

Lamoille Community Presbyterian Church

"Pursuing a faith that makes a difference"

Crossroads Outpost

Lamoille, Nevada



Lamoille Community
Presbyterian Church

Our Vision

We stand together at the crossroads where God's powerful love compels us to worship Him fully, follow Jesus daily, and live in the Spirit joyfully.

Our Mission

Our mission is to pursue this vision with commitment, character, and in community.



March  2024

Because Jesus said so



One intriguing person in the Passion account is the thief on the cross whom Jesus promised a same-day entrance to paradise (see Luke 23:43). Pastor and radio host Alistair Begg says he can't wait to meet that man and ask how everything unfolded. "You were cussing [Jesus] out with your friend," Begg says. "You've never been in a Bible study. You've never been baptized. You didn't know a thing about church membership, and yet you made it!"

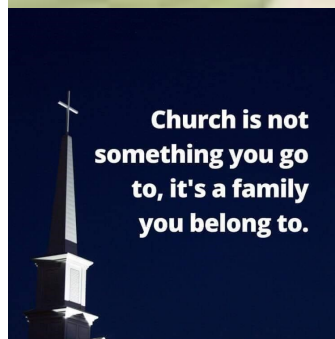
In a sermon, Begg pictures an imaginary angel at the pearly gates, growing frustrated during the sinful thief's entrance interview. After receiving no clear answers from the thief about doctrines such as justification, the angel finally asks, "On what basis are you here?" The thief simply replies, "The man on the middle cross said I can come."

Be the donkey

Corrie ten Boom, a devout Christian who helped shelter hundreds of Jewish people from Nazis during World War II, was asked how she stayed humble despite her fame.

"When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday on the back of a donkey, and everyone was waving palm branches and throwing garments onto the road and singing praises, do you think that for one moment it ever entered the head of that donkey that any of that was for him?" she replied. "If I can be the donkey on which Jesus Christ rides in his glory, I give him all the praise and all the honor."

Jesus told his followers they'd need to carry (or "take up") their cross. But how well do you carry your Savior? How do you bring him into a world that desperately needs the good news of the gospel?

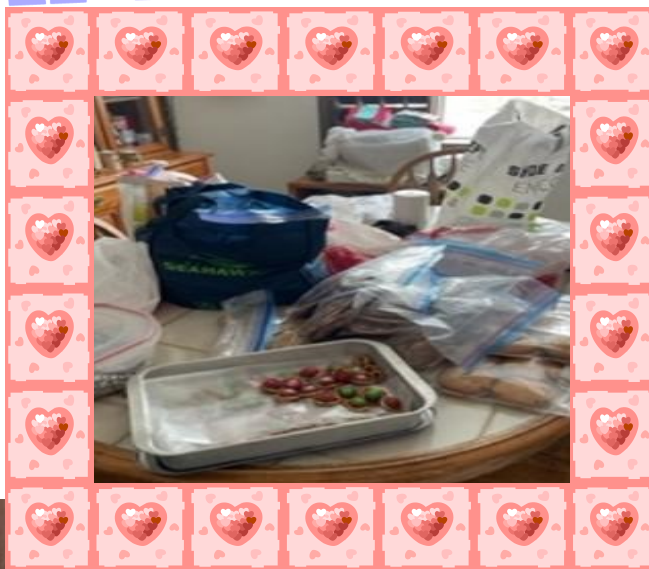


CHURCH HAPPENINGS



Think they've missed their big brother!
Jackson is home, finishing school...

If I die tomorrow, I'll be with Jesus. If I live tomorrow, Jesus will be with me. I am the Lord's either way. And I am grateful for it. Amen.



*Thank you to all that brought cookies for the Valentine's hand outs. Zeek * I took 66 individual goodie bags alone to the Manor and to the apartments adjoining the Manor. Then of course we took to others we felt could use a smile.*

Adley meets her cousin for the first time and Zeek and Jeanice met the newest great grandson also, Bailin Hayden Hetland, born on January 1, 2024.



Congratulations!
Gerry being installed as an Elder.



10 WAYS TO BE EFFECTIVE TODAY:

1. Pray as you go about your day. Constant conversation.
2. Surround yourself with people wiser than you.
3. Receive feedback + remove offense.
4. Expect opposition. Anchor your perspective in joy.
5. Remain a perpetual student. Ask questions.
6. Know your tendencies. Create parameters for success.
7. Set small goals that are realistic + measurable.
8. Keep your mission in mind at all times.
9. Rest frequently. Reserve your energy for what matters.
10. Voice gratitude along the way. Progress is progress.

Our feeble prayers, our Father's response

In *He Still Moves Stones*, Max Lucado recalls the story of Derek Redmond, a 1992 Olympic competitor in the 400-meter race. Halfway through Redmond's semifinal run, a torn hamstring sent him tumbling to the ground. His dad, Jim, immediately ran onto the track. He met up with Derek, who, though crying, had managed to stand and was hopping forward.

"You don't have to do this," Jim said. But Derek insisted. "Well, then, we're going to finish this together," said Jim, who supported his son as he hobbled to the finish line. The crowd cheered and wept as Derek, with Dad's assistance, finished the race.

Lucado writes: "What made the father do it? ... Was it the strength of his child? No, it was the pain of his child. ... God does the same. Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference."



Pressed

Gethsemane, the name of the place where Jesus prayed before his betrayal, is an Aramaic word for "olive press." During Bible times, olives were pressed three times to remove all the valuable oil. Before being arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus felt the full pressing weight of our sins on his shoulders. Surrounded by olive trees, praying fervently while sweating drops of blood, the perfect Son of God asked his heavenly Father three times to remove the cup of suffering.

Instead of removing that trial, God used it to redeem and save humankind. Likewise, God uses our hardships to refine and strengthen our faith.

In *The Rock, the Road and the Rabbi*, TV host Kathie Lee Gifford and Messianic Rabbi Jason Sobel speculate that if Peter, along with James and John, hadn't fallen asleep in Gethsemane, he may have had the strength to not deny Jesus later that night.

"All of us must be vigilant to watch and pray so that we don't succumb to the temptation to deny the Lord when we go through the olive presses of life and feel like we are being crushed by our situation and circumstances," the authors write. "We must remember that it is the crushing that brings out the true inner value and worth of the olive."

God's provision while we wait

A November 2023 landslide trapped 41 construction workers in a tunnel they'd been excavating for a Himalayan highway project. For 17 days, they were stranded nearly 3 miles from freedom. When rescuers' drilling equipment broke, miners drilled through the last 2 meters of rock and gravel by hand. Finally, all the workers were pulled to safety through a 3-foot-wide steel pipe. Because they had received food, water, medicines, oxygen and even light through a narrow pipe while underground, all were in good health.

We are trapped in sin and brokenness: our sin and that of others, fragmented relationships and systems, nearby and across the globe. Christianity teaches that God's way of goodness will win in the end. But before full rescue comes, what keeps us alive and hopeful — even healthy?

As water was faithfully provided to the laborers through that narrow pipe, God quenches our thirst through baptism. Scripture and the sacrament of communion are the food and medicine that nourish and strengthen us. Prayer — our own and others' prayers for us — along with the Holy Spirit's gifts such as comfort and joy flow into our lives like the light of hope and the oxygen of life. Though complete rescue seems slow to come, God provides for us while we wait.

—Heidi Hyland Mann

Take time to "examen"

I'm grateful to live in an area with distinct seasons. Each time of year has unique characteristics that give way to the next. "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven," says Ecclesiastes 3:1 (ESV).

Each change of season also lends itself to *examen*, a spiritual practice that involves reflection. Typically done daily, examen invites people to recall past events (highlights, struggles, even mundane activities) and consider when they especially sensed God's presence or when he seemed distant.

Try a deeper examen four times a year as the seasons change. As a starting point, use your answers to these questions:

- Looking back at the past season, when did I see God at work? What was life-giving to me?
- In what areas did I need God to work? What was life-draining?
- As I enter this next season, how is God inviting me to engage more with his presence?

—Janna Firestone

By faith

'Tis by the faith of joys to come
We walk through deserts dark as night,
Till we arrive at heaven our home.
Faith is our guide, and faith our light. ...

Cheerful we tread the desert through,
While faith inspires a heavenly ray,
Though lions roar and tempests blow
And rocks and dangers fill the way.

So Abraham, by divine command,
Left his own house to walk with God;
His faith beheld the promised land,
And fired his zeal along the road.

—Early American hymn



Resurrection rumblings

In *Easter Earthquake*, James A. Harnish explores the “earthshaking promise” of Jesus’ resurrection. Easter Sunday “shatters the power of fear,” he writes.

“Because Christ is risen, we no longer allow fear to dominate, control or manipulate us. We don’t remain imprisoned in the tombs of our past failures or buried under the weight of present anxiety. In the risen Christ, old things pass away and everything becomes new.”

Easter, Harnish adds, is proof that God hasn’t forsaken us and is present among us. “The Resurrection contradicts the assumption that Christ resides on an ethereal cloud in a distant heaven. Rather, we find him on the dusty road that leads to the real stuff of our ordinary world.”

Jesus’ followers can find him everywhere, Harnish concludes. “The risen Christ will meet us along the confused, chaotic, fearful paths of our lives and speak the same words the women hear at the tomb, ‘Do not be afraid.’”

Bless you!

On March 17, when we remember the Christian missionary St. Patrick, Irish blessings abound. Here are two benedictions to share with friends in the faith:

Deep peace of the running wave to you,
Deep peace of the flowing air to you,
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you,
Deep peace of the shining stars to you,
Deep peace of the Son of Peace to you. Amen.

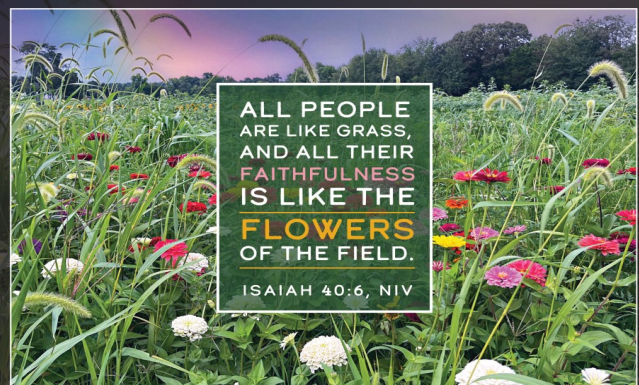
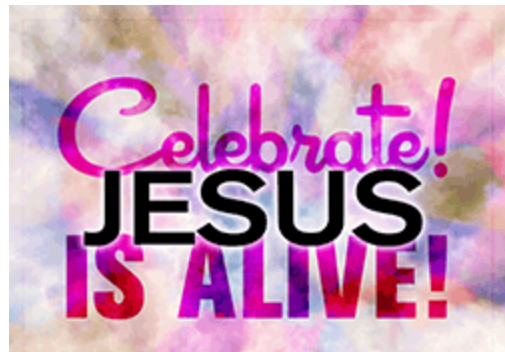
May there always be work for your hands to do;
May your purse always hold a coin or two;
May the sun always shine on your windowpane;
May a rainbow be certain to follow each rain;
May the hand of a friend always be near you;
May God fill your heart with gladness to cheer you.



Christian symbol

BUTTERFLY — The butterfly symbolizes resurrection, Easter and the new life we have in Christ Jesus. As a caterpillar disappears into a

chrysalis, so Jesus’ lifeless body was hidden in a tomb. The emergence of the butterfly, rising into the sky in its beautiful new body, reminds us of Christ’s resurrection — and ours.





March 2024

Our annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner will be on Friday, March 15th at 5 pm. We'll be auctioning baked items, crafts, etc once again, so please be thinking of things you might want to bring.

Sun

Mon



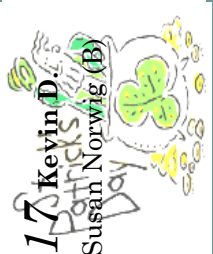





Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

							 1 World Day of Prayer	2 Loren Jaff (B)
3 Rick Glass	4	5	6	7 Kevin Hull (B)	8	9		
10 Allen S. 	11 Janae Buster (B)	12	13	14	15 St. Patrick's Day dinner-5 pm	16		
17 Kevin D. 	18 Sarah Finch (B)	19 	20	21	22	23		
24 Tom Finch Gragg Larence (B) 	25	26 Zeek & Jeanice (A)	27	28 	29 	30		
31 Allen S. 								

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Kim Upton 310-405-2309

- Did you hear about the Easter Bunny who skipped school? It was egg-spelled.
- Why did the Easter Bunny stay home from school? He was having a bad hare day.
- What kind of music does the Easter Bunny listen to? Hip hop.
- Did you hear about the Easter Bunny engagement? The ring was 14 carrots.
- Why did the Easter Bunny go to the salon? To cover up its gray hares.
- Did you hear about the Easter Bunny wedding? They lived hoppily ever after.
- Did you hear about the Easter Bunny with a broken leg? It had a hare-line fracture.
- Where does the Easter Bunny eat breakfast? IHOP.
- Did you hear about the Easter Bunny prom? Everyone did the Bunny Hop.
- How does the Easter Bunny stay in shape? With lots of eggs-ercise.
- What do you call an Easter rabbit with fleas? Bugs Bunny.

