

To Our Visitors, Welcome!

To all who are weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are idle and look for service; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whosoever will come – this church opens wide her doors and offers her welcome in the name of Jesus her Lord.

We are delighted that you are worshiping with us this morning, and we invite you to join us for fellowship, coffee, and cookies after the service in the parlor.

Children are welcomed and encouraged to remain in the worship service, however a nursery is available for infants and pre-school-aged children. Ask anyone with a nametag for directions. Denim activity bags are available in the Narthex for children to use during the service.

Announcements

New Membership Class

Come and explore whether or not God is calling you to become a member of First Presbyterian Church. We will look at several areas of what it means to be a Christian and an active disciple of Jesus Christ as a member of Casper First. If you are not certain whether or not you are ready to join, this is the place to go to help you make that decision. We will meet for approximately 7-8 weeks during the Sunday School hour in the small conference room on the second floor beginning **February 21st**. Please call the church office to inform us of your intention to join us, or e-mail the church office. This will allow us to know who is coming and also helps us to know the quantity of materials needed for the class.

Confirmation is a time of study and preparation for young people to make a public profession of faith. The study will begin on **February 21st** and will meet on Sunday afternoons. It is designed for students in 7-12 grades. It will be completed on Pentecost Sunday, May 15th, as they take their vows before God and the congregation. Let Pastor Mark know if you have or know a student who might be interested.

The deadline for **annual reports** is tomorrow, **January 25th**. If you are a church officer or chairperson of a committee or ministry area and have not yet done so, please have your reports turned in to the office by then.

There will be an **Annual Meeting of the Congregation** immediately following Worship on Sunday, **February 7, 2016**, for the following purposes: approval of Terms of Call for Pastor, reception of annual reports, presentation of the budget, and any other business appropriate to the annual meeting.

Prayer Concerns

- ✚ Dominique Hennagin Dobson and her two children; Misty Folz; our Prayer and Vision teams
- ✚ For our country and all her officers, our state and all her officers, and our local community and all her officers.
- ✚ For all military men and women and their families, including Brian Barksdale, and especially for those serving in dangerous positions
- ✚ For the EPC Presbytery of the West, specifically for *Rev. Don Kearby, Rev. Dr. Robert Mossman, and the congregation of Cornerstone Community Church in Aurora, CO*; our Elders and Deacons; Kenya's Chogoria South Presbytery, the four churches of the Kamwangu Nendini, and Pastor Mackylas; Ali Arhab and Channel North Africa's outreach to new Christians and to Muslims; our EPC missionaries, Ryan, Brian, and Sean, and their families
**Each week we will focus our prayers on one specific church in the EPC Presbytery of the West.*
- ✚ For Christians suffering persecution in Libya, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan; for Christians at risk in Nigeria, Kenya, Algeria, Jordan, Egypt and elsewhere

Upcoming Events for the week of January 24-31

TODAY

9:15 Sunday School

11:00 A.M. Worship/Fellowship

Monday 25th

8:45 A.M. Worship Committee
5:30 P.M. Facilities

Tuesday 26th

9:00 A.M., 7:00 P.M. Romans Study
4:15 P.M., 6:15 P.M. Companions
in Christ

Wednesday 27th

7 P.M. Choir

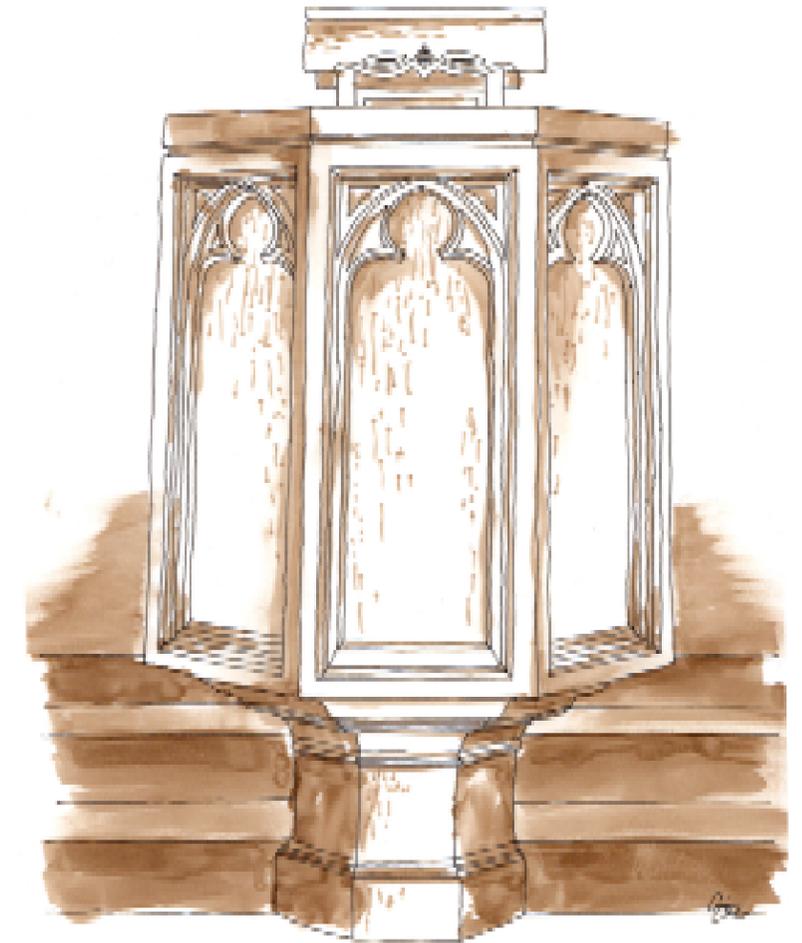
Next Sunday Jan. 31st

9:15 Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Worship/Fellowship

Church Staff

Pastor	Mark Tippin	724-651-7960 tippim1@yahoo.com
Financial/Acctg	Wendy Campbell	wcampbell@rkixp.com
Choirmaster	Zach Vreeman	zvreeman@gmail.com
Organist	Marilyn Fry	musicmare@hotmail.com
Admin. Assistant	Barb Martin	barmar1054@gmail.com

First Presbyterian Church (EPC) January 24, 2016



804 South Wolcott
Casper, WY 82601
(307)237-9509
(307) 473-2833 Fax

Email: firstpc@qwestoffice.net
Website: www.firstprescasper.com

Facebook: First Presbyterian Church (EPC) of Casper

Order for the Worship of God

January 24, 2016

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

*Invocation

Passing of the Peace

Leader: Grace and peace to you.

People: And also to you.

*Opening Hymn *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* #53

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 146)

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

People: I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

Leader: Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

People: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God.

*Hymn *Fairest Lord Jesus* #171

Psalter Psalm 62
Pew Bible [Blue] p. 479, [Red] p. 608
reading alternate verses

Prayer of Confession (in unison) *Based on Ezekiel 14:6*

Lord, you tell us to repent, to turn from our idols and renounce all our detestable practices. We instead have turned away from you in so many ways. Search our hearts, O God, and show us the ways in which we have turned from you. Forgive us for turning toward things which are not pleasing to you and by the power of the Holy Spirit, turn us toward your face and bestow on us your grace and mercy.

~ Silent confession ~ **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon (responsively)

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

All: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Thanks be to God!

*Gloria Patri #735

Anthem

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Text

Malachi 3:1-3

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 802, [Red] p. 1021

New Testament Text

Luke 3:15-22

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 858, [Red] p. 1092

Sermon *Closer Than a Brother* Pastor Mark Tippin

*Hymn *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* #457

Prayers of the People

Thanksgiving

Intercession

For the Church

For the Ministry

For the Nation

For all People

The Lord's Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

*Doxology #731

*Confession of Faith *Westminster Confession 14.1*

The gift of faith makes it possible for the souls of the elect to be saved by believing in Jesus Christ. This gift is the work of the Spirit of Christ in the hearts of the elect and is ordinarily accomplished by the ministry of the word. It is also increased and strengthened by the word, by prayer, and by the administration of the sacraments.

*Hymn *Lift High the Cross* #263

*Benediction

*Postlude

***Please stand if you are able**

Participants in Today's Service

Pastor	Mark Tippin
Choirmaster	Zach Vreeman
Organist	Marilyn Fry
Liturgist	MH Hennagin
Head Usher	Grace Ward
Greeter	Janis Hall
Nursery	Jane Drake, Lexie Tippin

Information

- ✦ Please call the church office (237-9509) ...
If you or a member of your family would like a visit while recuperating in the hospital or at home.
If you have a prayer concern.
- ✦ Session requests that each member pay an EPC Annual Asking Amount of \$48 for 2016 (above and beyond your pledge)

Our Mission Statement

Out of humble gratitude for the free and undeserved gift of grace we have received through Christ, the mission of First Presbyterian Church (EPC) is:

To proclaim, with boldness, God's glory, truth, and love revealed to us in his Word through the Holy Spirit. We seek to worship Him with our entire lives, being continually reformed to Scripture, our only guide in faith and practice.

Minute for Mission

For many years, FPC has collected SOUP for **Souper Bowl of Caring** on Super Bowl Sunday, and soup donations went to the Mission. This year, Parish Life suggests we all add additional monetary donations to the big VeggieDairian Ministry jar just outside the education wing entry to the sanctuary. With the money, we will purchase whatever the Mission kitchen is most in NEED of besides our normal milk donations--fresh veggies, fresh fruit, or maybe even soup! Thanks so much for your EXTRA donations **between now and February 7th!**



Baby Bottle Boomerang

Please take a baby bottle as you leave worship today for the True Care Baby Bottle Boomerang! Here's how it works:

1. Place your bottle in a prominent place in your home.
2. Pray for the staff, volunteers, and clients of the clinic.
3. Fill the bottle with coins, bills, and checks you collect.
4. Return your bottle on President's Day Weekend. (Feb. 14th)

Thank you for partnering with our local pregnancy resource clinic to remove the perceived need for abortion in Natrona County!