

October 2016 Notes from the Presbytery of Nevada
Presbytery Pastor Hilda Pecoraro

A Prayer of Martin Luther (for Reformation Sunday – October 30)

Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it.

I am weak in the faith; strengthen me.

I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor.
I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether.

O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you.

In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have.

I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor.

I am a sinner; you are upright.

With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness.

Therefore I will remain with you, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give.

Amen.

(from the "Internet Monk" website)

Congratulations

* Congratulations to the **Rev. Bob and Marsha Crall** on the safe arrival of their newest granddaughter. Bob writes, "Rebekah Joy Landsteiner was born to our daughter Pam and son-in-law Jake on September 9, joining three excited siblings. This is the girl who "should not have been" due to Jake's chemo-therapy, which is supposed to render such blessings impossible. She overcame a slight bilirubin problem due to the CW2 factor (a little like Rh+ and -) and was born with a "true knot" in her umbilical cord. Alas, she is as healthy and engaged with faces as a newborn can be. Also, Jake had an MRI three weeks ago and no sign of tumor activity in his brain. He is certainly beating the glioblastoma odds. **Praise be to God.**"

*We congratulate the **Rev. Dr. Douglas Gregg**, who celebrated the 50th Anniversary of his ordination on September 26th! May God continue to bless and use Douglas in his ministry to God's people.

*Congratulations to the **Rev. Rebecca Watkins** and the congregation of the **Community Presbyterian Church of Lee Vining** on completing such a beautiful renovation of their historic church! With the support and assistance of special gifts and volunteers – both local and beyond – this congregation has done a wonderful job updating, renewing, repairing and decorating! Anyone who is interested in seeing the Church, Rebecca can always use Pulpit Supply support. From Lee Vining you can tour Mono Lake and drive into the spectacular Lee Vining Canyon leading to Tioga Pass and Yosemite! Majestic marvels in this corner of our Presbytery!

Special Prayer Request

Please join in praying for **Dorothy Fry** and her husband the Rev. Al Fry as Dorothy faces another surgery. Dorothy is scheduled for a complete left hip replacement at the Carson Surgical Center on **Thursday, October 6**. Please pray not only for a successful surgery but also for the anesthesia effect and for regaining muscle strength during recovery.

A Very Exciting Invitation

The Presbytery of Nevada welcomes the birth of a new congregation!

All are invited to the Chartering Service of our newest congregation, **the First Filipino-American Presbyterian Church of Southern Nevada (FFAPC)**!

This very special celebration will take place on Sunday, October 23, 2016 at 1:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary of the Green Valley Presbyterian Church.

All are welcome to support the **Rev. Mariano “Nonong” Ordonez** and the congregation on this momentous occasion. Let us gather with gratitude in our hearts and praises to God as we celebrate and support our newest Church!

“Good Stuff” from Church Newsletters

-From “Grace Notes” the Newsletter of Grace Presbyterian Church:

Family Friendly Bible Study Tools

In September, our 3rd - 5th grade students were introduced to the **S.O.A.P.** method for studying their Bibles. This is a quick and easy way for anyone to take notes, and to reflect on a Bible verse or passage. So, what is **S.O.A.P.**?

Scripture: Write the verse that is the focus.

Observation: Write down 1-2 observations from that scripture passage. What do you hear God saying to you?

Application: How does this passage apply to you right now in your daily life?

Prayer: Write a prayer based on the passage, or pray for someone else.

This method works really well with a simple composition book or spiral notebook for your notes. Why not give it a try!

-Churches Seeking Staff:

St. John’s Presbyterian Church is looking for a part-time youth director.. Contact the church office for more information (775-826-0990). Do you know someone who may have the gifts, training and calling for these positions?

Reno Korean Presbyterian Church is seeking a Youth Pastor – English speaker is requested. Contact Rev. Kyong Gun “David” Pak (775-358-4544).

Green Valley Presbyterian Church is seeking a Financial Manager to “...provide financial services to the pastor, church staff and officers of the church, and to back up the Office Administrator in the daily operation of the church office.” Contact Diane Schurr at diane.schurr@yahoo.com for requirements and details on the position.

-From “The Carillon” the Newsletter for St. John’s Presbyterian Church:

Nevada 2-1-1 Provides important information and resources for pastors and church leaders.

It is set-up to help you help other as a clearing-house of services available in your community.

Nevada 2-1-1 is a free service that provides information about vital health and human service programs that are available throughout the State. Information and Referral (I and R) professionals are available any time, day or night, to assist you with locating the services you need within your zip code area.

- Dial 2-1-1 on a touch-tone phone from anywhere in Nevada. (Or call 1-866-535-5654 from anywhere)
- Text your 5-digit zip-code to 898-211 to "chat" with an I & R specialist via text.
- Search Online at www.nevada211.org to access the 2-1-1 database directly.

All the Human Service Resources You Need in One Location

Nevada 2-1-1 has information about:

- *Basic Needs including food and shelter*
- *Physical and Mental Health*
- *Financial Stability*
- *Support for Older Individuals and Persons with Disabilities*
- *Support for Children, Youth and Families*
- *Volunteer Opportunities and Donations*
- *Support during Community Crisis and Disaster Recovery*

-From the "Desert Tidings" newsletter of East Mesa Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Mesa, AZ. The Pastor is the Rev. Peggy (Elmore) Pepers, former organist at Green Valley Presbyterian Church.

Our Christ-Centered Values

J oyfully praise God.
E ncourage one another
S hare the good news
U se our gifts for service
S trive for maturity in Christ

Upcoming Events for Clergy in the South

-Contemplative Practices – Invitation to go deeper. Pastors are invited to spend quiet time developing a centered prayer life in a directed group setting.

We're gathering again on Saturday, October 15, 2016 from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM for furthering our growth in contemplative practices. This month we will be back at St Timothy Episcopal Church, 43 W. Pacific Ave., in Henderson. Our practice of a spiritual discipline will include time for silence, meditation, prayer, and sharing. Please join us to continue this journey in the contemplative dimension of life! If you have questions or comments, please contact me (phone

or text) at 702-675-5690. Blessings, Ken Larson (*Note: this group was brought to my attention by the Rev. Douglas Gregg, one of our the newest members of our Presbytery!)

-Clergy Luncheon and Gathering

All Southern Nevada pastors are invited to the Quarterly Clergy Luncheon. We will meet on **Wednesday, October 26, 2016** at 12:00 noon in the Fellowship Hall of **Westminster Presbyterian Church** (4601 W. Lake Mead Blvd. – between Rancho and Decatur). Lunch will be provided. Looking forward to a chance to strengthen the bonds of fellowship with one another. Please RSVP by Friday, October 21, so we can be sure to have enough to eat!