

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!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

Monday, March 22

11:00 a.m. – Deacons via Zoom

Tuesday, March 23

Newsletter deadline

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

6:30 p.m. – Session via Zoom

Wednesday, March 24

6:30 p.m. – Book Discussion (*Heartland* by Sarah Smarsh) via Zoom

Thursday, March 25

6:30 p.m. – Re-Entry Task Force via Zoom

Saturday, March 27

3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Drive-by Blessing and Distribution of Palms

Sunday, March 28

3:00 p.m. –Lenten Discussion Series with George Lyon, Director of Samaritan House



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



March 17, 2021

Dear FUPC Family and Friends,

Last Sunday marked the one-year anniversary of our move to online worship. I don't think many of us thought that, a year later, we'd still be worshiping online. I know we are all hopeful that it won't be much longer before we can again meet in our sanctuary. Our Re-entry Task Force is at work to establish guidelines for that time, but we're not quite there yet. Especially with some of us having been vaccinated, I know we are "getting antsy" (as my mom used to say) to meet again in person. I want to take this opportunity to remind you that there are still restrictions, issued by the state, about in-person worship, and they still include a distancing requirement of six feet. Regardless of the percentages issued in state restrictions, the distancing requirement means that we cannot physically accommodate Sunday morning worship.

Know, though, that we are not sitting idle. Our tech crew (D.R. Palmer, Carol Linder, Jeff Salman, and Denice Spicer), along with members of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, are working to prepare our space for hybrid worship so that, even after we can worship in person again, those who feel uncomfortable being together or who are unable to because of health or distance, can still worship with us online.

Many folks have also commented on the things they really like about Zoom worship, including the videos that accompany our music, the ability to see one another's faces rather than the backs of heads, and the closeness they feel "face to face" with me or worship leaders on Zoom's "speaker view," not to mention that we don't have to go out in the cold or rain to get to church, and that we can wear our PJ pants and bunny slippers and no one is the wiser!

As for this week's Zoom, we will share communion together, so please have a bite of something to eat and a sip of something to drink with you when you Zoom in. As always, whether you choose bread and juice, a slice of apple and coffee, or something else, Christ will be present in those elements.

This Sunday is the Fifth Sunday in Lent as we continue "Looking Beyond the Blinders." We'll be looking at what the parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus tell us about blinders—a message, I think, that may be particularly applicable to our contemporary culture.

Sunday, March 28, is Palm Sunday. Please plan to drive by the church (from either direction) **between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 27**, to receive a blessing and palms for your household. We'll be waving those palms in front of our computer cameras during Palm Sunday worship!

With thanks for all of you,
Pastor Katie



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1000 Douglas Avenue, Las Vegas NM 87701

March 21, 2021 10:30 a.m.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

LOOKING BEYOND THE BLINDERS

MEDITATION – *The greatness of a man is not in how much wealth he acquires, but in his integrity and his ability to affect those around him positively.* –Bob Marley

WE GATHER TOGETHER

WELCOME

Rev. Katie Palmer

PRELUDE

Em Krall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Claire Weinstein

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 (inspired by Psalm 85:8)

Let us gather to hear what God the Lord will speak to us.

We will listen attentively, as God's faithful people.

Let us turn to God in our hearts and do God's will.

God will show us to consider the poor, the sick, the captive; God will teach us to do justice!

Let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* (GTG #403)

OPENING PRAYER

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 16:19-31

[Jesus told this parable.] "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." "

SERMON *The Chasm* Rev. Katie Palmer

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE *When We Are Tempted to Deny Your Son* (PH #86, v. 2)

WITH THANKS FOR GENEROUS GIVING *Doxology*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE SEAL GOD'S WORD

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Today, we remember Jesus as we are nourished at this table using food and drink common to our kitchens.

We trust that the elements you use will become for you the presence of Christ.

INVITATION AND PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

INSTITUTION OF THE ELEMENTS AND COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Please join the pastor in lifting your "bread" and "cup" at the appropriate time

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

CLOSING HYMN *Help Us Accept Each Other* (GTG #754)

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

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



Join us at 3:00 TODAY for **Community Life's Unity Orchard Social Event**...via Zoom



Remember you can donate to **One Great Hour of Sharing** up to and including Easter Sunday, April 4. This offering provides money to the Presbyterian Hunger Program (36%), the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Program (32%) and to the Self-Development of People Program (32%). Please consider a generous offering to these important ministries of PCUSA by check to FUPC with OGHS in the memo line OR at the FUPC online donate button.

- **Lenten Series:** This year's study is discussion of the book *Are We There Yet? Pilgrimage in the Season of Lent*, with an introduction by Marek P. Zabriskie (2017). The book is available immediately as a PDF download for printing or viewing at bodysuitmx.blogspot.com. The reading assignment for the final session (Mar 28) is pp. 133-150: Holy Week "Reconciliation, Redemption and Returning Home" (Skip pages 113-132).
- **After Easter**, the Sunday morning Bible-based class for adults and youth will begin discussion of books by leading Old and New Testament scholars designed to put the current pandemic in a faith perspective: The books are *Virus as a Summons to Faith: Reflections in a Time of Loss, Grief and Uncertainty* by Walter Brueggemann, and *God and the Pandemic: A Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus and its Aftermath* by N.T. Wright. The Wright book will be provided free. Reserve a copy by March 29 via email to ralindeborg@cs.com. The Brueggemann book is available from Amazon.com in paperback for \$14.00 new (with a few used copies for less) and on Kindle for \$9.99. Other online vendors, such as Alibris.com and AbeBooks.com, have a few new and used copies for competitive prices. Paper Trail may be able to order copies, and Richard Lindeborg can order a new copy from Amazon Prime (shipping free). The reading assignment for the April 11 first session is Brueggemann, pp. vii – 22, "Forward," and "Preface" and Wright, pp. 1-6 and Ch. 1—"Where Do We Start?"
- **Looking Beyond the Blinders to See EVERYONE!** Next week, plan to attend the third event in our Zoom discussion series with guest speaker George Lyon, Director of Samaritan House, who will open our eyes to issues of poverty, addiction, and need in our community.
- **Samaritan House Food Donations** – March– Soup (any kind) - 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 Jackson Awuzing & Niki Sebastian, Murl Baker, and Christie & Douglas Baskett as well as First Presbyterian Church, Belen NM (1964).

March Elder of the Month – Judy Long – 505-429-0379

March Deacon of the Month – Sharon Vander Meer –505-617-0839

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

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

fupc.nm@gmail.com 505-425-7763 www.lvpresbyterian.org

Rev Katie Palmer – Office: 425-7763 Cell: 303-775-7356 pastorkatiepalmer@gmail.com

Assisting in Worship This Week

Preacher – Rev. Katie Palmer Worship Leader – Claire Weinstein

Director of Music - Karyl Lyne Accompanist – Em Krall

Zoom Host – D.R. Palmer Visuals – Tegan Palmer

Singers:

Deb Allen-Reid, Christie Baskett, Jan Beurskens, Mark Gillingham,

Judy Long, Karyl Lyne, D.R. Palmer, Kent Reid