



# THE FIRST PRESS

From Tom's Study...

"Paul an apostle—sent neither by human commission nor from human authorities, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father, who raised him from the dead—and all the members of God's family who are with me, to the churches of Galatia: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to set us free from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen." – Galatians 1:1-5

Beginnings. How to start? How do we begin this new relationship?

In my journey seeking to be a follower of the Jesus Way, I have learned to keep my eyes open for doors to walk through. Last September, when I sent my Personnel Information Form to the Pastor Nominating Committee in Salida, I knew there would be quite a few others who also sent their PIF to the PNC. It seemed like a long shot that this door might open.

I began praying that if my gifts would be a good fit for the congregation in Salida, the door would open; if not, the door would remain closed. The door opened, a process that I believe has been directed by the Holy Spirit, through the PNC and through you, the congregation! The "Call" process is a unique one, a bit different from other job openings and hiring processes. As Paul believed, we also seek to believe and trust that God is in the midst of this new beginning, this new relationship. Our relationship is starting because we proclaim to be a part of Christ's Body; we are a part of something much bigger, much more consequential than ourselves.

When Paul wrote to the congregation in Galatia, he started his letter with a bold vision, "set us free from the present evil age". We may not like the words that Paul used, words like 'sin' and 'evil', but I would imagine that we would all agree that this world where we live has problems. As people who have chosen to be a part of Christ's Body, we are people who have chosen to open our lives to God's Spirit working through us, to bring healing and love to the brokenness of this world.

As our new relationship begins, I believe we want to join together in paying attention to the doors that God opens, so that together we can participate in the work God is doing to bring healing, reconciliation, and new life to our lives, to our life together, and to the world as a whole. As followers of the Jesus Way we choose to bring the story of our lives into the grand story our Creator is always writing.

*Pastor's Message continued on pg. 2...*

## **WHAT'S INSIDE**

<i>Sermon Topics</i> .....	2
<i>Youth Ministry</i> .....	3
<i>Children's Ministry</i> .....	4
<i>Music Ministry</i> .....	5-6
<i>Stewardship Message</i> .....	7
<i>Did You Know?</i> .....	8
<i>From the Office</i> .....	9
<i>Financials</i> .....	9

*Pastor's Message continued from pg. 1...*

This big picture, this grand vision begins, however, with individual relationships, with us getting to know each other, with us sharing God's grace and peace with one another. Toward that end, Deb and I will begin hosting small group gatherings at our house so that we can begin to get to know one another, listening together for how God is inviting us into this work of healing and reconciliation. Soon there will be sign-up sheets in the main hallway where you can join one of these get to know each other gatherings. We will keep hosting these events until everyone who wants to participate is able. We so look forward to getting to know each of you as Deb and I join with you in this grand story that God invites us into.

God's grace and peace be with each of us - Tom



### June 2 – 7th Sunday of Easter

Scripture Reading: Matthew 22:36-40, Ephesians 2:11-22, 2 Corinthians 5:16-20

Sermon Title: "God's Dream for the World, Nothing Less"

Synopsis: In order for us as a congregation to embrace our vision as a church we have to have a clear understanding of God's Dream for the world. How would you share with someone God's dream for the world? What would you say? How have you arrived at that particular understanding of God's dream for the world? How do we protect ourselves, and "we together" as a congregation, from confusing our dream for God's dream? How do we support each other in seeking, embracing, and living out God's dream for the world, nothing less?

### June 9 – Day of Pentecost

Scripture Reading: I Samuel 15:17-18a, Acts 2:1-13, Acts 8:26-40

Sermon Title: "Being a Mission People"

Synopsis: Besides having a vision statement as a congregation we also have a mission statement. As followers of the Jesus Way we are a mission people, but what does that mean to consider ourselves people with a mission? What would you say is the mission God has called you to? What is our mission together as a community of people? How do we embrace our mission more fully?

### June 16 – Trinity Sunday

Scripture Reading: Psalm 139:1-6, Psalm 139:7-18, Psalm 139:19-24

Sermon Title: "Our Mission – Knowing God"

Synopsis: Most church mission statements have a doxological structure with three parts: a focus on God, a focus on the community, and a focus on the world. Our mission statement follows that common pattern; it starts with a focus on knowing God. Psalm 139 perhaps suggests that we come to know God by coming to know ourselves. I don't think the Psalmist is suggesting that we are God, but rather in knowing ourselves we learn about the one who created us. Through your life, what helps you know God?

### June 23 – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost – Youth Mission Trip Sunday

*Continued on page 3...*

June 30 – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture Reading: 1 John 3:11, Luke 10:25-37, Philippians 2:1-5

Sermon Title: “Our Mission – Loving Each Other”

Synopsis: The second aspect of our mission statement focuses on our life together. How we live our life together is perhaps our greatest witness to the world. When we live well together, others are intrigued. They wonder how that works? They wonder why? They wonder how? As a congregation, how do we foster and live out a life of loving each other well?



As summer is upon us, our kids are getting ready to head out on summer mission trips. June 1-10 our high school students will be traveling to and in the San Francisco Bay area for a week of serving in various urban ministries. We'll spend time in soup kitchens, food banks, delivering meals on wheels, and generally discovering what it means to live in a city where there is so much income inequality and how that impacts those there. Please be praying for us: for safety in all things, for joy in deepening of friendships, for courageous hearts to try new things, and for minds and hearts open to what God is doing both in the Bay Area and in our own lives. Our team is: Amelia Capozza, Lestat Hart, Colin King, Quinn Myers, Hannah Rhude, Nate Calderone, and me—Hilary Downs.

And mark your calendars: the team will be sharing their stories in worship on Sunday, May 23 in a special combined service at 10:00 a.m.

Thanks for all your support!

Hilary





### **Sunday School:**

In June, Sunday School classes will learn that God speaks, so we can listen to God. We are too often like Jonah who chooses not to listen to God, before he spends three days in a large fish. Why is that?

Joshua 1:9 tells us, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go." I pray that we can all be like Joshua and follow God's plans.

Thanks to the following teachers: Trish King, Lesly Ely, Justin Anderson, Emily Anderson, Sheri Talbot, Jane McBride, Claire Shepherd, and Kathryn Edgington.

Thank you for creating a space for our children to learn and love church each Sunday.

### **Kidz Klub & Rock Group:**

We are on summer break from our regular meetings. Our last meeting in May, was a rainy day outside. The rainstorm kept us inside where the kids were high energy. We had fun while we ate pizza, played games, and sang songs. I will miss meeting with all the children on a weekly basis over the summer. I will send out emails with special events to parents over the summer.

Thank you to all the following volunteers: Hilary Downs, Katy Grether, Kylie Buchan, Kathy Moore, Kat Augustdottir-Shuford, and Dellann Strom. Each volunteer is gifted to serve these children in different ways. We appreciate your energy and time.

### **Gleaning the Fields Mission Day:**

In the Bible it says you should love your neighbor as yourself.



In Leviticus 19 it says:

"When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God."

All are welcome to join us in serving others. On Friday, August 30<sup>th</sup> we invite everyone to camp at the Sand Dunes Hot Springs Pools in Hooper, CO. Katie Lady will book a group of reservations at the

campground at the Sand Dunes Pool. Please contact Katie if you would like a campsite. We plan to glean the fields for an Alamosa Food Bank on Saturday morning. We are done with gleaning around lunch time. Last year, many of gleaners went out for lunch before heading home or onto another adventure.



# MUSIC



# MINISTRY



## Chancel Choir

Well, my first season with the Chancel Choir is now over and the members can take a well-deserved break. It has been a delight working with these talented and dedicated singers the past nine months. Week after week they show up with their open attitude, sense of humor, willingness to learn and improve, and have made my life richer in the process. So with my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation, I would like to thank:



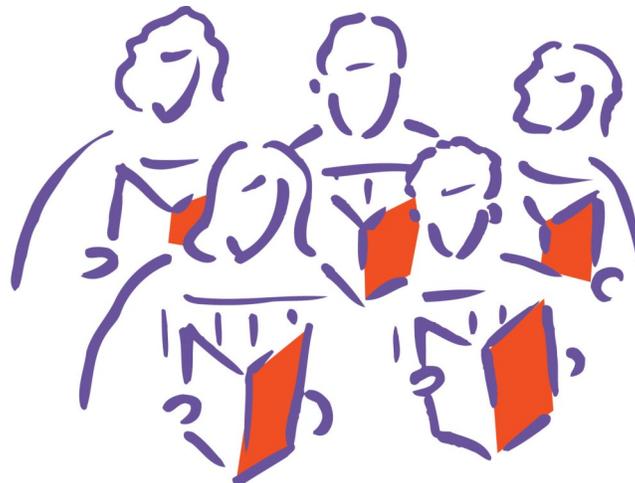
Pam Perry  
Jennie Diesslin  
Anita Miller  
Jennifer Van Eps  
Gaylene Stevens

Linda Cook  
Jim Hutchings  
Honor Scherbarth  
Jerry Vandenbosch  
Joyce Cunningham

Burma Defarges  
Jo Jones  
Barb Snyder  
Carolyn Vandenbosch  
Cecil Rhodes

You guys are the best!!

Liz Riley



**SING PRAISES**  
to the **LORD.**

Psalm 30:4



## "TRUST AND OBEY"

John H. Sammis, 1887

When we walk with the Lord in the light of His Word,  
 What a glory He sheds on our way!  
 While we do His good will, He abides with us still,  
 And with all who will trust and obey.

### *Refrain:*

Trust and obey, for there's no other way  
 To be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey

As we enter a new era with Tom and Deb's arrival at FPC Salida, I wonder what God has in store for us on the horizon. Many days I feel like I already know what to expect based on past experiences. Almost every day I am surprised by what I don't know and especially on Sunday mornings.

I usually get to the church by 6:30 am to turn all the sound and video equipment on. That's an hour before the rest of the band is scheduled to be there. I like to walk into the sanctuary and enjoy the quietness and overall warm feeling. I think to myself how blessed I am to have such a special place to worship. On occasion, I forget to really take that in and immediately start to work on getting things ready for the service to come. It's usually on these mornings that I am hit smack in the face with challenges that seem to almost derail my every purpose of being there. It might be a computer that won't boot up, or a strange buzz in the sound system. No matter what it is, when I panic it just gets worse and carries over into our rehearsal time. I am amazed that every time I go to prayer my whole being is calmed. I no longer worry about what is going to happen and just let it happen. That doesn't necessarily mean my opinion (or anyone else's for that matter) of everything that went on in that service was perfect; but it was perfect in God's eyes because my heart was open to it.

Christ's Love





## A Message from the Stewardship Committee

While the focus of stewardship is often on funding the operating budget of the church and paying to retire the mortgage, providing for the church's endowment fund is another responsibility of our stewardship. While all gifts to the church's endowment fund are encouraged, this message is about two means of gifting that are not often considered.

The first is a gift of a permanent life insurance policy that you no longer need. Of course, you could cash it out, but you could also give the policy or its proceeds to our church.

You have two choices. You can name the church as the policy's beneficiary, and the church will get the proceeds when you die. Or you can transfer ownership of the policy to the church while you are alive.

Donating life insurance could be of greater value to you than donating cash. Consider two church members who each want to donate \$10,000 to the church. While one donates \$10,000 in cash, the other has paid premiums of \$2,500 for a policy that would provide \$50,000 in death benefits that would go to our church if you change the beneficiary of that policy to our church.

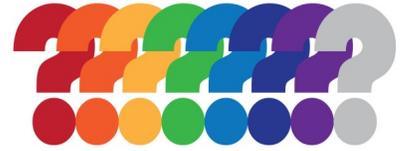
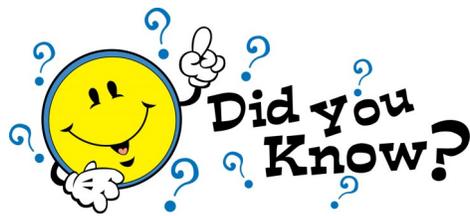
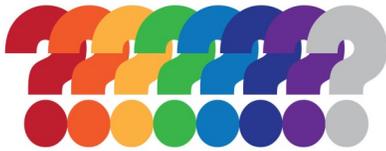
Naming the church as a beneficiary gives you flexibility. You can borrow against the policy and take cash withdrawals, which, of course, will reduce the value of the future gift. If you change your mind, you can name another beneficiary or cash out. You also can split the beneficiaries among two or more organizations—say the church and the Boys & Girls Club. Because you're still the owner, however, you cannot take a charitable income-tax deduction. And the church won't recognize your largesse while you're alive.

If, instead, you assign ownership to the church, you can claim a tax deduction for part of the value of the donated policy. You'll also be able to deduct the cash you give the church each year to pay any premiums that are still owed on the policy. To learn what tax deduction might be available to you if the assign ownership to the church, we urge you to consult your tax advisor. But, once you transfer ownership, you can't change your mind.

A second means of gifting to the endowment fund is contributing all or part of a required annual distribution from a 401(k) or other retirement fund that requires such distributions. Of course, this only applies to those in our congregation who are 71½ years of age and over, and who have those kinds of retirement funds.

Often, folks with these required distributions have found those funds are not part of their regular way for paying their day to day living costs. So, rather than using those monies to purchase some extra item or pay for a trip, a gift to our church would mean further honoring a person's stewardship responsibility.





**Mark Your Calendars!!**

**July 4th Ice Cream Social**

**8:30 PM**

**In the Lower Parking Lot**

**SCOOPERS WANTED**

We are in need of a few people who would like to help at the July 4th Ice Cream Social. This is an easy and fun way to support the church through volunteering. Duties would include:

- Help with set up and clean up and keep everything running on the 4th
- Scoop ice cream and/or pour soda for root beer floats
- Have fun and enjoy the goodies



**CONTACT THE OFFICE IF INTERESTED**

**HELP US MOW**

We are in need of help with mowing the church lawn! We've got a great mower, we just need a couple hours of your time once or twice this summer to keep us



**LAWN-MOWING TEAM**

trimmed up and in shape. Sign up in the office, give us a call or send an email. This is a great way to serve in a small way that really makes a difference!! Thank you!!

**The Wait is Over!**

Please join your FPC family on Sunday, June 2 between services(10:15 AM). We will have cake and coffee to welcome our new Pastor Tom and his wife Deb. This will be Pastor Tom's first Sunday to conduct services at FPC.





### Wonder When They Meet?

Card Ministry.....10:00 AM-2nd Fri each month  
 Cast.....5:30 PM-1st Thurs each month  
 Ladies Hiking/Snowshoeing.....9:30 AM-Wed  
 Meditative Walking.....10:00 AM-Mon each week  
 Mens' Breakfasts at Patio Pancake...7 AM-Tues or Wed  
 Prayer Time .....9:30 AM-Mon each week  
 Quilting Group.....2:00 PM-3rd Thurs each month  
 Sainly Sinners.....11:30 AM-4th Tues each month  
 Session.....6:00 PM-4th Tues each month  
 Sisters of Deborah.....1:30PM-3rd Tues each month



### FINANCIAL REPORT

**General Fund Financial Report** (as of April 30) (Salaries, insurance, utilities, missions, curriculum, etc., funded by the Sunday offering).

Call Dawn Wassel, 539-2645 for information.

Income	\$ 91,756.85
Expenses	<u>(\$76,669.78)</u>
Difference	\$ 15,087.07

**Love Fund**— YTD as of May 22, 2019: \$2,786.59 in local emergency assistance (rent, gasoline, lodging, medicines, etc.) has been provided.

Call the office at 539-6422 for information.

**Energy Outreach Colorado**—Utility assistance—natural gas, electric, propane or firewood  
 For grant period starting 10-1-18: \$3,448.69  
 Call Jeanni Landry, 719-395-5638 for information.

**Anna Mae Marchi Endowment Fund, Money Market, Cash Assets** YTD as of April 30: \$274,245.83. A detailed financial report is available upon request.

### Prayer Requests

As you go through the month please keep Martin Perry, Linda Fritz, Sheri Cannon, Jane Whitmer and their families in your prayers as they continue to face health issues.

We also ask for prayers for Richard Blake who will be having surgery during the month.

### ELDERS

Linda Colling	719-539-8634	lrcoll327@yahoo.com
Bob Grether	719-530-1788	grether@outlook.com
Russ Johnson	719-221-9374	russ_011@live.com
Phil Maes	719-530-1224	philmaes@yahoo.com
Debbie Quintana	719-221-2557	spikewee4u@yahoo.com
Gaylene Stevens	719-239-0999	tnmolecular1@aol.com

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Church office 719-539-6422 office@salidapresbyterian.org  
 Rev. Tom Abbott, Pastor: tom@salidapresbyterian.org  
 Rev. Hilary Downs, Associate Pastor: hilaryd@salidapresbyterian.org  
 Katie Lady, Children's Ministries: katie@salidapresbyterian.org  
 Dan Shuford, Praise Band Director: danny@salidapresbyterian.org  
 Liz Riley, Choir Director, Pianist: emusic1955@gmail.com  
 Kathy Moore, Admin Assistant: office@salidapresbyterian.org

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-THURSDAY-9:00 AM-5:00 PM

FRIDAY/SATURDAY-CLOSED