the Sunday before Valentine's Day, the King's Kids' lesson was on the Good Samaritan. We had cardstock hearts with messages printed on them, much like the candy hearts people enjoy at Valentine's Day. As each "candy heart" was chosen, we talked about how or when Jesus might say those words to US. The messages of "Forever"; "For You"; and "Friends" had pretty joyful answers. Then I held up the "heart" message "Miss You", and asked, "When might Jesus say to us, "I miss you?" Hands shot up, as kids wanted to share their answers: "When I don't come to church"; "When I don't read my Bible"; "When I don't pray". Wow! My heart was touched. These children understand the IMPORTANCE of our TIME with JESUS!

May we encourage them to GROW in this understanding, and may we learn from their young, heartfelt faith!







Jesus Walks on the Water

Valentine Celebration: "Pass the Love"

KING'S KIDS BIBLE EXPERIENCE

During Lent, King's Kids will experience a "Journey toward the Cross" – looking at events in the last week in Jesus' life.

March 1: "A House of Prayer" (Jesus clears the Temple: Mark 11:15-19)

March 8: "Fragrant Devotion" (Mary anoints Jesus: John 12:1-11)

March 15: "What a Night!" (Jesus serves the Last Supper: Luke 22:7-13 & 14-34; John 13:1-12)

March 22: "A Dark, Dark Night" (Jesus prays in Gethsemane: Mark 14:32-42)

March 29: "Tested by the Fire" (Peter denies knowing Jesus & Jesus dies for Us: Luke 22:54-62;

Matthew 26:57-79)

April 5: "He is ALIVE!" (Jesus rises from the dead)

MARCH MEMORY VERSES:

Join the King's Kids and "hide these Words in your heart"; then look for ways the Holy Spirit brings them to mind during everyday life.

"We love, because HE first loved us." 1 John 4:19

"How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God." 1 John 3:1

SAVE THESE DATES!!!!

<u>Sunday, March 15</u>: BIBLE PRESENTATION DAY (3rd graders receive their Bibles) <u>JUNE 22-26</u> (evenings): F.B.I. (<u>Faith-Building Investigations</u>) (VBX 2015)

Lord, Open My Eyes....and Ears... and Heart -

Psalm 119: 2-3 Blessed are those who keep his statutes and seek him with all their heart.

Psalm 119:18 Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law.

We have just come through Transfiguration Sunday - the day that Jesus took Peter and James and John to the mountaintop and God revealed Jesus's glory, (see Matthew 17; also Mark 9 and Luke 9). A bright cloud appears and the voice of God says to the disciples, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" In some thought, this has been considered a precursor to the resurrection. The disciples with Him get a peek at what is to come. In our church calendar, Transfiguration Sunday comes just prior to Ash Wednesday. It is a purposeful positioning as we enter Lent -- springtime -- the germination of the seed in the earth; the time of reflection of the Word in our hearts. Lent is a time we are well served in contemplating the Scriptures and seeking communion with our God.

There are many songs that speak of these things, but the two I have chosen have special significance:

In the hymn "Open My Eyes, That I May See" the writer describes a devotional time in which she asks the Lord, to give her "glimpses of truth" and "voices of truth" from Him. She also asks that the truth would be made clear to her and that she would share God's love through her interactions with others. This hymn, written by Clara H. Fiske Scott, (1841 - 1897), first appeared in her second hymnbook - Best Hymns #2, published 1895. Earlier, (1882), she became the first woman to publish religious anthems with The Royal Anthem Book. The refrain of this hymn indicates the writer's devotional life as silent and waiting, two things that seem to happen in the germination of seeds. We think nothing is happening -- but there is activity under the earth as the seed is prepared for full blossom. Clearly, being still and waiting is very important activity.

In contrast to the lilting, peaceful character of "Open My Eyes, That I May See", we have a contemporary expression that is energetically different. In "Open the Eyes of My Heart", Paul Baloche (1962 --) asks the Lord to "open his eyes" - to give him understanding of Who Jesus is. The song is based on Ephesians 1:18 "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people," Paul Baloche wrote this song after keeping a prayer journal. The song came into being while others were being ministered to at the end of a church service one Sunday. As Paul played quietly during prayer time, the words he had read in Ephesians came from his mouth. Though this song is more energetic, it, like the hymn above, is anticipatory in it's nature -- asking God to act on our heart and open us up to Him. Paul Baloche says that sometimes after we've been Christians for awhile and we are not experiencing growth as we think it needs to happen, we get frustrated with our head knowledge. We want heart knowledge and we want to see Jesus.

Full knowledge of Christ and Who He is will only come when we are at home in heaven with Him. Peter, James and John saw Jesus in a glimpse of His glory at the Transfiguration. As we ask God to open our eyes, we may see a glimpse of His Glory as well. The best way to gain heart knowledge is through prayer, study and letting the Word germinate in our hearts through meeting the Lord each day. Then our eyes will become accustomed to seeing Jesus more readily.

I pray for eyes and hearts to open during Lent,

Karen

WOMEN'S CHOIR RETURNS! We will have two rehearsals, Tuesday, March 17 at 7:00 PM and Wednesday, March 18 at 8:00 PM. The Women's Choir will present in both services on Sunday, March 22nd. Ladies, we hope you will join us as we seek to make beautiful music for our Lord!

HELP! PLEASE!

A member of our church that lives at The Lodge is in need of a ride to the early service. Sometimes she needs to use her wheelchair and sometimes she is just fine. She does have a person that helps her but; hopefully, there could be several others to help at different times. If you think that you could help please call me at 775-721-3887.

Thank you, Susan Reiser

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

To make our directory a great success we need volunteers. Cecelia and Bob Stansbury are coordinating the volunteers for our new directory. If you are interested in helping during our photography sign-ups, telephoning our members, or serving as a host or hostess during the actual photography sessions, contact Cecelia at 925-200-4360 (cell), 775-297-3866 (home) or call the office at 775-882-1032.

LIFETOUCH PHOTO DIRECTORY

Do you ever see people and wonder what their names are? Have you ever heard an announcement



regarding a member and wished you could put a face with a name? Are you a new member and wish you had something to help you put names with faces? Help is on the way! We are producing a pictorial family album! There is no cost to have your photographs taken, and you will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and directory for participating. You will be able to view your images electronically immediately after photography. At that time, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends. Watch for weekend sign-ups in April or visit our website to schedule your own appointment. We look forward to seeing you.

Photo dates April 29th and 30th, May 14, 15 and 16th.

EASTER Additions to our FPC Library (Kids' Section)

Check out these new additions, as well as other "goodies" in the library!

Books: Benjamin's Box; God Gave Us Easter; Berenstain Bears: the Easter Story

DVD: "Veggie Tales: Easter Carol"; "A Very Veggie Easter"; "Twas the Night Before Easter"

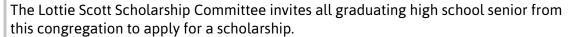
DVD: "Storyteller Café: Beyond the Manger" (Easter Episode) (younger children) When the lights are out and the door is locked, the toys come alive at the Storyteller Café! In this episode, the toys discover the true meaning of Easter.

DVD: "Lion of Judah: the Lamb that Saved the World"

The Stable-Mates leave their cozy barn and embark on a series of exploits to free their friend, the lamb Judah. During their journey, they meet The King, and see the HE is the Lamb that Saved the World.

LOTTIE SCOTT SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

Scholarship time is right around the corner. Are you graduating from high school this year? Do you know that your church has a scholarship fund?





You are eligible to receive this award if you have participated in Sunday School, youth groups or other areas of church activity. Applications may be picked up from the church office and need to be returned by Monday, April 13, 2015

All scholarship amounts are based on available income. Scholarship amounts are normally \$300 for graduating seniors. Continuing love gifts of \$100 to \$150 are given if funds are available.

Lottie Scott Scholarship Committee:

Betty Anderson, Diane Young and Bette Denning



Carson City Churches Coming Together to Serve the Community in Christ's Love, Spreading the Good News of God's Grace.

Rummage Sale

In-gathering and set-up April 23 and 24, 2015.

RUMMAGE SALE DATE: SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2015

First Presbyterian Church, Family Life Center, 306 West Musser Street

To donate items on days earlier than April 23 & 24, contact Carol Wilson, phone 775-720-3198 or First Presbyterian Church 775-882-1032. Proceeds benefit GraceWorks.

GraceWorks

Save the Dates - two days this year

- Saturday, May 16th and Sunday May 17th, 2015
- Watch for further information, when sign-ups begin
- People may sign up to work either Saturday or Sunday, or both
- Meeting place Mills Park Pavilions B & C
- From Mills Park, go out in teams to project sites
- Volunteers from several churches will be involved, working on numerous projects

For more information, contact Rob Scanland 775-742-5959, Troy Stansbury 945-918-3676, Carol Wilson 775-720-3198

DESERT SCHOONERS MARCH EVENT

Thanks to Shirley Parks in memory of Roy, Desert Schooners will meet for pizza on Tuesday, March 24



at 11:30 a.m. in the
Fellowship Hall. Ron
Roberts will delight us
again with a virtual tour of
the Nevada State
Legislature. Last year his
virtual tour was of the
Capitol. Dessert and

drinks will also be provided by the membership.

Hope you all can join us! For more information contact Sandy Ehresman at 775-885-8230.



Daylight Savings Time Begins Sunday, March 8th

Don't forget to set your clock an hour ahead on Saturday before going to bed!

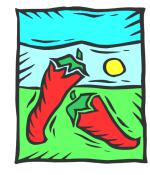
DESERT SCHOONER'S CHILI COOK-OFF APPRECIATION

Thank you, Thank you. It is impossible to thank everyone who helped make the Chili Cook-Off such a success. However, I will try. Sincere thanks goes to all who prepared such delicious chili and soup for the evening, the Back "40" Bluegrass Band for their most enjoyable music, all of the people who assumed various responsibilities which made the evening go so well, all of the volunteers who helped prepare the Family Life Center and helped clean up, everyone who brought items for the raffle and silent auction, and everyone who attended this wonderful event of the church which made the evening so enjoyable. We had a record crowd.

The winners were: first, Loraine Pierce; second, Dawn Berger; and third, Doug Morton. Congratulations to all of you. We thank everyone who brought chili to be judged and those who brought chili just to be sure we had enough.

It was a wonderful evening of fun and fellowship in our church.

Chuck Beattie, Chairman Chili Cook-Off Committee



WANTED

Building and Grounds has removed the tables, chairs and trash on Sunday after coffee hour. For some time, this task has fallen on only a couple of people. We are looking for volunteers to serve on a rotating schedule. If you are willing to be a part of this effort we would greatly appreciate it.

Please contact Dennie Young at 775-671-7974 or Ken Pearson at 775-721-7373 to be added to the rotation list.

Thank you.

Buildings and Grounds Committee



At First Presbyterian Church of Carson City

Palm Sunday - March 29

Join us at either 9:00 a.m. or 10:45 a.m. as Pastor Bruce leads us into worship celebrating Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

Maundy Thursday Service of Tenebrae and Potluck Soup Supper - April 2

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 bring your soup and/or bread to share between 5:00 and 6:00 p.m.

The Service of Tenebrae marks Christ's time in the Garden of Gethsemane, where he prayed and prepared to go to the Cross. At the close of the service, the pastors gradually extinguish candles while reading passages from the Gospels, and the service ends in darkness and silence.

Good Friday, Stations of the Cross - April 3

Our Stations of the Cross team has decided to change up the format for our Good Friday experience this year. Instead of the open house-format exhibit that we have had for the past three years, we will be showing movies that depict Good Friday at various times throughout the day.

Good Friday is an incredibly part of Holy Week and Easter. How can we appreciate the significance of the empty tomb if we have not first witnessed our Lord on the cross, suffering in our place? "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." Moreover, Good Friday gives us an opportunity to present a part of the gospel story in a new and different format – especially one suited for our non-Christian friends. Please stay tuned for more details and consider how you might invite someone to watch a movie this Good Friday.

Easter Sunday - April 5

Join us to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus! Two services are offered. Our contemporary service begins at 9:00 a.m. and our traditional service at 10:45 a.m.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

MARCH 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8:30 AM NURSERY 9:00 AM & 10:45 AM Worship 9:00 AM Kings 's Kids Bible Experience 9:00 AM Sunday School - Adult 4:30 PM MS Youth Group 5:30 PM HS Youth Group	9:00 AM Exercise Lite 6:00 PM Basketball 6:30 PM DEACONS	6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co. 6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Library 9:00 AM Grace Notes Lite 1:00 PM Staff	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	6:30 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Carson Station	6:30 AM FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP, Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Exercise Lite	7
8:30 AM NURSERY 9:00 AM & 10:45 AM Worship 9:00 AM Kings's Kids Bible Experience 9:00 AM Sunday School - Adult 4:30 PM MS Youth Group 5:30 PM HS Youth Group	9:00 AM Exercise Lite 6:00 PM Basketball	6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co. 6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Library 9:00 AM Grace Notes Lite 6:00 PM MISSION COMMITTEE 7:00 PM ALL COMMITTEES	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	12 6:30 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Carson Station 1:30 PM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY	073 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 AM FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP, Fellowship Hall 9:00 AM Exercise Lite	14
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			Belize Mission Trip			
Palm Sunday/Deacon Sunday 8:30 AMNURSERY 9:00 AM& 10: 45 AM Worship 9:00 AM Kings's Kids Bbb Experience 9:00 AM Sunday School - Adult 4:30 PM MS Youth Group 5:30 PM HS Youth Group	9:00 AM Exercise Lite 6:00 PM Basketball	31 6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co. 6:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Library 9:00 AM Grace Notes Lite	S M T 1 2 3 8 9 10 15 16 17	4 25 26 27 28	Apr 2015 S M T W T F 1 2 3 5 6 7 8 9 10 12 13 14 15 16 17 19 20 21 22 23 24 26 27 28 29 30	4 11 18

ON OUR PRAYER LIST

Requested as of 02-18-2015

Names omitted in online version for privacy.



Names omitted in online version for privacy.



March Anniversaries

Names omitted in online version for privacy.

A GREAT GIFT OF MUSIC for

reflection from harmonica artist
Tommy Morgan is his CD collection
called "Songs of Faith". These gentle
renditions of classic hymns are
perfect for listening to when you
need to be still. Tommy has gifted
these to the congregation. A
suggested donation is \$15 which will
help support all we do for God's
glory. This CD is available in the
church office or in the narthex.

NEXT YEAR JERUSALEM

Is it really possible that YOU may be walking in the footsteps on Jesus next year? It has been possible for over 100 people in this congregation and I would love for it to happen for you. If God has given you the physical and fiscal capability I hope you will consider this opportunity for a HUGE step of spiritual growth. Especially if you have thought you would or could never go, I hope you will come spend an hour with Nancy and me as we present what this pilgrimage holds. On Tuesday March 24 we will gather to walk you through a time in the Holy Land at 3:00 PM and again at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship hall. Our tour will be September 11-23, 2016. The cost including airfare will be \$4296. We will fly non-stop to Israel from Los Angeles. We know you will enjoy this photo and word presentation and hope it will help you to consider next year in Jerusalem.

FOR YOUR REFERENCE

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848-0596 (cell), 883-2472 (home)bruce@		Nina Davis	
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		Lon wyke, Zone 11	313-0000
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Mary Lou Pawley		poursonput to @ morneon.	
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Clerk of the Session Mary Burgoon Spradley, Class of 2016	215 0002	·	
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Christian Education Adult		Thursday Mornings "Allen Wilson" Group	
Carol Noriega-Paz, Class of 2015	883-1170	Friday Mornings in Fellowship Hall	882-1032
Evangelism & Outreach & Fellowship			
Sherri Chenin, Class 2015	230-0926	Mid-week Adult Bible Study 10 a.m. & 5:30 p.m.	
Dan Luke, Class of 2017		The Rev. Bruce Kochsmeier	882-1032
Missions	. —	Mamania Mid It Dible Canali	
Kellie Butterworth, Class of 2016	721-0727	Women's Mid-week Bible Study	005 0004
Faye Wheeler, Class 2017		Charlotte Fenlon	885-8894
Personnel		Woman's Tuesday Pible Study	
Bob Stroh, Class of 2017	825-1224	Women's Tuesday Bible Study	002 (420
Worship & Music		Barbara Kowal (San Rafael)Charlene Rodman (Church Library)	0420-500
Wilbur Euler, Class of 2017		Chartene nouman (Church Library)	401-3339
John Bullis, Class of 2015	882-6195	Bell Choir Director	
Youth Elders		Paul Weaver	223-1775
Chase McAninch and Jack Warwick		I dat VV Cav CI	T/73
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The Rev. Dan Aument dan@fpccarsoncity.org

Worship Services 9:00 AM & 10:45 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.

March Sermons

March 1: "Worthy Is the Lamb" Revelation 5

March 8: "Deep Healing" James 5:13-20 (Daylight Savings)

March 15: "Turning the Tables" John 2:13-22

March 22: "Dying to See Jesus" John 12:20-33

March 29: "The Ride of Our Lives" John 12:12-19 Palm Sunday

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