

August 2017 Notes from the Presbytery of Nevada – Presbytery Pastor

A Prayer for Summer

Creator God

*who breathed this world into being,
who is discernible within
the harmony of nature,
the perfection of a butterfly's wing,
the grandeur of a mountain range,
the soaring eagle and humming bird,
thank you for this world
which you have created.
Thank you for summer sun,
which reminds us
that your creative breath
is still alive and active.
Thank you for the warmth of your love,
sustaining this world,
your garden.*

By John Birch, copyright 2016

Read more at: www.faithandworship.com

Exciting Happenings from Around the Presbytery

* Presbytery Council at its June 24th meeting appointed **Renee Kelly** as the **Presbytery Youth Mission Coordinator**. **Renee** is the Director of Youth Ministries at Green Valley Presbyterian Church and has already been instrumental in coordinating mission trips to Louisiana, Youth Triennium, as well as other presbytery-wide youth events. We are so excited to have Renee's leadership, enthusiasm and organizational skills in service of our youth! If you would like to contact Renee, her email address is reneekelly@greenvalleypres.com.

*It is with deep gratitude and great joy that the **Rev. Prachuab Dechawan** shared that the First Thai-Laotian Presbyterian Church Building Fund received a very generous gift of \$10,000 from **Mountain View Presbyterian Church!** What a wonderful example of partnership in mission as Mountain View provided support for building a brand new church in the Las Vegas valley! First Thai-Laotian PC was able to pay cash for their land and they are now trusting our gracious God for the money to build! A special thanks to **Rev. David Dendy** and the members of Mountain View – may God bless you for your faithfulness in supporting a sister church!

If any other churches are interested in providing prayer and financial support, please contact Rev. Prachuab at pdechawan@yahoo.com.

***Westminster Presbyterian Church** is using the summer months to “spruce up” the Church! Fresh paint, new artwork and other creative touches are brightening up the sanctuary and making it even more inviting. Join **Pastor David Rhee** and the wonderful congregation of Westminster Presbyterian Church for worship – Sundays at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome!

***Lamoille Community Presbyterian Church** almost didn't have Vacation Bible School this year; however, two weeks before the event, a couple of faithful members decided they could not cancel VBS! Many others came on board to help and they had their most successful VBS yet with **57 children** in attendance! The theme for the week was "The Fruit of the Spirit" and every day featured a different "fruit!" A couple of the leaders shared that friends and neighbors in the community had been asking about VBS and they simply could not disappoint them. Congratulations and well-done on a very effective outreach to the children of Lamoille, Spring Creek and Elko!

Church Campaign Services

I received the following letter in May and would like to share it with pastors and leaders in the Presbytery of Nevada. This is a resource to assist churches in raising capital funds:

Dear Hilda,

*I am writing to introduce myself as the new director of **Church Campaign Services**.*

Formerly known as Church Financial Campaign Services, CCS began in 1950 as an agency of the PC(USA) to provide capital campaign expertise for Presbyterian churches. That remains our mission today.

With 65 years of history in PC(USA) congregations, we've built a solid reputation for achieving the goals of thousands of campaigns, with more than \$2 billion raised.

A capital campaign can further a church's vision and mission by:

- *Revitalizing or repurposing aging facilities for new uses,*
- *Freeing up income through debt retirement, or,*
- *Adding additional space by expanding current buildings or constructing new buildings*

... We look forward to continuing our services for the churches in your presbytery.

Sincerely,

Rev. Michael Erwin, Director

Church Campaign Services

(888) 558-6873 michael.erwin@churchcampaignservices.org

Enclosed with the letter were two fact sheets regarding the primary services offered by CCS. For more information, please use the contact information above.

Prayers for These Special Congregations

- First Korean Presbyterian Church – time of transition in leadership
- First Presbyterian Church, Elko – completed mission study and will soon be electing a PNC
- Grace Presbyterian Church – in the process of purchasing property
- St. Johns Presbyterian Church – completed mission and study will soon be electing a PNC

Bring Your Old Neckties to Fall Presbytery Meeting!

The entire Presbytery has an opportunity to support a project in Lamoille. The following article is from Deacon **Susie Hamilton**:

*For the past 4 or 5 years the Deacons of the **Lamoille Community Presbyterian Church** have been decorating and donating a Christmas tree for the annual Elko Convention & Visitors Authority (ECVA) **Festival of Trees**.*

Every year the ECVA hosts the Festival of Trees to raise money for the local community. The Festival of Trees has become a way for many to kick-off the Holiday Season. The money raised by the sale of Christmas trees, holiday wreaths, stockings and more is split among local charities that are chosen by the ECVA Board of Directors.

The ECVA requests the donations of the holiday items for the silent auction from the citizens of Elko County as well as local businesses. The items are auctioned off each year during this great event.

This year the Deacons are thinking outside of the box, and we are making a Christmas tree out of old neckties! I've attached a photograph for you to share. We plan to run a garland around talking about "My Sunday Best" to tie it to the church.

Should anyone in the Presbytery want to help us with this collection (we think we may need as many as 500 ties all together), it would certainly be appreciated. We are planning to attend Presbytery this fall, and could easily pick up any donations from the wonderful members of Presbytery at that time.



Fall Presbytery Meeting

Be on the lookout soon for registration information for the Fall Presbytery of Nevada Meeting at **Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center**. The dates are **September 11-13, 2017**. For more information check out the Presbytery of Nevada website: www.nevadapresbytery.org or contact our Stated Clerk Joan Jeffers at statedclerknevada@gmail.com.

Spiritual Direction Training in Las Vegas, Nevada Two Year Certification Program --- Beginning October 2017

Training is being offered for those interested in becoming spiritual directors beginning October 25-27, 2017 at Grace Episcopal Church in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Offered by CFDM [Christian Formation & Direction Ministries—www.cfdm.org], the training will be led by Rev. Dr. Catherine Gregg [Canon for Church Vitality in the Episcopal Diocese of Nevada], her husband Rev. Dr. Douglas Gregg [retired Presbyterian Clergy and President of CFDM], and Barbara Winston [Catholic lay leader with extensive background directing such training programs]. All experienced facilitators and spiritual directors.

The goals of the two year Certificate Program include experiencing a deeper intimacy and relationship with the Triune God; developing a theology of Christian spirituality by drawing on and integrating insights from Scripture, theology, historical traditions, psychology and related fields; discovering the richness of one's own faith tradition and the gifts and blessings of other traditions; learning about, and engaging in, spiritual habits and practices that facilitate spiritual maturity; growing in balancing prayer, study and service and in developing practical wisdom based on Scripture, tradition, reason, and experience; gaining experience and skills in providing individual spiritual direction in a Christ-centered program and context; and participating in a creative partnership among Christian spiritual directors.

For more details regarding dates, costs, and requirements, contact Douglas Gregg at [dgregg@cfdm.org or 702-485-5215] and/or check the website, www.cfdm.org and click on the Nevada Network link to see the "download" of information, including application materials.