

We are staffing the church for limited hours during the re-opening phase of the State's plan. If you need to stop by, please call first. Please be advised that any visitors will be required to wear a face covering and observe social distancing protocols.

Our staff members can be reached individually by phone or email between 8:00am and 5:00pm, Monday through Friday:

Matthew Miller.....(505)764-2902
Stephanie Urban.....(505) 764-2903
Frank Yates.....(505)681-0625
Carolyn Rhodes.....(505)764-2900
or (505) 764-2906
Libby Whiteley.....(505) 764-2924
Niccole Pierre-Williams.....(505)764-2911

If you have an after-hours emergency, you can reach Matthew through our Helpline at (505) 764-2910

DOES THE CHURCH KNOW HOW TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOU?

- Please check in with the church office if you have not received phone calls OR emails from us OR if your contact information has changed.
- And please REMEMBER to check your emails.

**First Presbyterian Church (USA)
215 Locust Street, NE
Albuquerque, NM 87102
(505) 764-2900
www.firstpresabq.org**

Calendar for the Week

- Daily Lectionary Readings ~ 8:00am
- Daily Prayer Hour ~ 9:00am
- Sunday Virtual Worship Service streamed from our FPC sanctuary ~ 9:00am (view on our YouTube and Facebook pages)
- Sunday Worship Live-Streaming from the Presbytery of Santa Fe ~ 10:00am (view on santafepresbytery.org)
- Sunday School Classes ~ Godly Play Class at 10:30am; *Prophets and Kings* Adult Class at 10:30am; and Through the Bible Class at 11:30am all via Zoom meetings (contact Libby Whiteley for details)
- Tuesday Prayer Group & Book Study ~ 12:00pm via Zoom Meeting (contact Marjorie Buck for details)
- Wednesday "I'm Still Here" Book Study Group ~ 5:30pm to 6:30pm via Zoom Meeting (contact Stephanie Urban for details)
- Wednesday Support Groups (12-Step will meet via teleconference) and AA will meet outside the church in the garden
- Sunday, October 18th ~ Monthly Check-In and Virtual Fellowship Luncheon at 11:30am (details will be emailed to the congregation)
- Sunday, October 18th ~ Sarah's Circle Meeting at 12:30pm (contact Libby for details)
- **Sunday, October 18th ~ Through the Bible Class will meet at 12:30pm instead of 11:30am.**



Messenger Lite
First Presbyterian Church
October 7, 2020

Longfellow Elementary Partnership Updates

As many of you know, last year we built upon our partnership with Longfellow Elementary School when we began our weekend food bag program – providing 50 bags of nutritious snacks weekly for students at risk of experiencing hunger over the weekends. The outpouring of support from the FPC community was incredible! When the pandemic shut everything down in March, our weekend food program also came to a halt when schools closed, and then became too difficult to restart in a way that would be safe for our volunteers. Since then, a bigger organization with access to a large warehouse has included Longfellow in their weekend food program.

This does not mean that our partnership has ended! The Mission Committee is enthusiastic about a new opportunity to support Longfellow families by helping to fund the monthly food pantry that is held for families where they're able to access healthy, fresh food and pantry staples. As our partnership with Longfellow continues to evolve, we'll keep you posted on ways that you can get involved!

New Volunteer Opportunity

Another volunteer opportunity brought to the attention of Mission Committee came from Roadrunner Food Bank. They're looking for a couple volunteers to work with their call center. Volunteers would work remotely and must have access to a computer and have basic computer and phone skills. After being trained, volunteers would then help clients to apply for SNAP and other essential benefits. If anyone is interested in learning more about this hugely important volunteer role, please contact me.

Stephanie Urban
stephanieurban@firstpresabq.org

Daily Prayer Options

We invite you to our daily prayer practice at 9:00am as a way for us to connect while we are apart. We post on our website, Facebook page, and send emails with daily prayer prompts and devotionals to collectively meditate at 9:00am. **Please let the church office know if you would like to be part of this email chain.**

Online Giving
worship through giving - wherever you are

We are continuing to work in our ministries to reach out to members of the church and our greater community. You can send contributions by mailing checks to the church at:

First Presbyterian Church
215 Locust Street NE
Albuquerque, NM 87102

You can also give online from our website, (www.firstpresabq.org). Click on the yellow "Give Online" button in the menu bar. Follow the instructions in the new window that opens to make your donations.

Peace and Global Witness Special Offerings

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. Mid councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.

You can give by mail or online at the PCUSA website (<http://pcusa.org/peace-global>).

Third Sunday Virtual Luncheon

The Monthly Check-In / Third Sunday Virtual Luncheon will take place on October 18th at 11:30am. This new time is meant to reflect our Third Sunday Luncheon. We hope you will join us on Zoom with your lunch for this virtual time of fellowship. We are here for each other to encourage the fainthearted and strengthen the weak. Join us on Zoom for fellowship and support (zoom details will be emailed).

First Presbyterian Church of ABQ Virtual Worship Service

The Pastoral Staff of FPC will continue Live-streaming our worship services each Sunday and post them to Facebook, YouTube, and the church website at 9:00am. You can view these virtual services by visiting First Presbyterian Church of Albuquerque's Facebook and YouTube pages. We hope that you will share in this online worship with us and the Albuquerque community. If you need assistance viewing our virtual worship service, please contact the Church Office and we will be gladly help you navigate our platforms.

Sunday School Options with FPC

Our Fall Quarter is well under way! All Sunday School classes are being hosted via Zoom meetings (contact Libby for details) or visit our website: <https://firstpresabq.org/education/sunday-school>

- Godly Play Class ~ 10:30am
- *Prophets and Kings* Adult Class ~ 10:30am
- Through the Bible Class ~ 11:30am

Death Notice

Caroline Beaumont passed to Life Eternal on September 22, 2020. She is survived by John Beaumont, Bob & Eileen Beaumont, and Bill Beaumont. A Memorial took place for Edward and Caroline Beaumont on October 2, 2020. If you would like to send a note of condolence please call the Church Office for an address.

Family Promise Update and Thank You

Family Promise strives to keep families struggling together. In Albuquerque, the program has been in operation for 15 years and has offered shelter for over 400 families. We have an 82% success rate of helping these families find housing within 90 days of entering the program. 24 congregations of different denominations participate in providing food and shelter in the Albuquerque area. Among other things, Family Promise also offers Literacy Tutoring, Job Interviewing Skills and Parenting Resources. Our responsibility here at FPC is to provide food and shelter 4 times a year. Before Covid, our guests were housed in Westminster House, but because of the pandemic, it is thought to be safer to have a stationary shelter. (continues in next column —>)

Church of the Good Shepherd has graciously provided the housing and we are responsible for food and supplies.

In this crazy Covid time, everything familiar to us has been turned upside down, especially in our church family. But pandemic or not, First Presbyterians continue to be counted on to share of their time and talents to care for our less fortunate brothers and sisters. So when we sent out a message asking for Family Promise help, of course you stepped up. Whether it was buying supplies, cooking food or making a monetary donation, you were there for us. Many thanks to the following people who made this happen:

Steve and Kay Maize; Bill Bechtold; Scott Truby; Patty Brewer; Stephen and Kathy Rhoades; Joanne Burnett; Elaine Kelly; Crista Belt; Marjorie Buck; Ann Calderwood; Teresa and Eric Moshier; and Disciple Bible Group

Thank you all, Ann and Joanne

90+ Birthday Celebration Thank You

Dear 90+ Birthday Celebration Participants,

Thank you to everyone who took part in the 2020 Celebration of our 90+ Birthday Honorees. We couldn't have done it without you. We are aware that some of you took pictures or videos during the parades. We hope you will share those with us by sending them to FPC Communications Coordinator, Niccole Pierre-Williams at niccolepierre.williams@firstpresabq.org. Niccole will use them in future Messenger Lite issues and/or post them on the FPC website for all to see, and they will become part of the archival record of this year's event.

Thanks again for helping make this year's celebration possible, Nancy Pierce and Sue Campbell

A special thank you from one of our dear honorees:

I wanted to thank you all so very much for the bag of wonderful treasures I received on Saturday after the parade. You all are a blessing and I'm grateful for your kindness and friendship. It was tons of fun to see some of you drive by with your cars decorated and all those fancy old cars. I hope to see you all soon, when we can go back to church. Stay safe and healthy.

Love, Ruth Gannaway



A Memorial Service for
Joan and Marshall Farris

Will be held at 3:30pm on October 15, 2020
At the Plaza Esperanza Inside Sunset Memorial Park
924 Menaul Blvd NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107

Masks and Social Distancing will be observed

The service will be held outdoors

If you would like to attend, please contact
Lynn Farris at (281)744-8349

Alvin (Al) and Esther (Sue) Batz

Esther (Sue) and Al Batz reared a family of four children: there were eight grandchildren and thirteen great grandchildren in all. A daughter and a son live here in Albuquerque; a daughter and several of the grandchildren and great grandchildren are in Arizona, while the other grandchildren and great grands live in Albuquerque and in Edgewood.

Al worked as a salesman, was a truck driver for fifteen years, and also was a pilot. Esther was a homemaker, “My husband preferred it that way. He would make the money and I would spend it.” When asked about what his wife did, Al said, “She takes care of the family, especially when

I’m away.” Esther also did volunteer work, mostly for the church, with Girl Scouts, and as a tutor at the school. “I absolutely loved the work that I did, but at eighty we cut back,” she says.

Al sometimes has problems walking. He can’t go fast, so they “kinda take care of each other.” Esther summed it up saying, “Life is good. We sleep a little longer, don’t get up so early, and are doing okay.”

- Interviewed by Deacon Virginia Belk

