

FIRST PRES

January 2018



**ANNUAL
REPORT**
on Ministry
— 2018 —



Dear First Pres,

Recently I met a young man from our congregation for lunch, and he told me about a pivotal moment that happened while he was sitting in worship on Christmas Eve. It was as if a switch flipped, and the narrative he'd been trying to string together to make sense and meaning of his own life just dissolved. Though he'd heard about it all his life, he had a sudden clarity around his need for Jesus. Only in looking to Christ for light was he going to find his way forward in life.



Here's the thing: I remember seeing him in worship that day. At the time, I had no idea this powerful change was going on inside him. He didn't look any different than usual; and if he hadn't told me after the fact, I wouldn't necessarily have known that a major transformation had taken place right there in the pew among the Christmas lights and candles.

We never know whether the person sitting down the row from us in worship is having a moment like that. But I can tell you this: it's happening to someone every Sunday when we gather to glorify God and receive His Word. Watch for it and you're sure to catch a glimpse of it. God was at work in our midst in 2017—these pages tell the story. And He's got more transforming to do in 2018—let's join Him in His work.

Yours in Christ,

Tim

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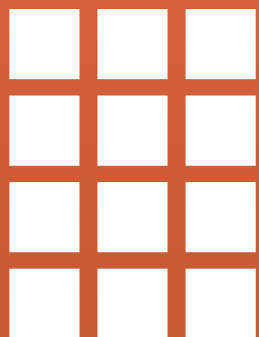
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I REJOICED

WITH THOSE WHO SAID TO ME,

*"Let us go to the
house of the Lord."*

Psalms 122:1



By Tim McConnell

God is Glorified;

"I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord.'" – Psalm 122:1

The purpose of the church is worship. God calls the church together by His Spirit in the name of Jesus to bring Him glory and praise. We were made to worship God; when we gather on Sundays and lift our voices, hearts and minds to Him in worship, and receive His living Word, incredible things happen. **When God is glorified, lives are transformed!** It happens every week.

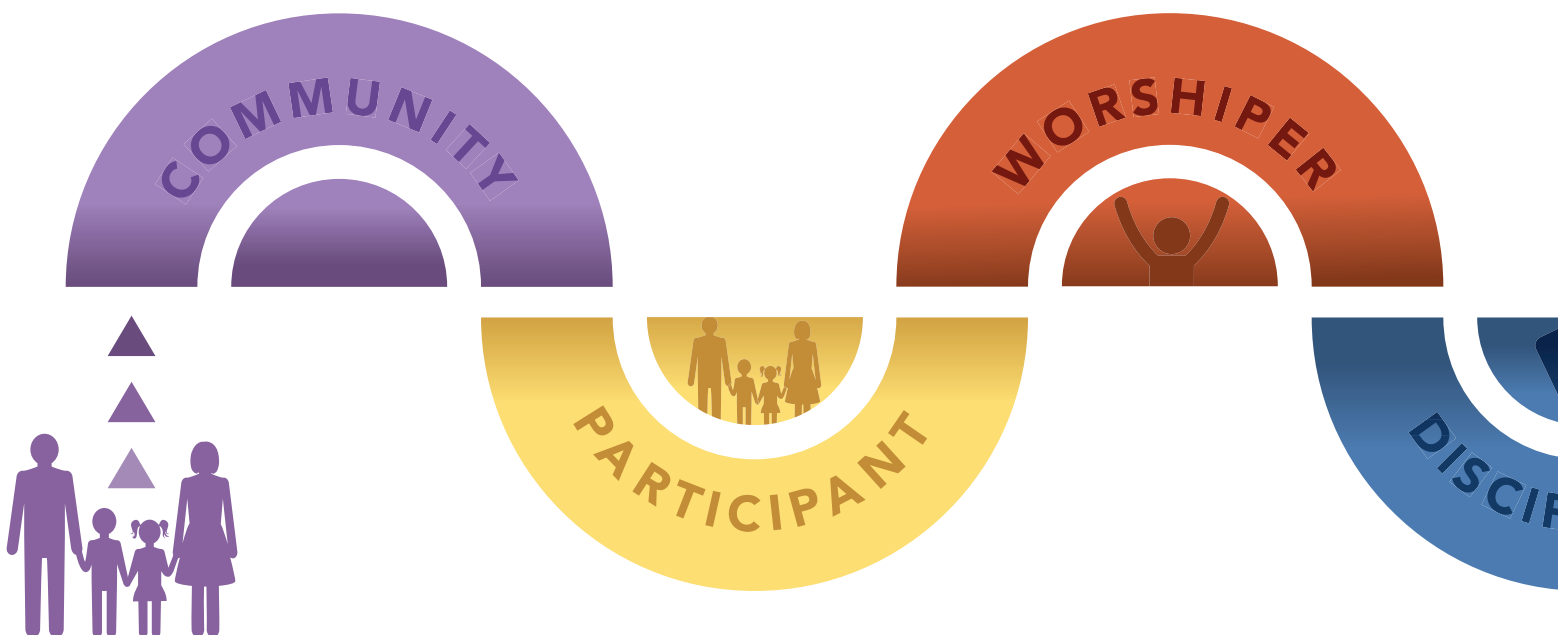
Last year we poured our energy into worship and saw worship grow in powerful ways. That included building the first intentional contemporary worship space in downtown—our Worship Center—which has brought new life and energy. It also meant a change in schedules and a new paradigm encouraging families to worship together as a first priority. Through all the changes God blessed us to see an increase, gathering more and more of us together each week. I'm profoundly grateful. **When God is glorified, lives are transformed.**

As 2018 draws us around, we keep on keeping on. God has us on a good track. Here are a few thoughts:

First, we will continue to worship well.

Worship is the first and most important building block in our life of faith. Everything starts with creating the most dynamic and meaningful Sunday morning experience possible for everyone that comes through our doors. Glorifying God is an awesome responsibility, and we all have a role to play. Worship begins with invitation. The experience starts in the parking lot, takes root through a handshake and a smile, then includes our campus hosts making all feel welcome as they find their place. We are working on the gathering experience, getting from parking space to holy space. Maybe you'd like to help! Every time we gather, God is glorified and lives are transformed.

Second, we will make disciples. We spend our energy helping people along the **Path of Discipleship**. A Community Member becomes a Participant; and a Participant



Lives are Transformed

becomes a Worshiper—glorifying God Who is worthy of praise—all because someone helped. Worshipers grow into Disciples, and Disciples find and deploy their gifts as Active Disciples. Wherever you are on that spectrum, I challenge you to continue to grow, learn and mature in your faith in 2018 and reach out to help another along.

There are a few ways we're bringing that into focus this year. We are kicking off **Life Groups**. Maybe you're already part of a small community where you are known by name, where you can pray for one another, where there is trust enough to apply Scripture to one another's lives and where you can live your faith together. If so, you will feel more support this year. If not, we want to invite you to find a circle, a **Life Group**. More details will come your way as the year unfolds.

We are celebrating our **five-generation church**. Research shows that the best way for the faith to be passed along is to have someone from another generation pouring into the life of a believer. We celebrate

our generations and deploy them to serve one another. Watch our Family Ministries developing this year and pray for success.

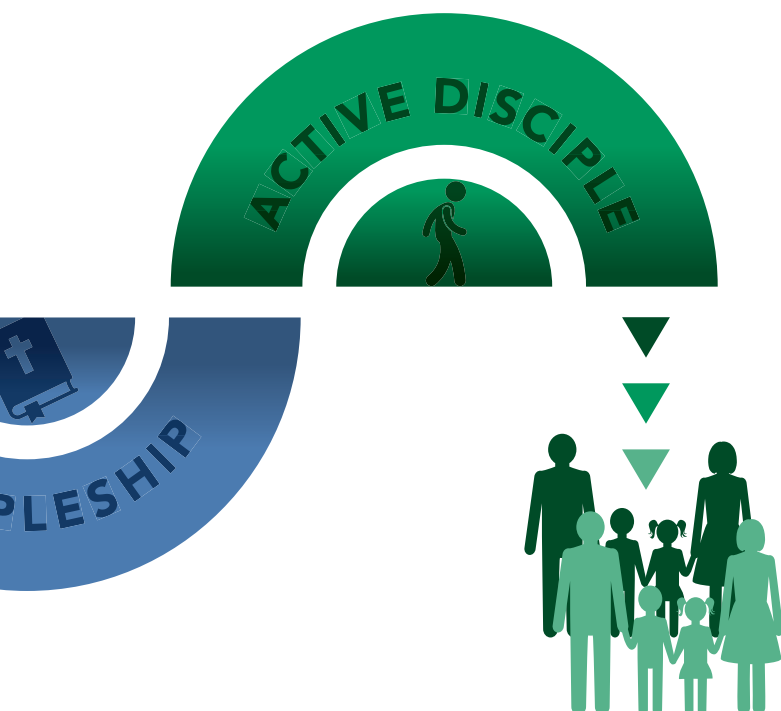
We are growing disciples on **mission**. When we grow in worship and discipleship, our hearts catch a vision for what's wrong in the world. That might be in a country half a world away, or it might be the family in need down the street. We are a church that is about mission, about giving back to the world around us, and I want to encourage you to look for opportunities and places to serve this year.

Finally, we're sharing the Good News.

The Gospel is Good News, and our world is in desperate need of that Good News now more than ever. How is God calling you to be a witness—to be a light where you're planted in this city? Who has He put on your heart to connect with this year?

Worship is where we glorify God and transform lives. Discipleship gives us the tools to grow in our faith. And all of it points us toward accomplishing the larger mission of reaching those in need with this Good News of Jesus Christ. Every time we gather God is glorified. **When God is glorified, lives are transformed.** But remember this too: **when lives are transformed, God is glorified.** Tell the story of changed lives to the glory of God.

It's a new year, and that brings a new sense of energy and purpose. Let's commit that energy and purpose to the mission God has laid before us. This year we will continue growing in worship, growing in discipleship and growing in our ability to share the Good News of the Gospel. Jesus is at work in First Pres. Jesus is at work through First Pres. We get to be a part of it. The best is yet to come.



Celebrating God's Faithfulness in 2017



Do you remember? Almost exactly a year ago we gathered in response to this replica 1877 invitation sent out to Colorado Springs from our first Senior Pastor, Henry Gage. We celebrated the boldness, urgency, wisdom, collaboration and love inherent in his warm welcome to come and know God better.

How has that same God—and the same passion—continued to propel ministry at First Pres over the past 12 months?

JANUARY



Four pastors, two senior staff members and four commissioners from First Pres attended the ECO National Gathering in Greenville, SC. Our church leadership also provides leadership to our denomination with Tim McConnell serving on the Theology Taskforce, Jennifer Holz serving as Synod Chair; John Goodale holding a seat on the Permanent Judicial Commission, Katie Fowler participating in the Pastoral Ministry Ordination Team and Alison Murray a member of the Health and Welfare Committee.

We began demolition on our Fellowship Hall and Plaza to make way for the creation of our new Worship Center.



We had the privilege of hosting the art exhibit "The Father and His Two Sons: The Art of Forgiveness," on loan from the Calvin College Permanent Collection. Twenty trained docents from our Artist Community led 1,500 visitors through the exhibit, which featured more than 40 pieces inspired by the parable of the Prodigal Son, found in Luke 15.

FEBRUARY



One hundred twenty students attended middle school and high school Winter Camps.

MARCH

Renovation reached completion and our new Worship Center opened—the only dedicated contemporary worship space in downtown Colorado Springs. Six hundred ninety-one worshipers attended the Worship Center's opening services.



APRIL

GIVE back the BLESSING

The story of the Prodigal Son carried us all the way from Ash Wednesday to Easter, when more than 4,100 worshipers came to celebrate "The Unstoppable Feast" with us.



Our Palm Sunday Give Back the Blessing Offering raised \$74,186 to help Springs Rescue Mission open their Resource Center, and to put Christ's very young church in Mongolia on stable footing and a strategic path toward church leadership development.



MAY

Twenty-four fifth through twelfth graders were confirmed on Confirmation Sunday. These students had been preparing, sharing and discussing for weeks in advance through the Foundations of Faith course led by our Student Ministries team, so that they could actively consider whether they were ready to stand and say, "I have a faith of my own; I will follow Christ with my whole life." These students shared their written expressions of faith with the congregation and four were baptized.

JUNE

One hundred fifty campers from kindergarten through high school (and even some parents) attended June Camps and Mission Trips. Skyward Camp was a brand-new venture that allowed young elementary students to get a taste of camp alongside a parent. Summer camps at Camp Elim are always an opportunity for youth to be equipped as counselors and leaders for smaller kids, and Skyward allowed us to stretch that even further, raising up middle school students as junior counselors. Middle schoolers loved The Great Escape in Gunnison, CO, and high school students partnered for the fifth year in a row with Young Life to serve in the Dominican Republic.





JULY

Twenty-two young artists grew their creativity at our Fine Arts Workshop. One hundred sixty-five young performers spent a week at First Pres for Upbeat Camp, Handbell Camp or String Camp. String Camp founder Don Robinson conducted his final camp and worked to raise up two young adult musicians, Ben Bubeck and Brittany Brown, who will take leadership of String Camp in 2018.

VBS was bursting with energy and participants ages four through the fourth grade. Middle schoolers helped provide leadership for VBS, then spent their afternoons serving ministry partners around town. Our nursery invited two- and three-year-olds to Mini Camp, where they got to explore God's creation, including meeting some wildly beautiful creatures who visited our Ark Room.

Summer once again saw refugees from around the world arriving for English as a Second Language courses hosted in our classrooms in partnership with Lutheran Refugee Services.



We hosted Willow Creek Association's Global Leadership Summit, welcoming ministry and business leaders from around Colorado Springs for two days of world-class leadership training. We'll host again this year; mark your calendar for August 9-10.



SEPTEMBER

Our staff and congregation led in this year's City-Serve efforts, hosting the city-wide worship service in our Sanctuary on Friday, September 29, and providing nearly 500 ready-willing-and-able volunteers to serve across the city the next day.



AUGUST

First Pres turned 145 years old in August. To celebrate, we gave our church the gift of a debt-free completion of the Worship Center renovation, thanks to the participation of many givers.



We kicked off our fall season with an all-church picnic and an examination of our priorities through the First Things First series. Hurricane Harvey made landfall, the first of several natural disasters that prompted First Pres givers to raise more than \$111,000 for disaster relief.



OCTOBER

First Pres responded with great generosity to the call to order our financial lives with God in first place. Commitment Sunday and subsequent 2018 giving commitments resulted in a three percent increase over 2017 giving commitments.

We welcomed hundreds of children and their parents—many of whom were new faces to First Pres—to a fun, warm-weather Trunk or Treat in the Weber Street Parking Lot.



NOVEMBER

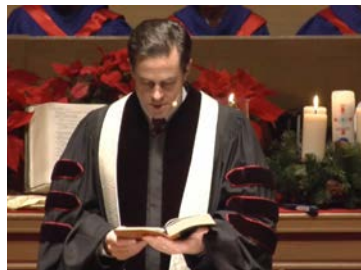
Dr. Eric Jacobsen from First Pres Tacoma led us in consideration of how we can be a people who create meaningful connection in our City at our Christian Life Conference.

Pastor Tom Pipkin arrived to fill the role of Pastor of Family Ministries, launching a strategic effort to place ministry to children and teens in the context of whole-family discipleship.



DECEMBER

Jim DeJarnette and the Sanctuary choir welcomed guests Alvy Powell, the Celtic Mountain Band, the Pikes Peak Ringers, the Colorado Springs Childrens Chorale, Celtic Steps Dancers and others to the Pikes Peak Center for our annual Christmas Joy! performance. Both afternoon performances were sell-outs. The program played in its entirety on local radio KCME 88.7 on Christmas day.



On Christmas Eve Sunday, we welcomed more than 6,100 worshipers and guests to our nine services. From the giggles, wiggles and costumes of the packed Children's Service at 10 a.m. to the quiet acoustic strains of the 10:45 p.m. communion service, we celebrated the birth of Christ well and welcomed his Light into our lives.

The Keys to the Car:

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AT FIRST PRES

Kara Powell released her book *Growing Young: Six Essential Strategies to Help Young People Discover and Love Your Church* in 2016. The first of the six strategies is to “unlock Keychain Leadership.” Powell paints a picture of a parent handing the keys for the car to their teen.

I am about to do that, literally, in two months. I have visualized myself getting into the front passenger seat and my 15-and-a-half-year-old getting into the driver's seat... with the car keys. Not to be overly dramatic about the whole thing, but I have thought about how I will feel at that moment: terrified!

How will this one moment shape the relationship my husband and I will have with our teen? What about all the cascading decisions and processes that will ensue? When will she get to use the car? Do we need another family car? How will she put gas in the car without her own debit card? Will I stay up at night

By Alison Murray

waiting for her to come home? How do we prepare her to make the complex decisions that she will face as she takes a giant leap toward adulthood? Will the values we have instilled and the training that we have done thus far with our teen stick? How will she make those values her own and an expression of who she is?

Learning to Lead

Of course, the process of learning to drive isn't simply, “Here are the keys. Let me know how it goes. If you have any questions, just ask!” Learning to drive in Colorado includes 50 hours of supervised and logged driving time, rules around who can be in the car, studying for the permit test and passing the driving test. There is a process involved, with

THE FIRST PRES SESSION

Our congregation is represented by 21 Ruling Elders which, combined with the Teaching Elders (called and ordained Pastors), make up the Session. Each Ruling Elder Class comprises 7 members serving 3-year terms, staggered so that one class finishes its term each year. Elders are responsible for overseeing the spiritual health of the congregation and to pray and discern God's direction for First Pres.

During the Annual Meeting, the congregation votes on its leadership class for that year. This year's incoming Elder class includes Mike Albright, Sam Edwards, Christina Harrell, Warren Roach, Gary Shugart, Joe Simpich and Andrea Tepley. Ask any First Pres Elder who mentored them into leadership and have them share their story with you!



markers of accountability and guidelines for acceptable practices. Interestingly, these “acceptable practices” are a combination of both the rules of the road as determined by society to ensure order and safety, and the values we as a family place alongside the privilege of driving.

Leadership development in the church is similar. As leaders, wherever we find ourselves—in the home, at school, at work, in our volunteer places—we have a system of training. Formal or organic, this training develops the capabilities of those who are new to the environment and eventually turns over the keys to the car.

Just as the teen has to learn to follow the rules of the road (maintain speed limits), understand community expectations (navigate a four-way stop), value the safety of others (everyone buckle up), and understand the family expectations (be home on time), First Pres has community values that shape who we are as a body. We value an environment that is Christ-centered, focused on worship, hospitable, honoring to our past while taking risks for our future and generous toward our community. These are the values that guide our leadership and leadership decisions.

Identifying, training and launching new leaders in our midst is a call that belongs to all of us. In 2018, let’s intentionally look for who God is calling into leadership in our community and prepare them for the front seat of the car.

Questions for Ministry Teams

Today, we have five generations in our midst and it takes intentionality to surface and develop new leaders. If you are serving on a committee, have started a new ministry or are part of an existing ministry, consider these questions:

- 🔥 Who took you under their wing to help you participate in this ministry or group?
- 🔥 What gifts and talents are needed to participate in your group?
- 🔥 Is your group excited when new folks show up?
- 🔥 Does your group need to develop a plan to train up new leadership?
- 🔥 Are community standards and group standards working together or against each other?
- 🔥 Who in your group is discerning God’s direction for the future and pushing for new and innovative ideas?
- 🔥 Who in your group has the gift of leadership, and is your group identifying mentoring relationships to encourage them to lead someday?

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

To help First Pres emerge and innovate elder leadership, the Nominating Committee is developing a process of identifying and mentoring persons whom God is calling to future First Pres leadership. This committee, made up of individuals who have previously served as Elders, welcomes your feedback regarding emerging leaders in your ministry area. Contact Ralph Gates, Chair at nominatingcommittee@first-pres.org.

ANCIENT FAITH

It was a turning-point moment for Minister of Worship and Music, Jim DeJarnette: At the close of a 1989 Holy Land tour, his travel group came together in worship at the traditional site of Jesus' now-empty tomb. As they raised their voices in song, so did a dozen other groups from around the world gathered in close proximity.

Jim recalls: "I will never forget those many groups singing and playing and worshipping in different styles, simultaneously, praising God for the miracle of having raised Jesus—and all so *different*. It was the most beautiful cacophonous look at glorifying the Lord that I have ever experienced. Ever since, I can never think that there is a 'right style' and a 'wrong style' of worshipping."

Jim's experience, decades ago, bears fruit today in the form of a shared vision for excellence in two different modes of worship at First Pres. We are one body, worshipping in multiple styles, in close proximity. It's a beautiful thing—but not an easy thing to do.

Downtown's Only Intentional Contemporary Worship Space

First Pres' biggest capital investment in 2017 was the renovation of the Fellowship Hall into a state-of-the-art Worship Center, raising our contemporary worship expression to parallel the traditional/blended worship experienced in our Sanctuary. But the existence of the Worship Center space doesn't guarantee that it *will* accomplish all that it *could* bring to our worship.

Jim says, "The Worship Center that we have been able to build is a dream come true. We have been working on this and waiting for it for



**An Interview with
Jim DeJarnette
and Chris Cullins**

years. The tool requires a leader with a great heart for the Lord and a great capacity for artistic expression in worship, but one who also understands the complexity and the technical aspects of what a room like this can do."

Enter Chris Cullins

In October 2017, native Houstonian Chris Cullins joined the First Pres staff to take the helm in the Worship Center. Jim says he's just the person for the job: "Chris comes to us bringing not only the ability to play several instruments, but he knows how to 'play' our new Worship Center as an instrument of communication unto itself."

Chris notes that our worship space is important because *space* is what's required when God's people gather to worship together. "When we talk about corporate worship," Chris explains, "we're immediately talking about our gathering space. Because of what Jesus did in sending the Spirit, we each get to have a 'Holy of Holies experience,' individually. Yet each historical expression of the church within culture has continued to revolve around worship that is centralized." Where we gather is important to what we do there.

Chris affirms that the First Pres approach to

TH NEW SPACE

worship is one that's not often tried in modern churches: "I have led in multiple-expression places before. What's unique about First Pres is that there is not one mode being valued more than the other. Our Lead Pastor has made the value-defining move of being physically present in both spaces and shepherding our people well. That means the two worship modes *are* one church."

God is on the Move

Since ours isn't a model with many examples to follow, First Pres is necessarily dependent on the Holy Spirit's leading to move us forward. Jim describes our posture of listening to God for direction: "It would be one thing for us to try to strategize about what's the most effective thing to do next at First Pres, but it's a different thing to be vulnerable and open to what God is *actually* doing. It's clear right now that He is glorifying Himself through both Sanctuary and Worship Center worship. The very best thing we can do is to seek His will and be good stewards of what He is doing."

Chris follows by naming a few specific things he sees God doing—among us, and in contemporary worship on a larger scale:

First, we're building worship services in both venues around a shared narrative arc that is good for our souls: "Tim has defined the *whys* of worship. We gather together to praise God for what He has done. He calls

us into worship; we confess our sins before the Lord; we declare His forgiveness; we pray as He taught us to. The service comes to a pinnacle of hearing clearly from the Word—then going from this place, taking out of these walls whatever the Spirit has laid on our hearts. When that is done consistently through *any* mode of worship, it's a beautiful thing. The same narrative arc is present whenever we gather, so no one is missing out."

And the trajectory of contemporary worship in the church at large is both positive and practical for our setting. Chris explains, "Our culture is begging for relationship. We're past the silkscreen of the show. We're over the flash of a new product. Most of today's worshipers are not looking for a product to be consumed, but something relational. Contemporary worship is shifting. Now that it's becoming relational, it's becoming multi-generational. Because it's not a product with a target audience, it's a gathering of people around a central idea—around a central Person."

We move into 2018 grateful for the great gift of a new worship space and eager to see how God will reveal Himself in it.



On Behalf of the World

By Jennifer Holz

As a young person at Fuller Seminary, I took a theology class with the late Dr. Ray Anderson. He was a thoughtful theologian and a gentle practitioner of his faith. I was a twenty-something finding my way in ministry and learning to more deeply hear the voice of God in my life. Those heart-shaping weeks in Dr. Anderson's class embedded a rhythm into my life that continues to form my steps—and now our steps as a family—today.

As someone who was—and still is—easily overwhelmed by the brokenness, needs and hardships of others, I longed for a path of responsiveness that didn't unravel me. How do I know what to do each day when there are so many competing voices telling me what I should do, say, affirm, denounce or embrace to prove my Christian faithfulness?

Dr. Anderson pressed us to see more clearly that the needs around us don't determine our course. Rather, it is the Father who shows us our way forward. I can still hear Dr. Anderson's voice: "Your call is not to serve the world on behalf of the

Where God Sees

By Susan Buenger

The Family Connections Center

Real generosity is doing something nice for someone who will never find out. – Frank A. Clark

Most of the people who receive services at the new Family Connections Center at the Helen Hunt Campus will never know the story behind the facility. They don't know the hours of planning or the painstaking discernment of what services to include. They don't know that while the campus was purchased for one dollar, it took a few million dollars to bring the vision to fruition. They benefit from the generosity of someone they will never meet.

Margot and John Lane met and married at First Pres and were longtime members. They established the John E. and Margaret L. Lane Foundation in order to give back to their community. In short, they went where God sent them. When



Margot heard that Helen Hunt Elementary would close, she wanted to help the Hillside neighborhood. Through her generosity and vision, the Foundation purchased the school building from District 11 in 2016.

The Family Connections Center at Helen Hunt Campus opened in December of 2017 and provides coordinated services to families experiencing financial difficulty, housing issues, homelessness and other crises and challenges. This safe and accessible center brings together the services of at least five non-profits who serve the community, and specifically children and families. The work of the center fits hand-in-hand with First Pres' priorities for City Engagement.

We honor the generosity of Margot and John Lane, especially in light of Margot's death in 2017. Because the Lanes served God on behalf of the world, we can look forward to helping strengthen families through our support of and participation at the Family Connections Center in 2018 and beyond.

Father. Rather, your call is to serve the Father on behalf of the world." You are not the hero; you are the beloved. Live your life in service to the living God.

**"Your call is not to serve the world on behalf of the Father. Rather, your call is to serve the Father on behalf of the world."
– Dr. Ray Anderson**

Reflecting on the story of Lazarus and Jesus' strange refusal to immediately attend to a friend in need, Anderson writes, "Jesus' ministry was not connected to ministry-related incidents but to his obedience and service to the Father" (*Ministry on the Fireline*, p. 51). Jesus would go to Lazarus, but only when the Father sent him. "Very truly I tell you, the

Son can do nothing by himself;" says Jesus in John 5:19, "he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does."

Day by day, we are stretched to care deeply for a world in need. But may our first steps always be toward the Father, Who loves the world more than we ever will. I am not called to meet every need I am aware of, nor to somehow prove that I am "Christian enough" for someone else's standards. But I trust that the God who sends will, in His time, send me where I am supposed to be. As Dr. Anderson writes, "I have only one calling, and that is through my baptism into Christ, to serve God in Christ. Where and how I fulfill that calling is determined by where God is sending me."

ends Us



Small Business Training for Global Partners

Limiting dependency and encouraging sustainability in mission relationships is an important

topic in the field of missions. It is easy to cross the line from helping others to creating unhealthy alliance. First Pres mission teams frequently discuss and strategize around this challenge.

In 2017, twelve First Pres members participated in a train-the-trainer course to teach basic business skills to the materially poor who want to open small businesses to generate income for their families. A team then traveled to Egypt in October of 2017 to join our partner, Heliopolis Evangelical Church (HEC), in delivering this training to a very diverse group of 60 potential trainers. Attendees included pastors from several of HEC's new church plants, social service organizations and ministries, as well as

Pastor Mathias Subba and another friend who traveled from the Presbyterian Free Church of Kalimpong, India, to attend.

The course is designed to help potential entrepreneurs discover their identity and dreams and connect those to being a business owner. It integrates faith with theory and prepares participants to apply basic concepts like leadership, ethics, budgeting, marketing, pricing and record keeping. After the 40-hour course, participants have practical and encouraging basic resources to apply to their pursuit of the financial stability that a small business can provide.

In April 2018, a First Pres team will work alongside the Presbyterian Free Church of Kalimpong to provide this training to pastors, church planters, child development workers and others in India who are without stable income. Our prayer is that such training and resourcing will not only help our global mission partners move toward self-sustaining ministry, but also lead all of us toward greater dependence on God.

To God Be the Glory In 2017, the people of First Pres gave \$1,364,478 to local and global outreach (17% of all contributions), including more than \$111,000 in disaster relief for Houston floods and Santa Rosa fires.

Forward Together

SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Tim McConnell
Lead Pastor

Tim heads the Senior Leadership Team and leads First Pres by casting vision, creating long-term direction for our preaching, preaching on most Sundays and serving as First Pres' primary theologian. Tim leads the First Pres Session.

2018 Goals

- Worship well – make our Sunday morning experience one that removes every barrier and draws people into holy space to glorify God.
- Make disciples – spend our energy helping people move closer to Jesus and becoming more like Him.
- Give ourselves to the next generation – increase the investment of all our generations in passing the faith along.

Take action

Commit to putting Jesus first in your life.



Jennifer Holz
Executive Pastor

Jennifer is the leader of the First Pres ministry staff. She is responsible for ministry alignment—ensuring that we are working together as one church on one mission. Jennifer works with the team of nine elders who oversee ministry at First Pres. She's also responsible for the support and development of seminarians and seminary partnerships.

2018 Goals

- Support ministry leaders in areas where significant change is taking place
- Create an environment for staff to flourish, collaborate and connect ministry with the Discipleship Pathway

Take action

Actively seek out an opportunity to serve in the ministry that's closest to your heart.



Alison Murray
Executive Director

Alison is the leader of the First Pres operations ministry staff. Under her leadership, finances, facilities, food service, IT, technology and Communication are merged to strategically serve the ministry and outreach of the congregation of First Pres. Alison is also First Pres' primary link to the Colorado Springs business community.

2018 Goals

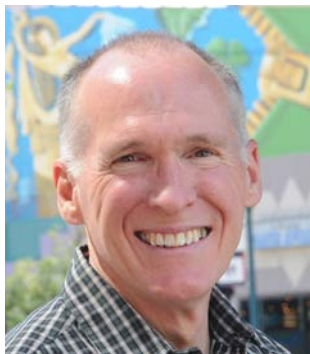
Launch a new church resource to enhance First Pres congregational communication, connectedness, ministry development and outreach to our community.

Take action

- Stay connected to your church through www.first-pres.org, Facebook (first-prescs), Twitter and Instagram (firstpres-cos).

- Sign up today for our weekly e-blast at first-pres.org/my-firstpres.

2017 saw the addition of Pastors Katie Fowler and Tom Pipkin to the First Pres Senior Leadership Team. This team is equipped to collaborate over every area of ministry at First Pres. Here, each leader shares some goals and opportunities for 2018. Please be in prayer for God's work in every area of our church.



Jim DeJarnette
Minister of
Worship and Music

Worship is the purpose of the Church, and Jim's role is to unify our worship of God across the generations at First Pres. He leads us in our pursuit of excellence in two different modes of worship, contemporary and traditional.

2018 Goals

- Vibrant worship in multiple expressions as represented by our Sanctuary and Worship Center services.
- Worship services that magnify and clarify the big idea from each sermon.

Take action

- Make music – singers and instrumentalists of all skill levels who want to glorify God can find a place in one of our choirs or ensembles.
- Make art – contribute a visual art piece to one of our sermon series exhibits.
- Support – Join our audio/visual crew.



Katie Fowler
Pastor of
Discipleship

Katie's area of leadership is developing clear entry points for every person into community-based discipleship—so that everyone at First Pres can find a place to grow closer to Christ in the company of others doing the same.

2018 Goals

- Start 40-50 new Life Groups.
- Get 25% of First Pres connected in small communities where we know each other's names, pray for each other, apply Scripture to one another's lives and live out our faith together.

Take action

- Join a Life Group
- Lead a Life Group
- Learn more at www.first-pres.org/lifegroups.



John Goodale
Pastor of
Caring Ministries

No one who's hurting at First Pres ever needs to hurt alone, and John leads the teams who put that value into action: the Deacons; Stephen Ministers; hospital, rehab and home visitation teams; workshop and support group leaders; Faith Community Nurses; memorial service coordinators and prayer teams.

2018 Goals

- Two new evening worship and prayer services that minister to those who are hurting or overwhelmed.
- Active pursuit of opportunities to show love to those who need it most.

Take action

- Join our Monday morning prayer team.
- Bake cookies for our memorial service receptions.



Tom Pipkin
Pastor of
Family Ministries

Tom is responsible for growing a Family Ministry that engages parents in the discipleship of their children, while meeting children and students where they are in their faith. Tom leads our staff who are in ministry to families with children from infants to 18 years.

2018 Goals

- Build a Family Ministry that offers a holistic approach to discipling children, students, and families.
- Support, encourage, train, and equip our gifted staff and volunteers in family ministry.

Take action

Step forward and get plugged into what God is doing as we build this exciting ministry that will transform people and continue to strengthen First Pres for the upcoming generations.

2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

First Presbyterian Church Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2017

Assets	\$26,842,663
Liabilities	\$ 22,414
Net Assets	\$ 26,820,249
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$26,842,663

Statement of Activities

	2018 Budget		2017 Actual		2017 Budget
Total Income	\$ 7,029,412	100%	\$ 7,047,465	100%	\$ 6,854,773
Expenses	\$ 6,979,412	99%	\$ 6,527,473	93%	\$ 6,804,773
Capital Reserve	\$ 50,000	1%	\$ 50,000	1%	\$50,000
Capital/Restricted Exp	—	—	\$ 352,965	5%	—
Change in Net Assets	—	—	\$ 117,027	1%	—

2017 Outreach Giving: A total of \$1,364,478 from both restricted and unrestricted expenses funded ministry locally and globally.

OPERATING BUDGET 2018

Contribution income	\$ 6,480,000
Other income	\$ 549,412
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 7,029,412

Salaries and wages	\$ 3,288,367
Benefits	\$ 1,047,100
TOTAL LABOR EXPENSES	\$ 4,335,467

Program expenses	\$ 1,602,963
Support expenses	\$ 1,040,982
TOTAL NON-LABOR EXPENSES	\$ 2,643,945

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 6,979,412
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CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 50,000
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Board designated capital reserve	\$ 50,000
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	
AFTER RESERVES	\$ 0

First Presbyterian Church Foundation

Statement of Financial Position

December 31, 2017

Cash	\$ 61,331
Investments	\$ 1,751,690
Donated Land	\$ 1,004,448
Total Assets	\$ 2,817,469
Liabilities	\$ 0
Net Assets	\$ 2,817,469
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 2,817,469

First Presbyterian Church Foundation

Statement of Activities

December 31, 2017

Contributions	\$ 8,845
Gain/Loss on Investments	\$ 268,328
Total	\$ 277,173
Grant Payouts	\$ (67,695)
Administrative Expenses	\$ (3,000)
Change in Net Assets	\$ 206,478

2017 MEMBERSHIP REPORT



MEMBERS RECEIVED IN 2017 – 124

CONFESSION OF FAITH - 7 REAFFIRMATION OF FAITH - 64 YOUTH CONFIRMATION - 24 TRANSFER IN MEMBERSHIP - 29



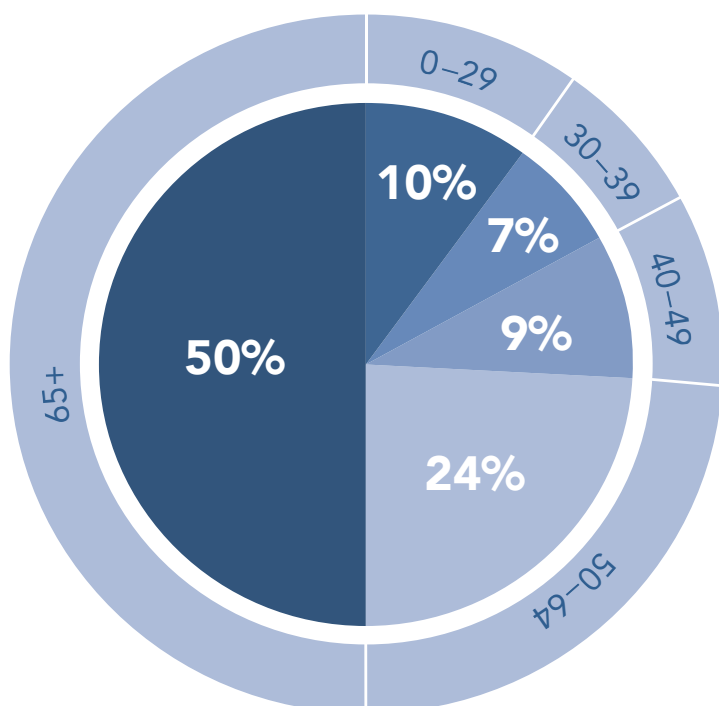
TOTAL LOSSES - 382

REMOVED FROM ROLL - 316 TRANSFERRED OUT - 15 DEATHS - 51



BAPTISMS

Infants	12
Child and Youth	5
Adult	5



2017 MEMBERSHIP

0-29 yrs	310
30-39 yrs	205
40-49 yrs	279
50-64 yrs	754
65+ yrs	1,552
Unknown	28

TOTAL MEMBERS: **3,128**

AVERAGE ATTENDANCE: **2,072**

2015 AVG: **1,878** 2016 AVG: **1,949**



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