

HELLO FUPC FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

In this mailing you'll find 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 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.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED

Tuesday, August 2

7:30 a.m. – Personnel via Zoom

Wednesday, August 3

8:30 a.m. - Coffee with Katie at Charlie's

Thursday, August 4

9:30 a.m. – Worship and Music via Zoom

Sunday, August 7

Introduction of new members during worship



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



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

July 27, 2022

Dear FUPC Family and Friends,

This Sunday, we begin a journey with Naomi and Ruth who, like some of our faith family members and many of our neighbors, have suffered great loss and are being displaced from the place they call home. We will dive into their story and get a feel for who these women are and what they've been through.

We'll also engage in a service of healing, during which those in the sanctuary will have an opportunity to come forward to be anointed. If those who are online would also like to anoint themselves, please have a bit of oil or water handy when you Zoom in on Sunday. All of us are in need of healing from pain, from loss, from illness, from sadness, from confusion, or from something we perhaps are unable even to name. Recognizing our need for healing and receiving a physical anointing can help us remember that God walks with us and cries with us when we hurt, and just remembering that can, in itself, help us heal.

I share with you this week a poem, "Hymn for the Hurting" by Amanda Gorman, which you may already have read on social media. She writes about the pain of loss due to gun violence, but also expresses that loss can drive us to change. Let's hold in our hearts those who are hurting today.

With thanks for all of you,
Pastor Katie

Hymn For The Hurting by Amanda Gorman

Everything hurts,
Our hearts shadowed and strange,
Minds made muddied and mute.
We carry tragedy, terrifying and true.
And yet none of it is new;
We knew it as home,
As horror,
As heritage.
Even our children
Cannot be children,
Cannot be.
Everything hurts.
It's a hard time to be alive,
And even harder to stay that way.
We're burdened to live out these days,
While at the same time, blessed to outlive them.
This alarm is how we know
We must be altered —
That we must differ or die,
That we must triumph or try.

Thus while hate cannot be terminated,
It can be transformed
Into a love that lets us live.
May we not just grieve, but give:
May we not just ache, but act;
May our signed right to bear arms
Never blind our sight from shared harm;
May we choose our children over chaos.
May another innocent never be lost.
Maybe everything hurts,
Our hearts shadowed & strange.
But only when everything hurts
May everything change.

--from <https://www.facebook.com/whuhts/>, 7-15-2022



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1000 Douglas Avenue, P.O. Box 37, Las Vegas, NM 87701
July 31, 2022 10:30 a.m.

A JOURNEY WITH RUTH AND NAOMI

MEDITATION – *In the wilderness, we experience the faithfulness of God.* – Lailah Gifty Akita

WE GATHER TOGETHER

WELCOME Rev. Katie Palmer

PRELUDE Em Krall

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** Renee Soderlund

*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** (adapted from Psalm 136)

One: God's steadfast love endures forever!

All: God leads his people through the wilderness; God's steadfast love endures forever!

One: God remembers us when we are low and stands with us when we feel threatened.

All: God's steadfast love endures forever!

One: God nourishes us and walks besides us when we feel lost.

All: Thanks be to God, whose steadfast love endures forever!

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

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE AND MERCY

*We remember that, **before** we confess and no matter what we confess to God,
we can be assured of God's Love and Mercy*

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

Merciful God, we confess that we have not always shown our neighbors those things they most need: companionship, commitment to meeting their needs when things are hardest; a listening ear and a soft shoulder. Guide us, we pray, to an awareness of those around us. Help us to listen with all of our senses to understand how we can best serve your people. Amen.

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Matthew 5:3-4

[Jesus taught them, saying:] 'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.'

Ruth 1:1-21

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there for about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons or her husband.

Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had had consideration for his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, 'Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband.' Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, 'No, we will return with you to your people.' But Naomi said, 'Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me.' Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

So she said, 'See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.'

But Ruth said, 'Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you!

Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

Where you die, I will die—there will I be buried.

May the Lord do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!'

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

So the two of them went on until they came to Bethlehem. When they came to Bethlehem, the whole town was stirred because of them; and the women said, 'Is this Naomi?' She said to them,

'Call me no longer Naomi,-- call me Mara,-- for the Almighty* has dealt bitterly with me.

I went away full, but the Lord has brought me back empty;

why call me Naomi when the Lord has dealt harshly with me, and the Almighty has brought calamity upon me?'

MESSAGE

Displaced and Empty

Rev. Katie Palmer

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE *As Pants the Deer for Living Streams* (GTG #778, v.1; refrain x2)

BLESSING FOR HEALING AND RENEWAL

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WITH THANKS FOR GENEROUS GIVING

***DOXOLOGY**

OPPORTUNITIES

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

***CLOSING HYMN** *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* (GTG #727)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

*Please stand in body or spirit, as you are able

OPPORTUNITIES

There will be a **New Members Class** following worship today for those interested in learning more about church membership.



“Christmas in July” You may remember in summers past we have celebrated by giving generously to the Garden Well project. Mission and Peacemaking would like to invite all of you to join in this project once again this summer so together we can provide a nearby source of clean water for drinking, bathing, washing and irrigation for our neighbors. Our goal is to raise \$1,500 to cover the cost of an entire well. Thank you for your gifts this July-Christmas and in summer Christmases past!

Coffee with Katie is moving to Wednesdays! Beginning this coming Wednesday, August 3, join Katie at Charlie’s, 8:30 a.m., for coffee and maybe a pastry or breakfast!

The Community Life Committee recognizes the importance of gathering and sharing our time together even if for brief moments as a congregation, and will start to offer **fellowship time after the Sunday services starting in August**. On Sunday, August 7th, coffee and tea will be available after the Worship Service in Perea Hall so that those who are comfortable can join together in sharing a beverage and conversation.

The Sunday Morning Bible-Based Class for Adults and Youth -- now hybrid from the church teleconferencing room upstairs -- is discussing the book *The Lost Sutras of Jesus: Unblocking the Ancient Wisdom of the Xian Monks* by Ray Riegert and Thomas Moore. The classes, led by John Arnold, are at 9 a.m. Zoom attendees should use the same link as for the Worship Service.

In-person attendees should use the east entrance to the church; class is in the first classroom upstairs.

The book is available from Alibris new for as little as \$2.99 and used for as little as \$.99 plus shipping, used from AbeBooks for as little as \$2.50 to \$6.50 plus shipping, and new in paperback from Amazon for \$9.84 plus shipping or used for under \$6.00 including shipping. Paper Trail may be able to order a copy. Richard Lindeborg can have a copy delivered directly to you for no shipping charge.

The readings for August 7 will be provided by the instructor. If you are new to the class, request the reading material from Richard Lindborg via email to ralindeborg@cs.com

On the last Sunday of August, the class will begin discussion of *Song of Songs: A Biblical–Theological, Allegorical, Christological Interpretation* by James M. Hamilton Jr. See the August Newsletter for ordering advice. The book is in short supply so order early.

Samaritan House Food Donations – August – Dry milk and oatmeal (other dry cereals). Coffee and Tea are always appreciated. Please drop your donations off at Samaritan House, 501 7th Street.

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 Pablo Hernandez, Lillian Hoika and Jeanette Huling as well as La Mesa Presbyterian Church, Albuquerque, NM (1944).

Assisting in Worship This Week

Preacher – Rev. Katie Palmer

Director of Music - Karyl Lyne

Office Manager – Crystal Western Ford

Worship Leader – Renee Soderlund

Accompanist – Em Krall

Tech Crew – Carol Linder, D.R. Palmer, Jeff Salman

August Elder of the Month – Karyl Lyne - 505-718-6475

August Deacon of the Month – Sharon VanderMeer –505-617-0839

Church Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 9:00 a.m. – Noon

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