

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.

Minute for Mission

FROM PARISH LIFE

Our church's Prayer Shawl Ministry, the Dorcas Comfort Ministry, has reached out to members of our congregation and the community for nine years. Dorcas is the Greek name of a woman in the book of Acts who was considered a model of traditional family values. She is referred to as a female disciple, the only time the word is used in the New Testament. She was known for producing garments for the poor and dedicating her life to good works and acts of charity. Highly revered by her community, when she died, Peter raised her from the dead. This miracle is said to have been instrumental in the spread of the early Christian Church and Peter's ministry.

Our Dorcas Ministry has made fleece blankets, shawls, flannel vests, embroidered pillow cases, quilts, soft pillows, and other gifts for many members of the congregation during times of sadness, pain, or of great joy for a wedding, birth, or graduation. In addition, for over 8 years, well over 1000 fleece blankets and knitted slippers have gone to the women and children of the Rescue Mission's women's Transformation Center!

For the last few months, the Dorcas Ministry has moved in an additional direction by making baby quilts, blankets, caps, and bibs for True Care Pregnancy Resource Center. Completed projects will be given to True Care three times each year. If you find you have leftover flannel fabric, quilting fabric, batting, or clean adult-sized tee shirts in a bright fabric, the group could put them to good use!

The Dorcas Ministry meets the first Thursday of the month at 9 AM if you would like to learn to make the baby items or fleece blankets. In addition, if you would like to learn to knit slippers for the women and children who are guests at the Transformation Center, small groups will be learning from Marielle Bondurant at her home September 20th and 27th. Contact MH Hennagin if you would like to join one of the groups.

Announcements

Companions in Christ – Two **Tuesday Ladies' Bible Studies** began last week. The afternoon group, which meets at 4:15, is finishing up their study on Isaiah for the first few weeks, and then will start a new study. (Contact Phyllis Karns if you have questions about that group.) The evening group, which meets at 6:15, is beginning a study by John MacArthur on Romans. (Judy Schenk has more information about that group.) We would love for any interested ladies to join us for either group!

Prayer Concerns

- ✠ For Elisha and Eli (our new CWRM Family Rescue Initiative family)
- ✠ 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. Dave Fenska, interim pastor, and Kingman Presbyterian Church in Kingman, Arizona*; 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 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 September 21 -28

Monday 21st

6:15 P.M. Deacons
7 P.M. Session

Wednesday 23rd

7 P.M. Choir

Next Sunday Sept. 27th

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

Tuesday 22nd

4:15 P.M., 6:15 P.M.
Companions in Christ

Thursday 24th

7:30 P.M. Artcore Concert
(Otter Creek)

Text: 1 Samuel 17
Sermon: "Defying Giants"

First Presbyterian Church (EPC) September 20, 2015



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

E-mail: firstpc@qwestoffice.net
Website: www.firstprescasper.com

Facebook: First Presbyterian Church (EPC) of Casper

Order for the Worship of God

September 20, 2015

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Leader: Grace and peace to you.

People: And also to you.

***Opening Hymn** *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* #381

***Call to Worship** From Psalm 93

Leader: The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed; he has put on strength as his belt. Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.

People: Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.

Leader: Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the LORD on high is mighty!

People: Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.

*Invocation

***Hymn** *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me* #499

Psalter

Psalm 77

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 488, [Red] p. 619

Reading alternate verses

Prayer of Confession (in unison) *Based on Proverbs 28:13*

Your word tells us that those who conceal their sins do not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy. O Lord, we do indeed confess that we have sinned against you. We lay our sins before you; we lay all our sin before you. We not only confess our sins but we renounce them. Now Lord, shower us with your mercy through the blood of your Son and our Savior, Jesus Christ.

~ 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 *Lead Me, Lord* Samuel Wesley

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Texts

The Great Promise – Matthew 16:13-18

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 822, [Red] p. 1044

The Great Commandment – Matthew 22:34-40

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 828, [Red] p. 1052

The Great Witness – Acts 1:8

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 909, [Red] p. 1156

The Great Mission – Luke 19:1-10

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 878, [Red] p. 1116

The Great Commission – Matthew 28:16-20

Pew Bible [Blue] p. 835, [Red] p. 1062

Sermon *Jesus' Five Greatest Hits* Pastor Bob Stauffer

***Hymn** *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak* #561

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 3.1, 3.5*

From all eternity and by the completely wise and holy purpose of his own will, God has freely and unchangeably ordained whatever happens. This ordainment does not mean, however, that God is the author of sin (he is not), that he represses the will of his created beings, or that he takes away the freedom or contingency of secondary causes. Rather, the will of created beings and the freedom and contingency of secondary causes are established by him.

Before the creation of the world, according to his eternal, unchangeable plan and the hidden purpose and good pleasure of his will, God has chosen in Christ those of mankind who are predestined to life and to everlasting glory. He has done this solely out of his own mercy and love and completely to the praise of his wonderful grace. This choice was completely independent of his foreknowledge of how his created beings would be or act. Neither their faith nor good works nor perseverance had any part in influencing his selection.

***Hymn** *Lead On, O King Eternal* #580

*Benediction

*Postlude

***Please stand if you are able**

Participants in Today's Service

Guest Pastor	Bob Stauffer
Organist	Luke Sorenson
Liturgist	Mark Tippin
Head Usher	MH Hennagin
Greeter	Mike Fankhauser
Nursery	Al Sanford, 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 for the Prayer Band.
 - ✓ If you have a prayer concern for the bulletin.
- ✚ The Session would like for each member to have a copy of the EPC Leadership Training Guide. You can pick up a free copy from the literature rack by the office door.
- ✚ Session requests that each member pay an EPC Annual Asking Amount of \$48 for 2015 (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.