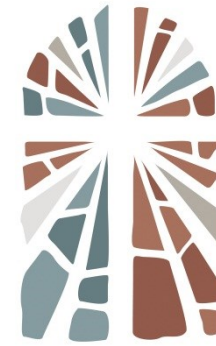


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# The Trumpet

The Newsletter of the First Presbyterian Church of Carson City

Vol. 56 No. 05

June/July 2019

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## From the Pastor's Desk

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We celebrate Pentecost on June 9 this year. Most people remember Pentecost by wearing red and thinking about the "divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them." (Acts 2:3) We think of it as a powerful manifestation of the Holy Spirit among believers. All that is accurate. Where I would like to point your attention, however, is to what happened: they spoke in many languages – yes, that is incredible to contemplate – about "God's deeds of power."

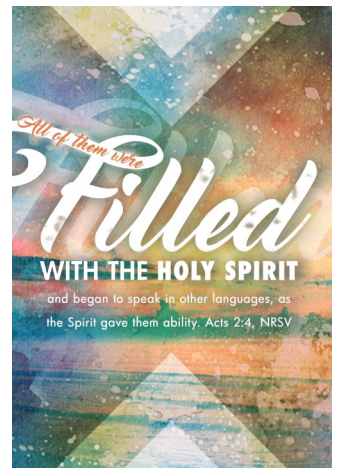
God's deeds of power.

As we prepare to celebrate and give thanks to God for the ministry Bruce and Nancy have had with this congregation, I encourage you to think about what you have seen God do in and through their faithfulness and obedience. For example, Bruce and I were talking about preaching the other day. We both have had the experience of people thanking us for something we said during the sermon – and being confident that we said nothing close to what the person heard. It is such an amazing thing to realize that the **Spirit God** is at work in the midst of the proclamation of the gospel to meet people where they are. Although I have not seen literal tongues of fire over those people who have been touched, I am confident that the same Holy Spirit is at work. Now, let me ask you this: where and how have you seen God minister through Bruce and Nancy? It could have been something personal with you or with someone else, or more broadly with the congregation. I encourage you to take a few moments in the next weeks to dwell on this question. Make a note of what comes to mind so that you can share that with them – how they have been used to bring glory to God.

Think about where God has touched your life. What are the mountaintop moments you have had? Where have you been – minding your own business – when all of a sudden God showed up, intervened, stopped you short, or disrupted your plans? How did you react? What happened next? Now, let me ask you this: when was the last time you told someone else about God's deeds of power in your life?

Consider how God has touched the lives of people you have known. As I spend time with you, I am impressed by the ways God has met you where you are, God has opened doors for you, God has carried you through trials, and how God has done marvelous deeds of power among you. It is incredibly encouraging to me to hear these things. It strengthens my faith to know that you all share the grace that we have received from God in Jesus Christ. Now, let me ask you this: have you asked others about where and how God has touched their lives with deeds of power? You do not have to use those specific words, but it is important to ask the question. You need to hear and they need to tell.

For me, God changed my life in the midst of a confirmation class when I was in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. There was no dramatic event. I was sitting there minding my own business, going through the process that everyone went through. I had grown up in the church. My parents were insistent that we always go to church. The natural expectation was that I would join the church. But as the class sessions were dwindling down and the time was coming that I would face the session to be examined for membership, I had an epiphany. Literally. I was overwhelmed with the sense that I should not and could not join the church unless I could honestly and sincerely profess Jesus Christ as *my* Lord and Savior. Oh, I was confident that I knew the right answers and could respond to the session's questions, but this was different. God made it clear to me that knowing the right



(continues next page)

## THE TRUMPET

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10:00 AM

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Trumpet and Sunday Bulletin articles can be sent to margo@fpccarsoncity.org and may be edited for space. See calendar for due dates. Trumpet mailing prepared by a team led by Linda Poole.

## This Month's Sermons

### JUNE

June 2: "Come to Worship" Psalm 100

June 9: "On the Other Side" John 21:1-14

June 16: "An Invitation to Give" 2 Samuel 24:18-25

June 23: "Feed My Sheep" John 21:15-25

June 30: "Read Scripture" 2 Timothy 3:10-17

### JULY

July 7: "Do This" 1 Corinthians 11:17-34

July 14: "Keep Going" Philippians 3:1-16

July 21: "The Beginning" Mark 1:1-11

July 28: "The Desert" Mark 1:12-13

See us and  
"Like" us on



**From the Pastor's Desk** *(continued)*

stuff was not what He sought; what God sought was me. I did not see a literal tongue of fire; but there is no question in my mind that it was God's Holy Spirit convicting me of my sinfulness and claiming me as Christ's own.

Friends, the true miracle of Pentecost was how amazed people were when disciples "spoke about God's deeds and power." In the telling, God's Holy Spirit moved and convicted hearts. It happened then and it still happens today.

Your brother in Christ,

**Bob**



**From Bruce's Workshop**

Dear Friends,

This is not a formal greeting before it is a statement of deep gratitude. You are our FRIENDS. A pastor and his family could not be more gifted than to get to walk the journey of following Jesus with you as partners.

Many of you have kindly said, "You can't go!" or "What will you do?" Well, fortunately we don't HAVE to go in the distance sense, but we will be trying to use our little RV a LOT more. We are in a new chapter of understanding pastoral boundaries. Gone are the days of sending the outgoing pastor to "East Egypt" or out to sea on an ice floe...though I'm sure both have occurred to Nancy! We are going to continue to live in Carson City and after a time we will ease back into your midst. I plan to help Dennis Richardson with the lawn and Ken Pearson with the thousand things he does. There will be no shortage of things to do that will keep Nancy and me growing and grateful.



But our lives and roles will be different. This will be very good for ALL of us. Nancy and I started thinking of this long ago when I went to San Diego to run the Marathon. The day before the race we toured the aircraft carrier, USS Midway. While there, we were privileged to witness a change of command ceremony taking place on the flight deck. The incoming commanding officer addressed the current command by saying, "I relieve you of your command;" to which the current command replied, "I stand relieved." The words were stirring. The seamless nature of continuous leadership was profound.

This is what God is doing here. God is THE Commanding Officer. He is directing the order of command in this setting so that through us ALL, God's mission continues without interruption or loss of momentum. In July I will hand the baton to Pastor Bob and "stand relieved." The best thing we can do together is to let this happen with joy and enthusiasm for what GOD IS DOING in bringing about this change.

You all have done a great job in welcoming Bob and Jen. The key now will be to look to Bob and the session for direction as they continue to lead us in God's mission.

It has been a wonderful 24 years for Nancy and me to serve you. We rejoice in getting to continue to be part of what God has in store down the road. You have blessed us in so many ways. We came here with a young daughter, "Katie" who you have been part of nurturing into "Kate" who is one of the outstanding young nurses in Nevada. You have let us be who we are and celebrated this with us and SIX DOGS, (not all at one time!). We have cherished every moment we have had to serve Jesus Christ with you. And we will continue to cherish what God has in store for us all. Thank you is just a beginning as we celebrate that the road home goes ever on in God's faithfulness.

To God alone be the glory,

**Bruce**

**Another Successful Workday at Zephyr Point!**



God planned for an absolute sunny and beautiful day for our workday at Zephyr Point. Thanks to these volunteers for their participation on May 11: Don and Debbie Audet, Rachel Conrad, Jane and John Hancock, Corey Johnson, Mark Jones, Cindy McEwan, Roger Merz, Vicki and Ken Pearson, Susan Secoy and John Reiser, Rob Scanland, George Stanton, Marian and Bob Stroh, Karen and John Tierney, and Krae Waller.



ZP maintenance is so grateful for the work all of you have done to them. Without volunteers, their job would be overwhelming. Work accomplished included flowerbed weeding and planting, planting flowers in the hanging planters and pots, building a rose garden planter, planting rose bushes, creating a walkway planter/divider, and staining and making wooden benches.



If you missed volunteering this time, mark your calendars for the Fall Work Weekend scheduled for Friday, September 6 – Sunday, September 8. This will be a beautiful time to enjoy Lake Tahoe, enjoy fellowship with members of FPC, and be in spiritual communication with God. More information to follow as plans move forward!



Would you like to get to know your church friends better? If so, sign up for a Friendship Supper. It is a small get-together—just 7 or 8 people—in individual homes to share food, fun and fellowship. The first one this year will be **Saturday, June 22**. Sign up at Coffee Hour with Diane Young or Sandy Ehresman. For more information call Sandy Ehresman via the church office at 882-1032.

**Kings Kids and their families will be having a pizza party celebration in June. Whet your appetite and stay tuned for details in the near future!**



**Deacon Food Pantry:** We are so blessed that we are able to provide food for so many in our community who are struggling. The need is great, and even though we don't have a lot of storage space, we would welcome any help you could provide. If you would like to donate, think about providing something that can be eaten without adding anything to it, such as canned chili, fruit, spaghetti, canned meats, etc. Peanut butter and jelly are popular with young mothers struggling to feed a family. Packaged breakfast items and granola bars are also welcome. If you have any questions, please call Nina Sattely at 775-220-3982. and leave a message.



All are welcome to attend the Desert Schooner's Picnic, **Saturday, August 3 at 1PM** in the front yard of the Ehresman's, 1612 N. Nevada St. A barbecue will be provided. Bring your own meat to grill and a dish to share. Table service and drinks will be provided. For more information contact Sandy Ehresman, via the church office at 882-1032.

**A HUGE THANK YOU  
Drum roll please - \$2,234.60**

That is what all of you brought in with your coins and checks donated to the worthy cause of Life Choices Community Pregnancy Clinic. The baby bottle campaign is fun and makes a difference in the lives of mothers and dads needing counseling, help and encouragement as they chose to keep their babies. Thank you to all who participated in this event. *Your Mission Committee*





Names omitted in online version for privacy

**ON OUR PRAYER LIST**

Names omitted in online version for privacy  
Please pray for family and friends

Requested as of May 19, 2019



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It's almost time for Ace-ball! Faith and Family Night is August 16th.  
Sign ups for the Aces Faith and Family Night event will begin in the near future!

**FAITH AND FAMILY NIGHT WITH THE RENO ACES**



**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**

...Experiencing GOD... Experiencing the BIBLE... Experiencing COMMUNITY...



**A Note from Nancy:**

What a **JOY** it has been to lead kids into knowing Jesus personally, for the past 23 years! Kids are SO receptive to hearing the Good News of God's love for them, shown in the life, death and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ! These photos of the kids "standing at the empty tomb in Jerusalem" are my prayer for them – that they will continue to grow in knowing and loving Jesus, and that someday they'll walk the literal, physical paths and streets that Jesus walked. I thank God for the growth and FUN that I have experienced in leading Kids' Ministry. Thanks to all who have partnered with me over these years (that includes Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings, 20 VBS staffs(!), etc.) And thanks to all of you for the many ways you've shown your support over these years! Paul said it perfectly:

*"I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:3-4*

---- Blessings, and much love, **Nancy**



**KING'S KIDS BIBLE EXPERIENCE**

We'll be looking at and learning The Lord's Prayer throughout this Spring.

**Our Theme Verse:**

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



## Sing!

**Colossians 3:16-17** — “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. 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. (ESV)

Have you ever wondered why humans sing? There are some everyday, practical reasons to sing that include the effects that singing has on the brain: oxytocin increases; cortisol decreases in the body, and this may be a remedy to loneliness, stress and even depression. Thus, research has uncovered what God built into us. The Great Physician, knew that singing would benefit us as well as please Him. When you sing in a group, such as a choir or congregation, there is a sense of social connectedness and in our case as Christians, a sense of being connected to our God, the global Church and one another.

Some may shy away from singing in the congregation, and might rather sing in the shower, in the car, or while running a vacuum, or other noisy equipment. Some may also not want to sing at all. Music is a “gift of God”, but not just to those that excel in making it. It has great power for those who listen to it, sing it, perform it and join in writing it. There are those who say, “Well, I don’t have a voice, or I can’t sing.” God takes pleasure in hearing your voice among the worshippers, even if you think you can’t sing! In the Scriptures, God commands His people to sing. It is one of the most frequently repeated commands. God is very interested that we sing to Him, as well as what we sing to Him.

The Reformers were keen to have God’s words be set to music for their worship services. Calvin recognized that the power of music is for “recreating man and giving him pleasure.” He also noted that the songs need to be worthy of the God whom they praise, and therefore recommended that the words of the song be God’s own. Regarding the tunes, he stated they should have weight and majesty, and not like those one would use to “entertain at table.”

There are three sections to this Colossians passage that I note: (Part 1) “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom.” (Part 2) “...singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God.” (Part 3) “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.”

By singing the Psalms, we can better learn scripture. When singing in the congregation, we are teaching and witnessing to each other in the wisdom of God’s words. We are also ministering to each other by raising up the Lord Jesus Christ through our deeds - specifically in this case by singing with and to each other, the truths of Scripture.

Come, join in the praise of our God, using psalms, hymns and spiritual songs as we grow together in God’s Word.

Gratefully..

**Karen**



**ATTENTION CHOIR** - The Chancel Choir will rehearse on **Tues. 7/9 & Wed. 7/10** at 7:00 PM. We will be preparing for a very special event. Please call Karen and let her know your status for the rehearsals and the event.

## PLEASE REMEMBER

Summer will be here soon. Our thoughts are on vacations - time to get away. So this is just a reminder that your church family will still be here when you return.

Please remember your giving for the summer months. These are the months that giving is down but our expenses continue.

We thank you for your faithfulness to First Presbyterian Church and its missions.

The Stewardship Committee



You're Invited to a



**SAVE THE DATE—SATURDAY, JULY 13**

**STARTING AT 4:00 PM**

**IT'S A BBQ CELEBRATION & TIME FOR  
GIVING THANKS TO GOD FOR THE MINISTRY**

**OF BRUCE AND NANCY**

**DETAILS TO FOLLOW SOON!**



### Parting Shots from Bruce’s Book and Film Library

Over the years many of you have asked me about favorite books and films; particularly ones that have shaped my faith. I try to keep a running list, but I find there are some I go back to again and again. I share the following with you not because it is definitive but because I hope it will help you start a list of your own. We never stop growing and thankfully there are great resources that are there to read and watch again and again to help us along the way.

#### Books

The Bible. About six years ago when we read through the Bible together as a congregation I was captured by the process. I find I need this every day. I encourage you to get a Bible that helps with daily readings for a year. If you are an internet user Biblegateway.com is a great free resource with a zillion different versions to choose from. Try a new one every year.

- CS Lewis: Virtually everything he has written, but Mere Christianity is a must. Biblegateway.com will send you a reading from Lewis every day. I read one each morning.
- Timothy Keller: Again, anything he has written but make sure Hidden Christmas and The Reason for God at the top of the list.
- Eugene Peterson: A Long Obedience in the Same Direction. A great guide to the journey that is always.
- Lewis Smedes: The Art of Forgiving. It really is an art and Dr. Smedes gets this beautifully.
- Charles Spurgeon: Morning and Evening. An amazing devotion edited by my favorite preacher, Alistair Begg.
- John Steinbeck's "About Ed Ricketts" found in the introduction to his book: Log From the Sea of Cortez. This essay has so much to teach us about the grace of learning to like who God made us.
- Diogenes Allen: Traces of God in a Frequently Hostile World. This man taught me so much at Princeton and this little book is filled with his gems. Also by him: Three Outsiders.
- John Calvin: Institutes of the Christian Religion. The 1541 translation by Elsie McKee is very readable and a cornerstone of explaining God’s sovereign grace.
- Karl Barth: The Word of God and the Word of Man. This is readable Barth that is compelling. Many of the chapters are devotions he gave in prison.
- JI Packer: Knowing God. SO many Christian leaders read this every year. Very readable.
- Charles Swindoll: So You Want to Be Like Christ. Anything by Chuck is great. This one hangs on to you.

There are so many more...but as I say, this is just to get you started on a list of your own.

#### Movies...in no particular order

- Harvey: James Stewart. ANY Jimmy Stewart. A fine Presbyterian elder.
  - Billy Graham – “God’s Ambassador” and “Billy Graham – An Extraordinary Journey” (Both are in the church library)
  - Cinema Paradiso (director’s cut, 45 minutes longer, different ending)
  - The “Voyage of the Dawn Treader,” “The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe” (CS LEWIS)
  - Forest Gump (Any Tom Hanks)
  - Shawshank Redemption, The Green Mile, Stand By Me, (Stephen King gets the need for redemption because he understands the broken nature of the human condition.)
  - The Jerk – Don’t miss this! – funny but poignant
- |                             |                     |                  |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Field of Dreams             | Seabiscuit          | The Natural      | The Mission         |
| Open Range                  | Saving Private Ryan | Saving Mr. Banks | Big                 |
| The King’s Speech           | Lincoln             | Churchill        | Lilies of the Field |
| Chariots of Fire            | The Kid             | Hoosiers         | Breaking Away       |
| As Good as It Gets          | Rudy                | Dave             | On Any Sunday       |
| Love with a Proper Stranger | Murphy’s Romance    | Papillion        | Schindler’s List    |

Now, if you read and watch all these you’ll never know I left. By the time you’re done years will have passed.

God bless you my Dear Friends!

**Bruce**