Vol. 51 No. 07

September 2014

From the Pastor's Workshop

## "The Glory of Precision"

I love things made with precision. It means someone really cared. You and I were made with precision because God really cared. (I know...we wonder if parts *of us* aren't ready for a recall from the factory!)

My dad was a great craftsman. Whatever he did was precise. His welds were a work of art as was anything he made from wood or any engine he rebuilt. My mom was a theologian and teacher. Her lessons were crafted from precise study. She examined God's word and delivered truth carefully extracted from it. I still have recordings of her in which you can hear the measured exactness in her voice. The apples don't fall far from the tree. My sister is a lawyer. She learned precision from our parents such that the work she does reflects a devotion to making sure what she does is true and exact. She knows people are depending on what she does. We learned this from our parents too.

The apostle Paul was a lawyer and a theologian. I know it delighted our parents that my sister's and my calling reflected both of these elements of service because they believed in doing things precisely. I'm not talking about precision for precision's sake, but for the sake of the beauty of truth. When there is truth and something is well done it is dependable. You can count on it.

God's word is precise. It says what it means and means what it says. It can be depended upon. Anyone who has built a life upon trusting God's word is evidence of this. Ask them about the beauty of precision in God's word. You will hear of peace that passes understanding.

The precision with which the Bible reveals God to us is an example of this beauty. The biblical (Greek) word for "reveal" is "doxa" which we translate "glory" and from which we get "doxology." The glory of precision is that when we are letting it work in our lives; when we are depending on God's word, it leads us to know God. When we do not have precision in handling God's word we allow for ambiguity. Precision calls for us to "...lay aside every weight and sin that clings so closely" so that we are "looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfector of our faith." (Hebrews 12:1-2). To avoid ambiguity is to learn to let the precision of God's word be that "sharp sword" (Hebrews 4:12) that separates us from the false premises of this world that will only destroy us spiritually.

John said that Jesus was THE Word; that he precisely is God in the flesh who brings life as no one or nothing else can do. As we enter this fall season, having completed "The Story" we are going to spend the next months looking at the precise statements that show the dependability of God's word. This is called "apologetics." It refers to the reasonable nature of why belief in the promises of God is not a "leap in the dark," but rather a dependable and precise way of knowing eternal peace.

I pray you will make it a point of joining us and bringing friends who have left Christianity untried, to worship and weekly study. There is a powerful beauty that will be revealed as we explore the dependability of God's word together.

Faithfully yours in Christ,

Bruce

CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 14. See back page for details.

# Giving Thanks for Summer

Summer 2014 has come and gone, and it was a good one. I am incredibly thankful for the relationships that grew within our youth ministry over the last few months. Summer camp at Zephyr Point was definitely the highlight. We had seven middle school and ten high school students participate! Many were able to attend thanks to the generosity of the church and the Desert Schooners. Thanks all around!

New and deeper relationships are important, because Fall is here and our calling awaits. "We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ" (1 John 1:3 NIV). Through the power of the Holy Spirit, the same love and compassion that moved Christ to draw near to us now works within us to motivate us to reach out to the people around us. We know something, *someone*, they do not – by grace and not by any special merit of our own – and God has chosen to introduce his son to the world through our lives and testimonies.

This Fall our goal for youth ministry is to build on the momentum of summer and the last few years. We will have separate youth group times (both on Sunday evening) for grades 6-8 and 9-12 for the first time. Our numbers allow for it and the change will help us focus on being faithful in two different settings. But all this growth and development is not for our sake or our glory – it is for the sake of the youth we have yet to meet, who have yet to meet Christ through us. Please pray for us. Pray for our volunteers. Pray that the Holy Spirit would help us make use of every connection to bring glory to Jesus.

#### Dan

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Ephesians 2:8-10





# THE KING'S KIDS - SEPTEMBER



...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

We're back to two Worship services on September 21, with King's Kids' Bible Experience at 9:00 a.m. See you there, as we adventure through the King's Book!

This whole year, we'll be looking at JESUS' life – His miracles, His teaching and His great love for us!

September 7: Jesus cares about me! (Jesus attends a wedding in Cana: John 2:1-12)
September 14: (Jesus meets Nicodemus at night: John 3:1-22)
September 21: Well Done! (Jesus meets the woman at the Well: John 4:1-38)

September 28: Rejected in Nazareth (Jesus is rejected: Luke 4:16-30)



#### **VERSES**

Learn these together as a family; and watch for everyday experiences when God brings a verse to mind for a practical application!

"Cast all your cares upon Him, for He cares for you."

1 Peter 5:7

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

1 John 3:1 -and-

The Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John



WE WILL NOT RETURN to two worship services until Sunday, September 21. Session has decided to extend our summer worship hours through September 14. Beginning September 21, blended worship service will start at 9:00 a.m. with the traditional service commencing at 10:45 a.m.

#### WOMEN'S THURSDAY AFTERNOON BIBLE STUDY

**GROUP** will begin their 2014/15 study on September 11 in the church library at 1:30 p.m. They will be studying "PARABLES, The Greatest Stories Ever Told" by John White. This group meets the second Thursday of every month. For further information please contact Charlotte Fenlon at 775-885-8894.

#### **CHOICES**

Yes, Ladies, we do like choices, and for you we have two Bible study groups:

**Location 1** is at San Raphael Coffee Company. This group will be reading the book *Miracles* by Tim Stafford.

**Location 2** is meeting in the church library and is studying the book of James.



Both Studies are on Tuesday at 6:30 a.m. All are welcome to join these groups for fellowship, prayer and spiritual growth.

# God IS My Rock -

With each new day comes God's mercies in our waking and rising. God is faithful and sovereign. When I think of Jesus' parable of building a house on rock or sand and how overwhelming the floods are, I'm reminded that to build on rock will provide the foundation that I need. God is my rock. He's the One I run to with praise and thanksgiving and also with my cares and concerns. He's the only one who will never let me down! Humans - as well meaning as we can be-- will let me down. Sometimes I even let myself down. But God will not let go of me, and because of that, He can't let me down. It's good to have something solid upon which to base one's life. If we're left to our own devices, we too easily self-destruct.

David struggled with some of these same issues, so when he found himself delivered from the hands of King Saul he wrote, "2 The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge, my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold" (Psalm 18: 1-3). In Psalm 61: 1-3, he wrote, "1 Hear my cry, O God; listen to my prayer. 2 From the ends of the earth I call to you, I call as my heart grows faint; lead me to the rock that is higher than I. For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe." And in Psalm 73: 26, "My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever." (NIV)

The praise song "God My Rock" has lyrics based on all three psalms. It speaks of our human frailty and the strength of God.

When my heart is overwhelmed, I will look to You alone God my rock, God my rock, God my rock. You will stand when others fall; You are faithful through it all, God my rock, God my rock.

In the blessing, in the pain, through it all, You've never failed me. You are the strength of my heart, You are the strength of my heart, I can rely on You.

I can rely on You.

When I've struggled to believe, You have not let go of me, God my rock, God my rock. Carried through the darkest storms, You have held me in Your arms, God my rock, God my rock, God my rock.

In the blessing, in the pain, through it all, You've never failed me.

You are the strength of my heart. You are the strength of my heart. I can rely on You. I can rely on You.

You are the joy of my life. You are my song in the night. There is no one as true. Jesus, I trust in You.

(Words and Music by Brenton Brown and Paul Baloche © 2012)

The lyric of "God My Rock" could be considered a contemporary retelling of Edward Mote's "The Solid Rock" (# 404 in our hymnal). Mote, who came to faith in Jesus Christ at age sixteen was a cabinetmaker by trade, but at age 55 he became a minister and preached the good news until his health became poor a year before his death at 77. Mote wrote over one hundred hymn texts, some of which are still in use today.

Verses two and three along with the chorus illustrate the gift of being able to rely on Him.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace; In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, His covenant, His blood Support me in the whelming flood; When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand All other ground is sinking sand.

The point of all this is to say that we learn a lot from the hymns and can even learn something from the spiritual songs, both of which are often based in Psalms. We need to understand that God gives new song to each generation as a means of expressing His glory back to Him. It's not about us -- but about God and His plans.

May we stand on the Solid Rock; trusting in Jesus,

#### Karen

**DESERT SCHOONERS** meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month throughout the year. Come join us for the first meeting of the fall. It will be held on Tuesday, September 23 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. C. W. Bayer and Mr. Spoons, the musical group will be performing for us. Bring a sack lunch. Dessert and drinks will be provided by members. For more information call Sandy Ehresman 775-885-8230.

#### CHURCH WIDE WORKDAY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 8:00 A.M. TO 1:00 P.M.



Calling all individuals who can help with an in depth Church workday. Any assistance you can possibly provide would be greatly appreciated. We hope to have enough people to do three projects at the same time. Help is needed for cleaning gutters, power washing office, and cleaning out and re-organizing the "Old Sanctuary". Work equipment will be provided.

Any questions, please contact Dennie Young at 775-671-7974 (cell) or 775-841-5180 (home).

#### MISSION TRIP TO ZEPHYR POINT

Saturday, September 27 is our fall workday at this beautiful spot. Project sheets are now in the narthex for you to sign up to volunteer your time and talents. Once again, lunch will be provided at no charge. Coffee and doughnuts will await you at 8:00 a.m. Bring your gloves, good spirits and love of God to work and fellowship together.

Ouestions. Please call Dave or Jan Brees at 775-883-0224.

**DON'T FORGET** about the free organ concert at Christ Presbyterian Church on Sunday, October 5, at 3:00 p.m. Dr. Jeannine Jordan, an internationally known organist, will be back from her European tour to delight us with her skills. Dr. Jordan is a Bach specialist and will include a vast assortment of organ literature in her program. Christ Presbyterian Church is located at 1436 South Industrial Way, Gardnerville.



Names omitted in online version for privacy.

#### ON OUR PRAYER LIST

Requested as of 08-17-2014

Names omitted in online version for privacy.

#### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Get your cookie recipes ready! We are having a **Church Cookie Swap** the afternoon of Saturday, November 22.

Watch upcoming bulletins and the October Trumpet for details.





Names omitted in online version for privacy.

A PART-TIME 17 HOUR A WEEK POSITION in payroll and accounting will be opening in the Church office this fall. Experience with accounting and computers are necessary. Training for our specific programs will be provided. Call Charlene at the office 775-882-1032 for details.

# OCTOBER TRUMPET DEADLINE Friday, September 12th

Have something interesting to share?
Please send your articles to Dawn Berger:
dawn@fpccarsoncity.org

# SEPTEMBER 2014

| Sunday  | Monday   | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday   | Friday  | Saturday                       |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|--------------------------------|
|   | 9:00 AM Exercise Lite<br>6:00 PM Basketball<br>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   | 9:00 AM Exercise Lite<br>9:00 AM Grace Notes<br>10:00 AM & 5:30 PM<br>BIBLE STUDY<br>11:30 AM PRAYER<br>7:00 PM Chancel Choir                       | 4<br>6:30 AM WILSON<br>MEN'S<br>FELLOWSHIP @<br>Carson Station               | GFFICE CLOSED 6:30 AM FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Church 9:00 AM Exerc ise Lite                       | 6                              |
| 8:45 AM Sunday School -<br>Adult<br>9:30 AM Nursery<br>10:00 AM Single Service<br>5:00 PM The Oasis   | B 9:00 AM Exercise Lite 6:00 PM Basketball 7:00 PM Praise Team     | G: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 COMMITTES                             | 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 1:30 PM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY | 0FFICE CLOSED 6:30 AM FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Church 9:00 AM Exercise Lite                        | 13                             |
| 8:45 AM Sunday School - Adult 9:30 AM Nursery  10:00 AM Single Service  11:30 AM Called Congregational Meeting immediately following worship service (time appro ximate)  5:00 PM The Oasis | 9:00 AM Exercise Lite<br>6:00 PM Basketball                        | 16 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  | 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 8:00 PM Praise Team  Circles Dinners | 6:30 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Carson Station                             | 0FFICE CLOSED 6:30 AM FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Church 9:00 AM Exercise Lite                        | 8:00 AM Church<br>Wide Workday |
| 8:30 AM NURSERY 9:00 AM & 10:45 AM Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School - Adult 5:00 PM The Oasis  | 9:00 AM Exercise Lite<br>6:00 PM Basketball<br>7:00 PM Praise Team | 23 6:30 AMW OMEN'S BIBLE STUDY @ San Rafael Coffee Co. 6:30 AMW OMEN'S BIBLE STUDY, Library 9:00 AM Gr ace Notes Lite 11:30 AM Desert Schooners, Fetowship Hall 1:00 PM Staff 5:30 PM SESSION | 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                                      | 25 6:30 AM WILSON MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Carson Station                          | 26 OFFICE CLOSED 6:30 AM FRIDAY MEN'S FELLOWSHIP @ Church 9:00 AM Exercise Lite                     | 27 Zephyr Point Workday        |
| 28 8:30 AM NURSERY  9:00 AM & 10:45 AM Worship  9:00 AM Sunday School - Adult 5:00 PM The Oasis   | 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   | 3 4 5<br>10 11 1.<br>17 18 1  | 9 20 21 22 23  | Oct 2014  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 31 | 4<br>11<br>18<br>25            |

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#### THE TRUMPET

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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.

## September Sermons

September 7: "A Man Born Blind" John 9

September 14: "Reason to Believe" I Corinthians 15:1-11

September 21: "The Folly of the Cross?" I Corinthians 1:1-31

September 28 "Be Prepared" I Peter 3:15

A CALLED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING will take place on Sunday, September 14 immediately following worship service. This is an important meeting to discuss possible terms of dismissal from the Presbyterian Church (USA). Please mark your calendars and plan to attend!