

**WELCOME** to all who enter this place. Drink deeply of the living waters of God's grace as we worship together.

**Visitors:** Consider yourself at home while you are here! Please pick up a Visitor's Information Packet while enjoying refreshments at our Visitor's Table in Fellowship Hall.

**Children:** Children up through 2nd grade are invited to "The Kids Room," Room #4, during the worship service. Children 3rd grade and up remain in the worship service. Children who remain in the service can obtain an activity bag in the sanctuary.

**The Inquisitors:** Last Spring, with "Living the Questions," we started examining our faiths in an environment where participants could interact with each other and fine tune our beliefs to make them more worth having and living. Join us on Fridays at 1:30 p.m. in Classroom 1, to continue discussing this topic. For further information contact: Grant Stitt (396-3549 or email stitt@unr.edu).

**Snack Bags for the Homeless!** Today, in Charter Hall we will continue collecting 10 different items to fill Snack Bags for the needy. These items include: Bottled Water, Tuna and Cracker Packets, Peanut Butter Cracker Packets, Cheese and Cracker Packets, Granola Bars, Gorp/Trail Mix (in small packages), Vienna Sausage, Apple Sauce Cups/Fruit Snacks, Peanuts, and Wet Wipes.

**Presbyterian Campus Ministry (PCM):** Mark your calendar for the PCM Mothers Day fundraiser at Gaslight on Sunday, May 12, at 6:00 p.m. Contact George Curtis 520 625-23094 or email crtcar9@cox.net to make a reservation for tickets (\$35).

**Lenten Devotionals** (*On Calvary's Hill* by Max Lucado) are still available for \$5. They can be purchased in the church office during the week or at the Welcome Center.

**Lets Make Some NOISE!** Today we will take up our Noisy Offering collection of loose change for Youth on Their Own. THANKS for participating!!

**Sanctuary Flowers:** Consider sponsoring a Sunday morning flower bouquet in remembrance of a loved one or as a celebration of a special occasion. Sign up at the Information Table in Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$45 for a large bouquet.

**The Grapevine:** The next Grapevine meeting will be Monday, April 8, at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary with the topic of church finances.

**VPC Mission Quilters:** Quilting will meet in Fellowship Hall tomorrow morning from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Anyone interested or has questions, please contact Patti Bright at 305-3275.

**Sound Board Operator:** We need two volunteers to learn how to operate the Sound Board on Sunday mornings for one or two Sundays per month. Please contact the office if you are interested.

*Thank you to our volunteers!*

**Coffee Fellowship**

Skip & Geri Berry,  
Pat & Rick Nau, Barbara Dittmer

**Information Center**

Roxy Blair & Pat Bruner

**Medical Team**

Doug Clark

**Visitor's Table**

Mark & Sue Horton

**Welcome Centers**

Carol Peeler, Roy Romstad

**La Posada Service of Worship**

Rudy Sweisfuth, Darlene Herrick,  
Parker Long

**Flowers given by:** Donaldina Joung  
**In memory of my grandson, Brandon Barmore**

**One Great Hour of Sharing:** During the Lenten season, we Presbyterians, nationwide, join together to fulfill the needs of others during the time of disaster. You may ask "Where does our money go?" A gift to ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING (OGH) enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world by providing relief to those affected by national disasters, provide food for the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. Please contribute by using the special envelope in your box or use the pew envelope with your check to VPC marked OGH. Thank you.

Week #12 (thru 3/24/19)			
Church Weekly Operations Finances		Church Weekly Attendance	
Weekly Giving Income	\$11,534	2019 Attendance	421
Weekly Giving Budget	\$22,754	2018 Attendance	539
*YTD Giving Income	\$213,925	*YTD 2019 Attendance	5,411
*YTD Giving Budget	\$242,822	*YTD 2018 Attendance	5,752
<small>*YTD: Year-to-Date</small>			
<small>D. Brooks - VPC Treasurer - dx38@cox.net - 520-399-3959</small>		<small>2019 Per Capita is \$40.22 per member</small>	

**Lenten Taizé Service**

Wednesday at 5 p.m. in the Spiritual Life Center. If you have not experienced Taizé worship, please come for a service of beautiful music, prayer and scripture.



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**We are a Stephen Ministry Church**



REV. MARK A. MEDINA, *Transitional Pastor*  
REV. DIANE CHRISTOPHER, *Pastor of Discipleship*  
REV. JOE HAWKINS, *Pastor Emeritus*  
JOEL PIERCE, *Director of Music*  
CHRISTINE ERICKSON, RN, *Parish Nurse*



**THE INCREDIBLE POWER OF WAITING!**

**To make Christ known through reconciliation while communicating respect and love to all people.**

The principles we will follow to accomplish this are:

- Worship that glorifies God.**
- Growing our faith in love, hope and the peace of Christ.**
- Caring for the children of God.**
- Reaching out to the community and the world.**
- Seeking an attitude of servant-hood.**

✠ **All those who are able, please stand** **March 31, 2019**  
**PRAYER OF PREPARATION** Stillpoint Spirituality  
We offer you our Lenten observance, and today we place our feet on the road to Easter, and walk the Way that you have walked before us. Amen.

**9:20 A.M. WELCOME & NEWS OF THE CHURCH** Rev. Christopher  
*Please print your name in the Friendship Register provided in your pew.*

**NOISY OFFERING** Youth on Their Own  
**MINUTE FOR MISSION** Kay Brouwer

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**  
**POURING OF THE WATER**  
L: Jesus is the Living Water. **P: Praise be to God.**

**PRELUDE** *The Cross Medley* arr. Gayden Sikes  
Don Christensen - piano, Joel Pierce - organ

**INTROIT** *Holy Ground*  
**We are standing on holy ground,  
and I know that there are angels all around;  
let us praise Jesus now;  
we are standing in his presence on holy ground.**

✠ **CALL TO WORSHIP**  
*God calls to the lost, the least, and all who long for home;*  
**God calls when we wander from the path chosen for us  
and waste the gifts we have been given.**  
*God calls and welcomes us back to worship this day;*  
**let us celebrate and rejoice in God's presence forever.  
Let us worship God together.**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Faith and Worship

*Forgiving God,  
Whenever self obscures the needs of others, forgive us.  
Whenever we forget who is our neighbor, forgive us.  
Whenever we pass by on the other side, forgive us.  
Whenever we forget to say 'Well done!' forgive us.  
Whenever we forget to simply give thanks, forgive us.  
Whenever we forget the path that we tread, forgive us.  
For all those times we bring a tear to your eye,  
bring us back into your forgiving arms  
and teach us once again, your way.*

**We now bring our silent prayers of confession to you,  
O Merciful God.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*My friends welcome back home. This fellow Jesus, and his remarkable household, welcomes sinners and even eats with the likes of us!*

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE TO ASSURANCE *Hear the Good News of Salvation*

**Hear the good news of salvation:  
Jesus died to show God's love.  
Such great kindness! Such great Mercy!  
Come to us from heaven above.  
Jesus Christ, how much I love You!  
Jesus Christ, You save from Sin!  
How I love You! Look upon me.  
Love me still and cleanse within.**

ANTHEM *Nearer, My God, to Thee* arr. Dan Forrest  
Helena Peterson – cello

Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!  
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,  
still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to thee;  
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

O let the way appear, leading to heav'n,  
all that Thou sendest me, in mercy giv'n.  
Thy spirit beckons me, nearer, my God to thee,  
nearer my God to thee, nearer to thee.

There in my Father's home, safe and at rest,  
there in my Savior's love, perfectly blest.  
Age after age to be nearer, my God to thee!  
Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom**

**and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God!**

SPECIAL MUSIC *Spiritual Medley*

Dave Tompkins - tenor 1; Jeff McCune - tenor 2  
Jim Bruner - baritone; Ken Frahm - bass

SERMON *"The Incredible Power of Waiting"* Rev. Dr. Horton

MOMENTS OF SILENT REFLECTION

◆AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We affirm the life-giving, renewing work of Jesus Christ on our behalf. In Christ the past is past. It is gone. It no longer determines who we are or who we can become. Christ took care of all that so that we may look to him for our identity and hope. We are reconciled to God through Christ. We are made new creatures. We receive the promise of God's daily presence and mercy. We are God's children! We affirm our choice to live as those whose inheritance is sure, whose joy is secure, and whose present and future are held in the loving hands of our gracious Lord and Savior. Amen**

◆HYMN *God of the Sparrow* Roeder 272

PRESENTATION OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

*\*If you haven't already done so, please print your name in the Fellowship Register.*

OFFERTORY *When You Say You Love Me* Hammond/Groban  
Peggi Briggs - soloist

◆DOXOLOGY Old One Hundredth 592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

◆PRAYER OF DEDICATION

◆HYMN *The Church's One Foundation* Aurella 442

◆BENEDICTION

◆CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Let There Be Peace on Earth*

**Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.  
With God our Creator, children all are we.  
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.  
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.  
With ev'ry breath I take, let this be my solemn vow,  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.**

◆POSTLUDE *God of Our Fathers* arr. Ellen Foncannon

**OUR WORSHIP NOW ENTERS THE WORLD!**

*Worship Aids/Sermon Notes*

Sermon: *"The Incredible Power of Waiting"*

Scripture: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. <sup>2</sup>But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.<sup>3</sup>Then Jesus told them this parable:

<sup>11</sup>Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>11</sup>Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living.<sup>14</sup>After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>"When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! <sup>18</sup>I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.' <sup>20</sup>So he got up and went to his father. "But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>"The son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>"But the father said to his servants, 'Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup>Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let's have a feast and celebrate. <sup>24</sup>For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate. <sup>25</sup>"Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. <sup>27</sup>'Your brother has come,' he replied, 'and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'<sup>28</sup>"The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. <sup>29</sup>But he answered his father, 'Look! All these years I've been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!' <sup>31</sup>"My son,' the father said, 'you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'"