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Loving God Well.  
Loving ourselves well.  
Loving others well

**FPC Staff**

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**Join us Sundays  
for worship**

**Service Times are:  
June thru Sept. 1st  
9:30**

**FPC Elders**

- Suzanne Bocchi
- Thelma Cox
- Barb Dehlinger
- Craig Rappe`
- Belinda Scalas
- Andrew Smith
- Muriel Singer
- Ted Stagner
- Laura Stewart
- Mitch Stokes
- Anne Weaver
- Gay Woods

**FPC Deacons**

- Randy Clark
- Scott Dickson
- Deb Johnson
- Bill Kennedy
- Barb Keeney
- Emily Mengis
- Terrie Mumford
- Karolyn Newsom
- Valerie Picard
- Brooke Smith
- Alex Stork
- Judy Swan



**JULY NEWSLETTER**



JULY 1, 2019

**“Discovering,  
experiencing  
and showing  
the goodness  
and love of  
God”**



**Musings From Pastor John...**

**“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...”** is how Charles Dickens begins his novel *A Tale of Two Cities*. We understand almost immediately that there are at least two ways to see circumstances and situations we face in life. Am I facing an opportunity, or am I facing a disaster? Your beliefs, your trust, and your view of God are all going to play a great role in shaping which vantage point you are going to take.

Resilience has been our theme for the past couple of weeks in our sermons. No doubt, *the curve balls* that life throws us are challenging and difficult. Even so, God has astonishing and surprising ways of taking what looks like disaster and turning it into something that is an opportunity to grow our lives in Him.

Scripture like Psalm 142: 4-5 reminds us God is with us.

*“I look for someone to come and help me, but no one gives me a passing thought! No one will help me; no one cares a bit about what happens to me. Then I pray to you, O LORD. I say, “You are my place of refuge. You are all I really want in life.”*

Hope is not based on some cheesy “wish it would work out this way” sort of attitude. It is based on God and His desire to be our refuge and our life. It is based on His desire to rescue us and to be our salvation in the midst of this life. David, who is running for his life from King Saul as he wrote this Psalm, is in deep need facing impending disaster. David has a way of telling God how horrible this moment is. Please feel free to tell God your truth and the way you see these situations. As God listened to David, He will listen to you with care and love. David also understands that God is his source of hope and his source of strength. God is the rock on which David stood. Regardless of what storm of life David was facing, he saw life as an opportunity because Yahweh is with him.

I don’t know what you are facing in life. For some of you, this article is not a bit hard to swallow. It might be because those curve balls are not coming your way right now. It might be that you have faced circumstances that have been difficult and grown through them. For others of you, this pushes you, because the challenging and the difficult are upon you, I would encourage you to do what David did and pray Psalm 142 to God — asking God to be your refuge and strength. I would also urge you to invite others to travel this road with you.

May you and I grow in seeing God is with us, God is committed to us, and God will make opportunities out of disasters.

In God’s grip, because his grip is always the strongest.

Pastor John

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## KidMin Update

Athens Vacation Bible School was a huge success!

- 38 kids who attended our four-day, fun-filled VBS.
- Over half of the kids who joined us at VBS do not attend FPC. Many new friendships were formed.
- We had a crew of 10 middle and high school helpers who taught lessons, helped with games, acted out skits, and were amazing role models for our elementary kids.
- We learned about Paul's dangerous journey to share the truth that God loves us, takes care of us, sent his Son, Jesus, and wants us to share his love.
- There were songs, crafts, games, and skits during small group and large group sessions. Thank you so much to our volunteers!



Crafts were one of the highlights of each night!



The actors were great and helped us learn about Paul's journey.



Our SWAP team helped us so much!



The games were fun and kept everyone engaged.



## FPC Safety Team

Hello! My name is Ryan Finney, and I am the co-leader of the First Presbyterian Church Safety Team. Keith Stone, the staff, and I thought it would be a good idea to tell you more about the new Safety Team ministry.

- First of all, in a perfect world with no accidents, threats, or dangers our ministry would be unnecessary, but as we live in an imperfect sin-filled world unfortunately, it is necessary to make sure that our congregants and especially our children are safe at all times.
    - \*That does not mean we are going to exclude people from our church – the love of Jesus and a place in our church are for everyone – but it does mean we have to analyze threats and make hard decisions on how to handle them at times.
  - With that said, the name “Safety Team” instead of “Security Team” was chosen because we are here to keep people safe in any situation, whether that means jumping in to help with a medical emergency or in the case of a natural disaster.
  - You may see some implementations of new safety procedures:
    - \* Including locking the doors during service.
    - \* Please don't worry, if anyone is late we'll absolutely let them in and someone is always in the foyer to open the doors!
    - \* Please understand everything we do is for the purpose of loving and protecting the people who enter our building.
- \*\* If you would like to serve in this way, we can definitely use more on the team! Contact the church office at (541) 884-7781 for more information.**

Thanks,

Ryan Finney and Keith Stone





### Senior Ministry Update

As Presbyterians, we are not prone to hearing ‘testimonies’ or ‘faith stories’ but those of us who were at the Senior Luncheon heard a powerful story about what the Mission can and is doing in people’s lives.



Carol

Shawna Ottenbacher gave a powerful, heartfelt account of her interactions with the Gospel Mission and what it has done in her life and is doing in the lives of others. Shawna’s work in the Women’s Shelter and the work of Ashley Robinson as the Women’s Director is a much needed important resource in this community. They also told a bit about how they work with other organizations, especially Marta’s House.



Pat

Most of us are lucky, we haven’t had to interact with these agencies on a personal basis, but we need to know what they do so we can assist others who might not be as fortunate. What a wonderful way to spend a lunch hour and a bit more. THANKS, also to Betty Dickson for organizing this for us.  
Barb Dehlinger

Operation Christmas Shoebox will be the topic for July’s Senior Luncheon. Rhonda Sloan, area director of Operation Christmas Shoebox will tell us about her exciting trip to Liberia with Franklin Graham.

It will be potluck with an entrée provided. Belinda Reno will send out her normal week ahead Senior Luncheon letter informing of what the entrée will be.



Gloria

Please invite anyone you think might be interested in Operation Christmas Shoebox; your neighbors, or your friends. Anyone you can think of that wants to bring Jesus to all nations. The next luncheon is July 15<sup>th</sup> at noon and we welcome all ages. Hope to see you there.  
Betty Dickson

We invite anyone who would like to join us “Seniors” for good fellowship, fun, and great food on July 15 at noon in the Fellowship Hall. We always have so much fun! Our guest speakers are always very informative, warm, and welcoming. Hope to see everyone next month!  
Belinda Reno



Bonnie

And  
Many  
More!

### Update From The Collective

Please see our Calendar of Events for the summer.

These events are sure going to be fun!

July 9 - Tuesday - Moore Park Day at 12:00 noon

July 15 - Monday - MLBC HS Camp Begins

July 25 - Thursday - Wehr’s Back Yard Movie Night 7 p.m.

July 31 - Wednesday - Redding Water Slides 9:00 a.m. \$15.00

August 8 - Thursday - Youth Spelunking 2019 9:00 a.m. \$4.00 Bring Lunch

August 14 - Wednesday - End of Summer Lock-in 7:00 p.m.

August 19 - Trip to Medford 8:00 a.m.

August 29 - End of Summer Lake of the Woods Day 10:00 a.m.



In Love with  
the Father.

In Love with  
His people.



**Upcoming Events**

Live and in Concert!  
 Beki Hemingway  
 July 10, 2019

This is a donation based concert



Location: 611 Loma Linda Dr. Klamath Falls

Please RSVP: (303) 601-1005 John & Deanna Geiter

**5:30 PM - Potluck dinner**

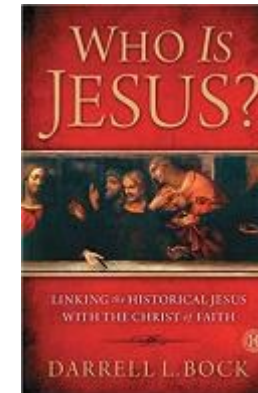
**6:30 PM - Music Starts**

**7:30 PM - Meet and Greet**

Want to hear some of her music beforehand?

Go to (<https://noisetrade.com/>)

**Library News**



**Who is Jesus?: Linking the Historical Jesus with the Christ of Faith by Darrell L. Bock**

IS JESUS WHO HE SAID HE WAS? Some say he was just a man; others claim he was the Son of God. Historian Darrell Bock tests the authenticity of Jesus' claims against the rules of history to find out if he truly is the Christ of Faith.

This reader-friendly book examines twelve events, sayings, and teachings of Jesus, using ten well-accepted historical rules. Pull up a chair, engage in the conversation, and discover how fascinating the discussion of the historical Jesus can be.

**A Love Worth Giving: Living in the Overflow of God's Love by Max Lucado**

Low on Love?

Finding it hard to love? Someone in your world is hard to forgive? Is patience an endangered species? Kindness a forgotten virtue? If so, you may have forgotten a step -- an essential first step. Living loved. God loves you. Personally. Powerfully. Passionately. Others have promised and failed. But God has promised and succeeded. He loves you with an unfailing love. And his love -- if you let it can fill you and leave you with a love worth giving.

Amazon.com



**Monthly Snapshot**

Each month we are going to post FPC's income and expenses. This information will be featured so that we can stay informed of our church's finances. A big "Thank you" to those who have begun giving an additional \$15 a month to help with our deficit budget. If you are able, please join us in contributing \$15 a month beyond what you normally give. It will make all the difference through out the year.

**Financial Snapshot**

	Income	Expense	+/-
May 2018	\$26,328.80	\$32,077.92	(\$5,749.12)
2019	\$24,085.21	\$37,254.73	(\$13,169.52)

**Yearly Snapshot**

	Income	Expense	+/-
May 2018	\$185,360	\$168,681	\$16,678
2019	\$171,098	\$190,054	(\$18,955)