

HELLO FUPC FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

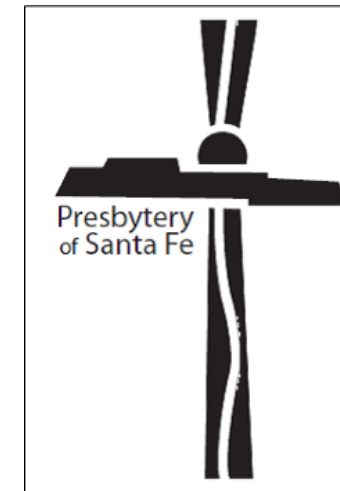
In this mailing you'll find a note from Pastor Katie and the bulletin for Sunday's worship service. Join us Sunday at 10:30 via zoom by going to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5739200081> or join us by phone (312-626-6799). If you're joining by phone, enter meeting ID 573-920-0081. If you've not used zoom before, follow the instructions provided at the link. If you need help with zoom, call D.R. Palmer before Sunday. It is so good to see and hear each other! Please plan to join us!



July 21, 2020

Dear FUPC Family and Friends,

I am in the middle of a very busy couple of weeks. It was a delight last week to help lead worship for the presbytery and I hope that you found that worship meaningful as we shared it with you on Sunday. Other news from the presbytery includes the adoption of a new logo:



This design represents, of course, the centrality of Christ and cross, but also the landscape of New Mexico, with a sun in the center, a mesa on the left-side arm of the cross, and a river running through the vertical part of the cross.

As I write this note to you, I am anticipating tonight's Session meeting—the last meeting of the term for our Elders in the Class of 2020. Officer Training for new and returning officers will be held via Zoom on Saturday morning. I am looking forward to working with a new Session and Board of Deacons and am grateful for those who serve this congregation—those who will begin their service in August, those who will continue to serve, and those who have served so faithfully who “retired” this month. I extend a heartfelt thank you to our “retiring” officers: Elders Robin Carlson, Karyl Lyne, Van Swan and Deacons Murl Baker and Patrick Rucker.

Amid the anticipation of new things happening for us at FUPC, we continue to live in the unprecedented time of pandemic. We are seeing increased numbers of cases across the nation, within our state, and within our county. Again, I urge you to heed the guidelines meant to contain the virus and keep us all healthy. Wear those masks and maintain distance! I know it's been four long months and we are not through this yet. We're all suffering from COVID-itis. Hang in there; take advantage of interaction with family and friends through phone calls, social media and face-to-face technologies, as well as socially distanced in-person gatherings.

The news continues to show us deep division, often expressed in hateful and hurtful ways. Please, friends, remember that our greatest commandment through this and anything we face is to love God and each other. As we put that commandment first and also live into Jesus' teaching to love the poor, the sick, the hungry, the stranger, and those imprisoned by bars and injustice, let's not be among those who express our opinions in hateful and hurtful ways.

As I've said before, we must commit to being respectful of and loving toward each other. We must seek the truth before we respond to what we read. We know that news media are biased. We can better understand those on the other side of the divide if we take time to read/listen to news outlets we don't normally attend to. We can choose to get our news from sources that are less biased than some. Before we post a meme on social media, we can check to see if it's true and we can ask ourselves if it's hurtful. A website I have used to check the bias of different sources is mediabiasfactcheck.com. It's probably no big surprise that, for instance, CNN has a clear left bias while Fox News has a clear right bias. Those biases are reflected in what news is covered and how it's presented—everything from what photos accompany news stories to what language is used to encourage a particular reaction. As best as we can, let's seek to form our opinions from truthful sources filtered through our love and compassion for others rather than to let less reputable sources shape our opinions. Let's look not only at what is happening, but try to honestly and compassionately discern why.

With thanks for all of you,
Pastor Katie

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

Tuesday, July 28

9:00 a.m. - Coffee with Katie via Zoom

Thursday, July 30

3:30 p.m. - Thursday Tea Time via Zoom



Our Daily Devotionals

Daily devotionals are available on our Facebook page - First United Presbyterian Church (the one with our Seeds. Roots. Branches logo) to find that day's devotional. You can also go to our website and under “Latest News” you'll find a link to the devotional. Or just click this link: [Devotionals](#)



First United Presbyterian Church
1000 Douglas Avenue
PO Box 37
Las Vegas NM 87701

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1000 Douglas Avenue, Las Vegas NM 87701

July 26, 2020 10:30 a.m.

MEDITATION – *The most beautiful people we have known are those who have known defeat, known suffering, known struggle, known loss, and have found their way out of those depths.* –Elisabeth Kubler-Ross

WE GATHER TOGETHER

WELCOME

Rev. Katie Palmer

PRELUDE

Em Krall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bud Geng

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Let us make a commitment during this time to call someone today,
visit with them, and wish them the peace of Christ.*

CALL TO WORSHIP (Isaiah 49:13)

Sing for joy, O heavens, and exult, O earth; break forth, O mountains, into singing!
For the Lord has comforted his people, and will have compassion on his suffering ones.
Let us praise the God of Creation, the God of Great Compassion!

OPENING HYMN, *Here in This Place* (GTG #401)

OPENING PRAYER

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING: Job 1:1-22

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil. There were born to him seven sons and three daughters. He had seven thousand sheep, three thousand camels, five hundred yoke of oxen, five hundred donkeys, and very many servants; so that this man was the greatest of all the people of the east. His sons used to go and hold feasts in one another's houses in turn; and they would send and invite their three sisters to eat and drink with them. And when the feast days had run their course, Job would send and sanctify them, and he would rise early in the morning and offer burnt-offerings according to the number of them all; for Job said, 'It may be that my children have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts.' This is what Job always did.

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the Lord, and [the] Satan also came among them. The Lord said to [the] Satan, 'Where have you come from?' [The] Satan answered the Lord, 'From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it.' The Lord said to [the] Satan, 'Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who fears God and turns away from evil.' Then [the] Satan answered the Lord, 'Does Job fear God for nothing? Have you not put a fence around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But stretch out your hand now, and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face.' The Lord said to [the] Satan, 'Very well, all that he has is in your power; only do not stretch out your hand against him!' So [the] Satan went out from the presence of the Lord.

One day when his sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in the eldest brother's house, a messenger came to Job and said, 'The oxen were ploughing and the donkeys were feeding beside them, and the Sabean fell on them and carried them off, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you.' While he was still speaking, another came and said, 'The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the

sheep and the servants, and consumed them; I alone have escaped to tell you.' While he was still speaking, another came and said, 'The Chaldeans formed three columns, made a raid on the camels and carried them off, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; I alone have escaped to tell you.' While he was still speaking, another came and said, 'Your sons and daughters were eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house, and suddenly a great wind came across the desert, struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; I alone have escaped to tell you.'

Then Job arose, tore his robe, shaved his head, and fell on the ground and worshipped. He said, 'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.' In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrongdoing.

SERMON

It's a Bet: An Introduction in Three Parts

Rev. Katie Palmer

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE,

He Is Suffering by Sri Chinmoy

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

***CLOSING HYMN**, *God of the Sparrow* (GTG #22)

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

Welcome!

We extend a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today!

The Sunday Class for Adults and Youth is now discussing the book *Religion as We Know It: An Origin Story* by Jack Miles. The reading assignment for August 2 is *Broadening the Foundation, Raising the Roof*, pp. 73-118. Obtaining a copy of the book quickly is desirable. One way is to have Richard Lindeborg order one to be drop shipped to your address.

The Summer Book Club's July book is *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk about Racism* by Robin DiAngelo. Because some who plan to participate have not received their copies of the book yet, the discussion will happen in early August. Watch the August newsletter for information about the August book.

Samaritan House Food Donations – July – Soup. Coffee and Tea are always appreciated. Please drop your donations off at Samaritan House.

Prayers for the Church Family - Each week we choose some specific names to remind us to pray for each other and for those in our Presbytery. Please pray for Trudi Samuelson, Shirley Sandoval, and Mary Schipper & Tom Trigg as well as Westminster Presbyterian Church, Gallup NM (1961).

July Elder of the Month – Carol Linder – 505-429-2139

July Deacon of the Month – Juli Salman – 505-429-0290

Church Office closed to the public, but calls and emails will be answered

Hours: Monday -Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

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