



St. John's Presbyterian Church

The Carillon

Volume XXI, No. 10

October 2011

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Annual Chili Cook-Off Coming Soon!

Our Annual Chili Cook-Off will be on Sunday, October 9th, 2011, after our Worship Service. This year we are adding an Apple and Pumpkin Dessert Silent Auction to the fun. The money collected from this auction will go to help fund our church-wide Mission Trip next summer. (Look for more trip details soon!)

Sign up today to bring your best chili, a side dish, or your most scrumptious apple or pumpkin dessert for our Silent Auction. Prizes will be awarded.

If you have any questions, contact Elaine York (624-2696), Fellowship and Nurture Committee Moderator.



Fall has been with us for a just a few days, and it's almost time for Fall Cleanup Day. On Saturday, October 22nd, the

Fall Cleanup Day on October 22nd

Building and Grounds Committee invites all who can lend a hand (even if just for a little while) to join us from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon to help us prepare the grounds for winter and enjoy some good fellowship.

We are extending an invitation to all of the outside groups who use our facility during the week to join us. We will be pulling weeds, trimming

trees and bushes, cutting back ivy, cleaning out the rain gutters, etc. The Committee is working on a more comprehensive list, which will be in the Sunday bulletin starting on October 9th.

Please contact John Dutton (626-4455 or jwdcabtamn@sbcglobal.net) for more information, or if you are interested in serving on the Buildings and Grounds Committee.



Thursday Prayer Group at St. John's

"Is prayer your steering wheel or your spare tire?" (Corrie ten Boom, *Clippings From My Notebook*)

Members and friends of St. John's meet Thursdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for prayer and a bring-your-own brown

bag lunch in the Geneva Room. Join us as we support our Church and its parishioners in prayer.

Sunday Child Care Reminder!

Infant care through two years of age is available Sunday mornings during the worship service. The Nursery is located in D-100, across the hall from

the Geneva Room, heralded by the 'Nursery' banner outside the 'D' wing doors. St. John's Nursery Care Directors, Erma Scott and Brooke

Dutton, as well as trained youth, are ready and willing to take care of your little ones.



Communion Sunday, October 2nd, 2011

The Holy Eucharist will be observed on the 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 2nd, and will be offered to those who are unable to attend worship by the Elders and Dea-

cons. If you know someone who may need Home Communion brought to them, please contact Marian Stroh (825-1224) or call the Church office (826-0990).

NOTE: The small cups in the center of the bread trays contain gluten-free wafers. Also, only non-alcoholic grape juice is served.



The Carillon

A monthly newsletter of:

St. John's Presbyterian Church
1070 W. Plumb Lane
Reno, NV 89509
775-826-0990
Fax: 775-826-0994

A written copy of articles, releases, and items to be published must be turned in to the Church office or submitted electronically to the Editor (MS Word.doc preferred) by the 20th of each

month, for the following issue.

If you are not receiving *The Carillon* by mail and would like to, contact the Church office at 826-0990. Also, please advise us if you would like your name removed from the mailing list.

The Carillon as well as the weekly bulletin are also available on the Church website at:

www.stjohnschurch.org

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Numerous volunteers, without whose help this publication wouldn't be in your hands.

“The Calling of Elders and Deacons” by Pastor Tom

In 1981, Daniel Schutte published a hymn that has become very popular in the church today — hymn number 525 in our hymnbook, entitled “Here I Am, Lord”. It is a hymn typically used during ordination services or at the time of confirmation. It is really a hymn with a series of three questions and one basic answer. Here are the questions:

1) “I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save. I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?”

2) “I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people’s pain. I have wept for love of them, They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone. I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?”

3) “I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them, My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied. I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send?”

The one basic answer to the three questions is the refrain: “Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.”

What do you say when God calls on you? I am reminded of the parable of the two sons in Matthew 21:28-32. A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father? Of course, the obvious answer was the first son, who at first was disobedient, but later changed his mind and went and worked in the vineyard.

How do we respond when God calls us into service? In the Presbyterian Church, God calls teaching elders, ruling elders, and deacons through nominating committees and ultimately through the voice of the congregation. At times, it is a laborious process for

nominating committees to consider various candidates. It is done with much prayer, discussion, and discernment. When a call is finally made to someone, that person must prayerfully consider and discern his or her own particular gifts and availability. It is not that we seek the office of teaching elder, ruling elder, or deacon, but the office seeks us. In other words, God is the “Hound of Heaven” who through the work of the Holy Spirit nips at our heels until we give this question our utmost attention. If we are focusing on our own convenience and comfort, we will probably immediately answer that call negatively like the first son in the parable and say, “Not now, maybe next year.” If we are truly discerning whether this is actually a call from God through the voice of the nominating committee and congregation, then we will take the time to pray about it, discuss it with our family and friends, consult the pastor, and then give our considered response.

For many of us, the question “What do you say when God calls on

you?” may seem like a pretty theoretical one. We might think that it’s better to ask, “What **would** you say **if** God called on you?”

Remember Abraham’s response to God’s call in Genesis 22:1. When God called Abraham’s name, Abraham responded, “Hineni,” which means, “Here I am.” It is a word that is repeated twenty-three times in the Hebrew Bible. It reflects our ancestor’s readiness to do God’s work, to take up whatever task that God called him to do. The word *hineni* was first spoken by Abraham when he was commanded by God to sacrifice Isaac. Abraham’s response to God’s call was one word: “*Hineni*, Here I am.” The word *hineni* is used several more times in the stories of Jacob, Esau, and Joseph. In each instance, the word connotes something more than mere physical presence. *Hineni* means that “I am here with all of my being, physically and spiritually, ready to do what I need to do and fully present in the moment.”

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News Highlights From St. John's Session

St. John's Session held its regular monthly meeting on September 27th, 2011. Following are some highlights from the meeting.

• Elected the following to serve as members of the entities indicated:

• Ryan Hansen was elected to serve as moderator of the 2012 Mission Trip.

• Betty Squires was elected to serve on the Welcoming and Evangelism Committee.

• New Elders-Elect: Mike Pierce; Lynn McLaughlin-2nd term; Richard Priest-2nd term; Rolando Magdamo-2nd term; and Elaine York-2nd term (Class of 2014). Stan Peck (Class of 2013).

• New Deacons-Elect: Ann McElreath; Marlene Hansen, and Mary Sherman-2nd term (Class of 2014). Amy Willoughby (Class of 2012).

Thank you for your service

• Joan Jeffers, Ryan Hansen, Shonee Hansen, Brooke Dutton, Maria Winchester, and Elsie Baughman will be attending the National Youth Workers Conference in San Diego September

30th through October 2nd.

• Approved the Mission Committee's request for a church-wide Mission trip in 2012. It is tentatively set for July (date to be firmed up next month). It will most likely be to Harbor House in Oakland.

• SJCC and the Mission Committee will be holding a clothing drive to benefit the Rancho Milagro orphanage outside Ensenada Baja, California.

• Session approved the Worship Committee's request for the Music Director to lead a "Hymn Sing," for worshipers, fifteen minutes prior to the worship service on the second Sunday of the month, beginning October 9th, 2011.

• The Mission Committee announced that "Blankets Plus Offering" is scheduled for Sunday, October 2nd, 2011, and the "CROP Hunger Walk" for October 16th, 2011, at 2:00 p.m.

• The Fellowship and Nurture Committee will be holding an Apple/Pumpkin Dessert Silent

Auction at the Annual Chili Cook-Off on Sunday, October 9th, 2011, following the worship service.

• The Christian Education Committee announced the "Acolytes" will be a part of the worship service on Sunday, October 16th, 2011.

• New Officer Installation / Ordination will be held on Sunday, January 8th, 2012. (Service aprons will be presented.)

• Session approved Saturday, January 14th, 2012, for Officer Communion Training, to be held from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., led by Elder Ralph Voss, Worship Committee Moderator.

• St. John's members attending the Nevada Fall Presbytery meeting: Pastor and Elsie Baughman, Rev. Stover, Rev. Leonard, Rev. Taylor, Stated Clerk Joyce Butcher, Elder Commissioner Bob Stroh, Elder Commissioner Ray Bledsoe, Presbyterian Women Moderator Betty Squires, Bev Dyas, Helen Engeseth, Anne Sigurdson, Doris

Continued on page 16

Stewardship Thoughts on Commitment

Most words in the English language have more than one meaning. For example, *commitment* may refer to being sentenced to prison or a mental institution. On the other hand, it may describe an athlete's total dedication to his or her team and to the goal of winning. Webster's dictionary defines this as "the state of being obligated or emotionally compelled".

As church members, we commit ourselves to Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, and to be loyal members of the congregation we have chosen to join. We demonstrate our commitment in our attendance at worship, our Bible study, our individual meditation and prayer, and our contribution of our time, talents, and money to the work of the church.

November 6th is Commitment Sunday. On that day we will have the opportunity to re-commit ourselves to the mission and ministry of St. John's by volunteering for tasks that suit our abilities and interests, as well as by indicating how much financial support we expect to give during the next year.

Over the next month,



we should all be thinking and praying about how God has blessed us, what our faith means to us, and how we can and will continue to express our commitment through service and support for the life and work of St. John's.

Ken Meyer, Moderator
Stewardship Committee

Table 1. General Fund Balance (Month Ending August 31st, 2011)

	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Cumulative
Beginning Balance					72,475.52
Receipts	33,631.49	31,843.26	242,104.46	254,746.08	242,104.46
Transfers & designated receipts	12,571.31		66,915.73		66,915.73
Supported disbursements *	(12,571.31)		(66,915.73)		(66,915.73)
Disbursements	(32,084.12)	(36,001.93)	(267,115.19)	(307,939.51)	(267,115.19)
Ending Balance	\$1,547.37	(\$4,158.67)	(\$25,010.73)	(\$53,193.43)	\$47,464.79

* Expenditures that are supported by either revenues or contributions; not part of the General Fund budget

Table 2. Capital Improvement Fund (Month Ending August 31st, 2011)

	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Cumulative
Beginning Balance					307.55
Receipts	4,598.19	5,303.69	40,086.02	42,429.52	40,086.02
Transfers In	-	-	8,658.04	-	8,658.04
Disbursements	(4,667.44)	(4,667.44)	(46,206.56)	(39,048.52)	(46,206.56)
Ending Balance	(\$69.25)	\$636.25	\$2,537.50	\$3,381.00	\$2,845.05



Looking for a Few Good People — Praying for Deacons

The Deacons of St. John's need some help. We have several people who will not be returning to serve in 2012. We consider ourselves the 'heart' of St. John's. We deliver flowers, we cook and deliver meals, we take communion to the homebound, and we send cards to those who need a lift. We are there for each and every member of the congregation.

If you have time to volunteer to help make St. John's better through the service we provide for each other, please let us know. If you would like to know more about what being a deacon entails, please call Jan Peck, Moderator of the Deacons (826-7767), or speak with one of the Deacons you know. It feels so good to know you make a difference in

this world to someone who could use a little help now and then. Please pray for St. John's. We need you.

Keep Deacons Informed—

Remember, Deacons need your eyes and ears to help them keep track of people who need our service. (St. John's Deacons are listed on page 10 of *The Carillon*.)



Presbyterian Women Thank Offering 2011

Since 1888, Presbyterian Women have funded aid programs through the Thank Offering. Eliza Clokey challenged members of the Women's General Mission Society to give one dollar above each member's usual contribution as a "thank offering to her Lord". After more than a century, her vision continues. The Thank Offering supports programs that relieve pain, provide clean water, alleviate homelessness, provide educational opportunities, and lift up the lives of women and children through the world.

This year we continue that tradition by support-

ing 26 projects chosen from the 68 requests received. Funds from the Thank Offering will make possible new work for 14 projects in the United States and 12 projects internationally (from 11 countries); 43% of the offering will support health ministries.

Through the gifts of the PW Thank Offering, we offer hope to the world, confident in God's steadfast love for all humankind. We give as we are blessed, offering mercy to others as God is merciful to us.

Presbyterian Women are pleased to provide the

bulletin cover for Sunday, October 30th. We invite the members and friends to join with us in the special offering of Presbyterian Women. You may use the pew envelopes, and just check "Other," and mark for Thank Offering.

St. John's Presbyterian Women will be dedicating their offerings during the month of November in their Circles. And, again, please give as you are blessed.

Joyce Butcher
PW Treasurer

Missions Committee

Blankets Plus —

There will be a special collection on October 2nd for Blankets Plus, a Church World Service (CWS) project. It provides blankets, tents, food, tools, seed, and other emergency supplies in disaster areas.

CROP Walk—

The 20th annual Reno-Sparks CROP Hunger Walk will take place on Sunday, October 16th, at 2:00 p.m., starting at the pavilion in Idlewild Park in Reno. Anyone can take part in the CROP Hunger Walk. We especially encourage young people to take advantage of this opportunity to raise funds to fight hunger. If you decide to join the Walk, find sponsors and friends to donate for your participation.

Backpack Project—

This year's Backpack Pro-

ject for needy elementary schoolchildren in Reno was a success. Of the 100 stuffed backpacks provided, 50 were taken to Libby Booth, 25 to Jesse Beck, and 25 to Mt. Rose.

Mission in the Philippines—

Rolando Magdamo presented mission-giving requests for two PC(USA) endorsed needs in the Philippines: Casa De Esperanza, a mission for abused girls; and local churches badly needing support. Thanks for your generous giving.

Forgotten Missionaries International (FMI)

FMI has provided through churches the means for indigenous divinity school students to start churches. FMI has focused, for the last 21 years, on planting churches in the Philippines, Indonesia (6%

Protestant), Pakistan (.8% Protestant), and Bangladesh (.003% Protestant). During that time, over 50,000 citizens of those countries have turned to Christianity through FMI-planted churches. Many churches have become self-sufficient. At this time, there are over 200 FMI-planted congregations in Pakistan; today most pastors there are graduates of Lahore Bible Institute. St. John's supports two pastors there.

Missions Committee Meetings—

The Missions Committee will meet on October 3rd and November 7th, at 5:30 p.m. in the Geneva Room (no meeting in December). Anyone interested in joining us is welcome. For more information, call George Griffith, Missions Committee Moderator (829-0197).



Fall Hosting for Family Promise

Family Promise guests are coming to St. John's on Sunday, October 16th, through Sunday, October 23rd. As of this printing, it is gratifying to report that laundry duties and most dinner slots are currently filled with the exception of dinner on Friday, October 21st.

Other ways to help include hosting for two hours in the evenings, staying overnight (9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.), or buying perishable supplies that are needed during the week. Check the Post-It notes on the whiteboard in the narthex for specific items to bring to church during the week.

If you have questions or want more information about the Family Promise program, contact Maria Winchester in the Church office (826-0990) or Family Promise Committee members Debbie Handke, Marlene Hansen, Lynn McLaughlin, Pam Ramseth, June Rosta, or Dee Russum.



Autumn Greetings From the St. John's Children's Center

Even though the calendar said it is fall, so far we haven't been experiencing it. Hopefully we will have 'frost on the pumpkins'. Children and staff are settling into a comfortable routine. We will be visiting the Ferrari Farms this month for the children to pick out their pumpkins; this is a fun field trip for everyone.

October is also time for

our annual Scholastic Book Faire. This year, it will be October 20th through October 25th. The Center will have the Faire open after church on October 23rd for all of our church families to come and see what is available. Watch for the signs to see where it will be.

The 'Carnival of Saints' this year will be Thurs-

day, October 27th, at 10:00 a.m. The children, staff, and families wear costumes, and it's a fun time for our children. Each classroom has a game for the children to play and win prizes. The Church office folk also participate.

Hope everyone has a BOO'rific month.

Miss Donna and Staff



Salamat Means "Thank You" in the Philippines

Salamat for your very generous donations to help the girls at Casa Esperanza, a temporary home for sexually abused girls (10-17 years old), as well as to restore a dwelling for a pastor who will be serving a group of small, impoverished churches in the municipality of Mabinay in the central Philippines.

The money going to Casa Esperanza will be used to purchase some of the girls' basic needs, such as clothes, shoes, bedding, school supplies, and toiletries. The budget for Casa Esperanza is inadequate to provide for these basic needs, so there is a constant search for such donations.

Your gift promises to make a huge difference during this particularly

traumatic time in these girls' very young lives. They typically come from very poor families and must be housed and protected at this crisis intervention center. Shelter in Casa Esperanza, however, is only temporary; usually it's only for a year or however long the prosecution of the girls' abusers takes.

In Mabinay, there are at least 40 small churches, none with a resident pastor. Silliman University Church, Presbyterian, is arranging to provide a student pastor for one of these churches as soon as there is a dwelling. The installation of a pastor here is only a first step in the bigger plans for these churches. Since there has never been enough money to support

even the most basic church needs, plans are being made to establish cottage industry enterprises. A viable revenue-producing program that provides a reasonable cash flow for the churches would have a dramatic impact in the area and beyond. This little church is to be a model for this ambitious undertaking.

Your gift of \$1,800 will go a long way towards providing the badly needed dwelling. It is strictly basic, as you may have seen in the photo display in Martin Hall in the recent weeks.

So, once again, *Salamat*, St John's Presbyterian Church!

Rolando V. Magdamo
Mission Committee



October 2011

St. John's Presbyterian Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>2 8:30 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 am Worship and Communion Service 11:45 am Geneva Choir 5:00 pm Eastminster Bell Choir 6:00 pm Balls of the Cross 6:00 pm Family Dinner/Potluck 6:30 pm Youth Connection</p>	<p>3 9:30 am AlAnon 5:30 pm Mission Comm. 6:15 pm Meditation Group</p>	<p>4 9:30 am Staff Meeting 10:30 am Bible Study-Ephesians 11:00 pm AlAnon 6:00 pm Sierra Highlanders Pipe Band 7:00 pm Worship Comm.</p>	<p>5 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 2:45 pm Elementary Together Time 5:30 pm Wednesday We Feed 6:30 pm Stewardship Comm.</p>	<p>6 11:30 am Prayer Group 4:15 pm Sierra Nevada Children's Choir 5:00 pm Welcoming Comm. 6:00 pm Troop 10</p>	<p>7 12:00 pm Barnacle Mariners Luncheon 5:00 pm Flipflops</p>	<p>8 8 am—12:00 pm New Officers Training 3:00 pm Troop 10 Court of Honor</p>
<p>9 Blood Pressure Sunday 8:30 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages 10:15 am Hymn Sing 10:30 am Worship Service 11:30 am Chill Cook-off 11:45 am Geneva Choir 5:00 pm Eastminster Bell Choir 6:00 pm Balls of the Cross 6:00 pm Family Dinner/Potluck 6:30 pm Youth Connection</p>	<p>10 9:30 am AlAnon 9:30 am Together Time 1:30 pm St Book Club 3:30 pm Girl Scouts 479 5:30 pm Christian Education Comm. 6:15 pm Meditation Group 7:00 pm The Compassionate Friends of Reno</p>	<p>11 9:30 am Staff Meeting 10:30 am Bible Study-Ephesians 1:00 pm AlAnon 5:30 pm Personal Comm. 6:00 pm Sierra Highlanders Pipe Band 7:00 pm Deacons</p>	<p>12 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 2:45 pm Elementary Together Time 5:00 pm SJCC Board Meeting</p>	<p>13 11:30 am Prayer Group 4:15 pm Sierra Nevada Children's Choir 7:00 pm Building and Grounds Comm.</p>	<p>14 1:00 pm Rebecca Circle 4 pm Cub Scouts 10/Den 5</p>	<p>15 8 am—12:00 pm New Officers Training</p>
<p>16 8:30 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 am Worship Service 11:45 am Geneva Choir 2:00 pm CROP Hunger Walk 6:00 pm Balls of the Cross No Youth Connection</p>	<p>17 9:30 am AlAnon 5:00 pm Officer Retreat Planning Comm. 6:15 pm Meditation Group</p>	<p>18 9:30 am Staff Meeting 10:30 am Bible Study-Ephesians 1:00 pm AlAnon 1:30 pm Martha Circle 6:00 pm Sierra Highlanders Pipe Band 7:00 pm Session</p>	<p>19 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 2:45 pm Elementary Together Time 5:00 pm Fellowship and Nurture Comm.</p>	<p>20 9:30 am Mary Morning Circle 11:30 am Prayer Group 4:15 pm Sierra Nevada Children's Choir 6:00 pm Troop 10 <i>Carillon Substitutions Due</i></p>	<p>21 12:00 pm Senior Singles Luncheon</p>	<p>22 9:00 am—12:00 pm Fall Cleanup Day</p>
<p>23 8:30 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 am Worship Service 11:45 am Geneva Choir 5:00 pm Eastminster Bell Choir 6:00 pm Balls of the Cross 6:00 pm Family Dinner/Potluck 6:30 pm Youth Connection</p>	<p>24 9:30 am AlAnon 3:30 pm Scout Troop 479 6:15 pm Meditation Group</p>	<p>25 9:30 am Staff Meeting 10:30 am Bible Study-Ephesians 1:00 pm AlAnon 6:00 pm Sierra Highlanders Pipe Band 7:00 pm Ruth Circle</p>	<p>26 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 2:45 pm Elementary Together Time</p>	<p>27 St. John's Children's Center—Carnival of Saints 11:30 am Prayer Group 1:00 pm Lydia Circle 4:15 pm Sierra Nevada Children's Choir</p>	<p>28 Nevada Day St. John's Children's Center — Closed Church Office — Open</p>	<p>29 Hosting Family Promise</p>
<p>30 Reformation Sunday 8:30 am Chancel Choir 9:15 am Sunday School for All Ages 10:30 am Worship Service 11:45 am Geneva Choir 5:00 pm Eastminster Bell Choir 6:00 pm Balls of the Cross 6:00 pm Family Dinner/Potluck 6:30 pm Youth Connection</p>	<p>31 Reformation Day 9:30 am AlAnon 6:15 pm Meditation Group</p>					
<p>Clawson Library Fall Hours Sundays—10:00 a.m. to Noon (closed during worship service) Wednesdays—9:30 a.m. to Noon</p>						

Upcoming Events at St. John's

- **October 5th** — Wednesday We Feed
- **October 8th and 15th** — New Officer Training (Deacons and Elders)
- **October 9th** — Annual Chili Cook-Off and Apple/Pumpkin Dessert Auction
- **October 16th** — CROP Hunger Walk
- **October 16th -23rd** — Family Promise Hosting
- **October 22nd** — Fall Cleanup Day for St. John's Grounds
- **October 23rd** — SJCC Scholastic Book Faire
- **November 2nd** — "Ring-Praise" Concert (7:00 p.m.)
- **November 6th** — Commitment Sunday



2011 Church Officers

Elders:

Ann Anderson
Susan Day
John Dutton
George Griffith
Ryan Hansen
Joan Jeffers
Rolando Magdamo
Lynn McLaughlin
Ken Meyer
Cathryn Perdue
Richard Priest
Anne Sigurdson
David Stover
Ralph Voss
Elaine York

Clerk of Session:

Ray Bledsoe

Deacons:

Jan Peck (Moderator)
Caroline Asikainen
Elsie Baughman
Laura Engel
Erin Etnyre
Suzanne Griffith
Dan Hansen
Reena Khan
Peggy Meyer
Kat Parker
Pam Ramseth
June Rosta
Ron Scovill
Mary Sherman
Rubyanna Staunton
Marian Stroh
Barbara Voss
Carolyn Williamson

Deacons (cont'd) :

Amy Willoughby
Maria Winchester

2011 Session Committee Moderators:

Building & Grounds—John Dutton (626-4455)
Children's Center—Ann Anderson (691-7602)
Christian Education—Joan Jeffers (827-4355)
Fellowship & Nurture—Elaine York (624-2696)
Mission—George Griffith (829-0197)
Nominating—Joan Jeffers (827-4355)
Personnel—David Stover (856-4823)
Stewardship & Finance—Ken Meyer (453-1957)
Welcoming & Evangelism—Rolando Magdamo (425-2615)
Worship—Ralph Voss (852-9141)

October Participating Elder Assignments

October 2nd —	10:30 a.m.	Elaine York
October 9th —	10:30 a.m.	David Stover
October 16th —	10:30 a.m.	Rolando Magdamo
October 23rd —	10:30 a.m.	Lynn McLaughlin
October 30th —	10:30 a.m.	Ken Meyer

“The Calling of Elders and Deacons” by Pastor Tom (continued from p.3)

Of course, at that point in Abraham’s encounter with God, he didn’t know what God had in store for him. He didn’t know that he would be asked to sacrifice his beloved son, Isaac. So, maybe it’s not surprising that he didn’t hesitate, that he was simply obedient and respectful. After all, it was God’s voice he was hearing.

When you read the rest of the story, though, you realize that Abraham wasn’t simply acknowledging that he heard God. He wasn’t just saying, “I’m here.” Instead, **he was making the ultimate statement of availability.** He was saying to God, “Whatever you need, I’ll do it.” He did not ask, “What do you have in mind?” or suggest, “Let’s talk, and I’ll see what I can do for you.” He simply said, “Here I am,” ending his response with the unspoken words, “... ready to do your will.” He was a true soldier reporting for duty. I have had a sign in my study for most of my ministry that says, “God never asks about our ability or inability, but about our availability.” Making ourselves available has to do with an

attitude in our heart, a readiness to respond to God’s call whatever the content of that call may be. For Abraham, openness to God’s call was unconditional.

Hineni (Here I am) is a building block of our faith. When God calls, will we respond positively with an attitude like Abraham’s or negatively, at first, like the first son in Jesus’ parable? Are we open to anything that God wants us to do? Will we make ourselves utterly available? Or will we hesitate? Will we ask, “What do you have in mind, God?” Or will we simply say to the Lord of sea and sky, “Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart. I am ready and available to do your will.”

The secret of spiritual blessing, of course, is to embrace this attitude even before God calls – to live it in anticipation of God’s call. After all, God didn’t call Abraham because he wondered if Abraham would obey. He called Abraham because he *knew* Abraham would obey. Abraham

had been living a *Hineni (Here I am)* life even before God called. And that’s what God expects of us as Christians. It is a “walking by faith, not by sight, trusting in the Lord with all hearts, not relying on our own insight” (Proverbs 3:5) way of life.

“Here I am” shows up often in the Scriptures. For example, Moses said it when God spoke from the burning bush (Exodus 3:4). Mary responded when the angel Gabriel spoke to her: “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word” (Luke 1:38). Isaiah uses the phrase repeatedly, perhaps most notably in Isaiah 6:8, when he hears the Lord ask, “Whom shall I send?” and he replies, “Here am I. Send me.” The phrase is used once in the New Testament (Acts 9:10) when the Lord called Ananias of Damascus in a vision and Ananias responded, “Here I am, Lord.” Then the Lord told Ananias to go to the street called Straight at the house of Judas to look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. Consequently, Ananias laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord

Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 9:17).

Of course, as with all acts of faith, this one comes with risk. Not only will this attitude make you available to God’s call, it actually might provoke and attract that call. I’ve met numerous people who, once they opened their hearts to a *Hineni (Here I am, Lord)* way of life, quickly found themselves engaged in God’s work. In other words, they soon were discovering what they would be willing to do *when* God calls, not pondering what they might do *if* God calls.

While I believe that we are expected to be submissive and obedient to God’s call, I also believe this is a two-way relationship. It’s not simply a God-asks-and-we-act paradigm. In Isaiah 58:9, the prophet says, “Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.” You can be assured that when you answer the call to serve as an elder

Continued on page 12



“The Calling of Elders and Deacons” by Pastor Tom

(continued from p.11)

or deacon, you will not be alone. You have a Helper who says whenever you cry out, “Here I am.” Our Book of Order states (F-I.0202): “Christ calls the church into being, giving it all that is necessary for its mission in the world, for its sanctification, and for its service to God.”

Mindful of God’s presence and equipping power with you, perhaps you are now ready to respond like the first son in Jesus’ parable who initially answered, ‘I will not’; but later changed his mind and went. What joy it would bring to God and to St. John’s Nominating Committee to

hear a response like “*Hineni* (Here I am), I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.” That’s what it means to be a servant-leader as an elder or a deacon. That is my vision for St. John’s leadership team.

Nominating Committee Is Calling for Deacons

The Deacons have vacancies! If anyone is interested in serving as a Deacon, please contact Joan Jeffers, Moderator of the

Nominating Committee (joan.jeffers@gmail.com or 827-4355). This is a critical part of St. John’s ministry, and we hope

that you will prayerfully consider serving.



**CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION**

Call for Full-Time Interim Director of Christian Education

St. John’s is looking for a full-time Interim Director of Christian Education. If you feel God is calling you to this important ministry of our church, we would love for you to consider serving. The job description is posted outside the Pastor’s office on the bulletin board and on the Youth Connection bulletin board across

from the CE Office. If you are aware of anyone in the community who is qualified for this position, you may forward a job description to them or ask them to contact the Church office.

St. John’s intends to fill this Director position on a permanent basis. We are aware, however, that

identifying the best candidate could take some time. The interim position is to handle CE duties while the search for the permanent position is on-going. If you have any questions, contact the Church office (826-0990).

New Midweek Adult Class

Join Pastor Tom for an uplifting study of the book of *Ephesians*. This six-week class will use the Bible to illustrate God's incredible redemptive purpose — from before the foundation of the

world to its consummation in the fullness of Christ. This is a drop-in class, and the only thing you will need is your Bible. We will be meeting in the Geneva Room at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays

through November 1st. Please feel free to bring a brown bag lunch, and stay to eat with us afterward.



**CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION**

On-Going Christian Education Classes—Sundays, 9:15 a.m.

Children's Classes —

Children's classes will use a PC(USA) lectionary module (3—4 year olds, K—2 grades, 3rd—4th grades). Grades 5—6 will use the Covenant People curriculum, Old Testament Survey course.

Middle School—"Just Eating? Practicing Our Faith at the Table"

A PC(USA) Presbyterian Hunger Program Curriculum, this class aims to shape a way of life with food that flows out of a deep understanding of how food connects us with God and all of Creation. The middle-schoolers are engaging in a Heifer International project and have asked

the high-schoolers and sixth graders to participate. Food is a basic need, but it is also the stuff of reconciliation, healing, transformation, comfort, courage, and justice. "When the body of Christ gathers to share food and drink, God is there and is moving to transform us." Join us as we actively seek ways to be a part of the solution to malnutrition.

High School—

This class uses different Mission stories to illustrate the importance of missions to the church and the world at large. It is taught by Ryan and Shonee Hansen. This group is partnering with

the middle-schoolers in the Heifer International project.

Adults—"Feasting on the Word"

This PC(USA) lectionary study, taught by Ken Meyer, is designed to deepen your understanding of God's word. Join us as we learn how to develop a deeper exploration of biblical texts. The class will reinforce and expand on the Scriptures read and proclaimed in worship, enhancing Christian faith. We hope to help you put your faith into action and grow in your self-understanding.



Wednesday We Feed

Please join us in Martin Hall on Wednesday, October 5th, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. for *Wednesday We Feed*. The youth make all the pizza and bake delicious cookies or brownies from scratch. This

year, the money raised by WWF will be used for a church-wide Mission Trip in 2012. Pastor Tom spoke with us last month to give us ideas for such a trip and asked Ryan Hansen to head up this pro-

ject. The youth are very excited about the prospect of a mission trip. The WWF cost is \$4.00 for children and \$5.00 for adults, with a family maximum of \$15.00.

New Officer Training

As we look forward to preparing for 2012, we have scheduled New Officer Training for all incoming Elders and Deacons, and other Elders or Deacons who wish to

attend. Training will be held Saturdays, October 8th and 15th, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. These two sessions, taught by Rev. Tom Baughman and Elder Ralph Voss, Wor-

ship Committee Moderator, are required for all Elders and Deacons who will take office in 2012. Please call Ralph Voss (852-9141) if you have any questions.



New Hymn Sing Beginning October 9th

Once a month, beginning on Sunday, October 9th, members of the Chancel Choir will lead a new Hymn Sing at 10:15 a.m. The hymn book will be

used to sing the first and last verses of chosen songs. The Hymn Sing will last until morning worship service begins at 10:30 a.m. Come join the

fun—10:15 a.m. on the second Sunday of each month.



Sunday Evening Christian Education — Youth Connection

Join Brooke Dutton and Maria Winchester for Youth Connection from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Youth Connection is open to all ages 6th grade through high school. Youth Connection seeks to call youth to be disciples of

Christ, to respond to the needs and interests of young people, and to create a partnership with the whole church, the community, and the world.

Brooke is working on the calendar, and we hope to

have it published very soon. You can count on having both fun outings and community mission projects. We hope you will come be a part of this great group and help us spark a fire.

Presbyterian Women's Events

PW Missionary—

On Sunday, September 18th, we hosted Dr. Sharon Stanley, our PW missionary to the Hmong Laotian people living in Fresno. The PWC is so pleased at the hospitality provided for our guests. The Laotian ladies danced, modeled, and gave their life stories. Thank you to all our women who put on a fabulous Church luncheon. In October we will be having our Circle meetings as scheduled, with the addition of the Lydia Circle, led by Elsie Baughman. We are all studying *Confessing the Beatitudes*. Every Circle is open to new members! Call PW Moderator Betty Squires (829-0354) for more details.

Lydia Circle—

This new Circle will commence on Thursday, October 27th, at 1:00 p.m. in the Clawson Library with Lesson 1. (Chair: Elsie Baughman)

Martha Circle—

Will meet on Tuesday, October 18th, at 1:30 p.m. in the Clawson Library. Jenny Bledsoe will lead Lesson 2. Joan Jeffers and Carolyn Williamson will provide refreshments. (Chair: Suzanne Griffith)

Mary Morning Circle—

Will meet at Classic Residence (3201 Plumas St.) at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, October 20th, to study Lesson 2. (Chair: Joyce Field)

Rebecca Circle—

Will meet Friday, October 14th, at 1:00 p.m. in the Geneva Room. Lou Pitts will lead Lesson 2 and provide refreshments. (Chair: Lou Pitts)

Ruth Circle—

Will meet on Tuesday, October 24th, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Doris Krater (3020 Rustic Manor Circle, 329-8581). Esther Barnes will lead Lesson 2, and Ethel Kleinsasser will provide refreshments. Our CAAW item is feminine hygiene products. (Chair: Dee Russum)



Calling All Male Singers!

The Silver Dollar Chorus would like to invite any and all men to sing with us for on our annual Christmas holiday performance on Saturday, December 10th, 2011.

We sing *a cappella* and begin practices on Tuesday, October 25th, 2011. Rehearsals are Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. The rehearsal location is Classic Residence (3201 Plumas Street, Reno).

If you have any questions, please contact Richard Ketring (356-0612 or 2rsmketring@att.net).



“Ring-Praise” Concert on November 2nd

Save the date! At 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 2nd, a College of

Idaho handbell ringer, accompanied by a pianist, will present a concert for us in the sanctuary.



St. John's Book Club

At 1:30 p.m. on Monday, October 10th, the members of St. John's Book Club will meet in Clawson Library to discuss *Friendly Fallout 1953* by Ann Ronald, a local author and historian. This book is the 2011 selection for the Nevada Reads program. Groups all over Nevada will be reading and discussing *Friendly Fallout 1953* this month.

From Amazon.com:

"*Friendly Fallout 1953* is a hybrid work of literature that combines the actual

history of atomic tests in the Nevada desert in 1953 with fictional vignettes that explore the impact of the tests on the people who participated in them and on civilian 'downwinders'. Told through the perspectives of military personnel, scientists, ranchers, and others, the stories bring to life a turbulent era when Cold War fears, patriotism, scientific ambition, and popular excitement often collided with the welfare of ordinary citizens and the environment. Ronald

compellingly evokes the test explosions in all their terrifying magnificence and explores the diverse and sometimes conflicting emotions of a generation that saw atomic energy as its best protection against the horrors of another world war."

Join us for a stimulating and enjoyable discussion. Helen Engeseth will provide refreshments. If you have any questions, please contact Kat Parker (849-3245).



Clawson Library Fall Hours

Sundays—
10:00 a.m. to Noon
(closed during worship service)

Wednesdays—
9:30 a.m. to Noon

News Highlights From St. John's Session (continued from p.4)

Krater, and Mary Davis.

Vital Statistics as of press time for the September 2011 issue of *The Carillon*:

• **Active Members:** 362 members in 239 households as of September 23rd, 2011.

• **Communion:** 127 Communicants were served on Sunday, September 4th, 2011. (127 were served at the 10:30 a.m. worship service and no Homebound were taken Communion.)

• **Deaths:** The death of former member Omer

King, on Monday, September 5th, 2011, has been recorded.

• **Births, Baptisms or Weddings:** No Births, Baptisms, or Weddings have been recorded since the last issue of *The Carillon*.

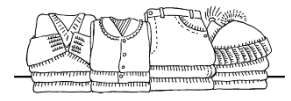
Children's Clothing Donations Needed

Members Jim and Ann Anderson will be making their annual pilgrimage to race the Baja 1000 in November. They will be accepting and delivering new or gently used children's clothing (for all

ages) to the Rancho Milagro orphanage outside of Ensenada, Mexico.

Please look for donation receptacles in Martin Hall and at the St. John's Children's Center if you can

help in this endeavor. If you have any questions, please call Ann and Jim Anderson (691-7602).





Mariners

Mariners

Anchors Aweigh—

• Skippers Rew and Sue Goodenow (851-2716).

Barnacles—

Will meet on Friday, October 7th, at noon in Martin Hall for a Bingo game with white elephant items, brought by each member, as prizes. For the meal, each should bring a brown bag lunch, and a surprise dessert will be furnished.

• Skippers Don Garrett (787-3992) and Tom Boyer (323-4513).

Discipleship—

Will meet at the home of

Jeannine and Randall Stewart (1278 Creek Haven Circle). The date and time have not been set. Be on the lookout for more information, but it's a good bet that the food will be Tex-Mex.

• Skippers Rick and Ann McElreath (851-2495).

Flippers—

Will gather for an Oktoberfest potluck at the home of Sharon and Doug Usedom (1860 Vicenza Drive, Sparks; 355-0210) on Friday, October 7th, at 5:00 p.m.

• Skippers Ken and Peggy Meyer (453-1957).

Senior Singles—

Will meet Friday, October 21st (because the last Friday of the month is Nevada Day), at noon in the Geneva Room, to study the book of Isaiah. Bring a sandwich and an appetite for the word of God.

• Skipper Betty Squires (829-0354).



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study Moving to 8:00 a.m.

"The days grow short." As we continue our studies in the fall season, we are moving our start time starting Wednesday, October 5th, to 8:00 a.m.

We continue our studies in the First and Second Epistles of Peter, "the apostle of Jesus Christ". Peter introduced his letters focusing on "salvation" and how "aliens" should live on

this earth while passing through.

The schedule is as follows:

Oct. 5—1 Peter 4:7-19

Oct. 12—1 Peter 5:1-14

Oct. 19—2 Peter Intro and 1:1-4

Oct. 26—2 Peter 1:5-11

Nov. 2—2 Peter 1:12-22

Nov. 9—2 Peter 3:1-9

Nov. 16—2 Peter 3:10-18

Bring a friend and join us

for this time of fellowship and study **from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.** on Wednesdays at Lili's Restaurant, 2325 Kietzke at Franktown Corners. For more information, call George Griffith (829-0197).



ST. JOHN'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1070 W. Plumb Lane
Reno, NV 89509

Phone: 775.826.0990
Fax: 775.826.0994

We're on the Web!
www.stjohnschurch.org

Notes of Appreciation

From Life Line Screening—

“Thank you for hosting our preventive health screening event today! We hope that we saved lives in your community as a result of your hospitality! See you next time! Your Friends at Life Line Screening, Sacramento Team.”

From Lori Bigham, BSA Troop 107 Chairman—

“Boy Scout Troop 107 thanks you for the use of your facility. We have appreciated the church and facility for Eagle Scout Ceremonies, Court of Honor ceremonies, weekly troop meetings, and senior patrol leadership meetings. With your

community support, combined [with] dedication to the youth, it has made it possible for our troop to continually provide a safe and organized environment for our youth. Please accept a token of our appreciation to be used for the facility or any way that may be more appropriate.”

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