

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 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 Support Groups (12-Step will meet via teleconference) and AA will meet outside the church in the garden
- Sunday, November 15th ~ Online Confirmation Classes 10:45-12:00pm
- Sunday, November 29th ~ New Pledge Cards due to the Church Office



Messenger Lite
First Presbyterian Church
November 4, 2020

Confirmands

Like everything else in our world, this year's Confirmation class looked very different than usual. What began with lunches together and lively discussion got moved to Zoom as the pandemic shut everything down. However, this year's group of confirmands has stuck with it and we are eager to mark this big moment in their lives with a Service on Confirmation at our worship service on November 29th – a great way to kick off the Advent season!

This year's Confirmands are:

Lily Babenco
Jaysha Bowers Ransom
Abishai Mall
Zachary Mall
Carol Moyo
Andrew Richards
Ethan Sadler

If you'd like to share a word of encouragement and celebration with our confirmands, please pass it along to Stephanie and it will be shared with the class. stephanieurban@firstpresabq.org

New Members

We would like to acknowledge this year's new members. Please welcome to First Presbyterian Church, Jon and Maria Mugweru and their new baby girl, Nia Olivia; this family transferred from Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church, Orlando, FL. Please also welcome Elizabeth (Betty) Hume, who transferred from United Church of Los Alamos, NM.

ONLINE GIVING WITH FPC

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.

MinistryOne App: a new way to connect! You can use Google Play or the Apple Store to search for "Church by Ministry One." Download on your phone; open the app; type in "First Presbyterian Albuquerque"; click on Find My Church and select. The App button comes up on your home screen as a purple square with a white cross entitled, "Church."

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.**

Advent Mosaic Posters

With the success of our previous Mosaic Posters, we have decided to introduce another mosaic drawing project for the Advent season. There are 5 large posters and some are being given to particular families to work on together. However, we are inviting members and friends to visit the Church Office at staggered times to work on the remaining posters throughout the month of November. We would like to have these posters completed by November 28th so that we can display them each Sunday of the Advent season. Contact the Church Office to schedule times, if you are interested in coloring some of the Advent posters.

(See the Calendar for the Week to view posters)

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

FPC 2021 Pledge for Stewardship

The Spirit moves through us as we not only find new ways to gather online and worship together, but as we are enriched by the gifts of our UNM choral scholars and guest musicians. The Spirit moves through us as we continue to find ways to connect with one another in friendship and support; create virtual spaces for retreat and study; feed the hungry in our community by partnering with Longfellow Elementary School, Rio Grande Food Project, and Family Promise; contribute to the work of those serving our homeless neighbors like HopeWorks and Healthcare for the Homeless; and the Spirit guides us through the shoals of this pandemic as we grow and adapt with the future God has promised and prepared for us. We encourage you to consider what you might be able to contribute to the work of the Spirit through this church in 2021. Pledge cards will be sent out to the congregation this week and are due back by November 29th.

Death Notice

Robert Fleming passed to Life Eternal on October 31, 2020. He is survived by Diane Fleming. Contact the Church Office for contact details.

Sunbonnet Shop Updates

The Sunbonnet Shop has Justo ground, caffeinated coffee again! We have both Robusta and Arabica. They are \$12 a bag. Just make out a check to PW or use cash and leave it in the Sunbonnet drawer in the church office.

And if you do get up to the church office, there is a giant table in front of the shop with all clearance items. Ignore all pricing. Just shop and leave a donation in the Sunbonnet drawer in the church office.

Happy Shopping for Mission!!

Aquaponics Update

Our Aquaponics program has reached a moment of transition and we've decided to pause the program temporarily in order to do some maintenance, cleaning, and recruiting of new leadership. This means that we have lots of frozen tilapia for the taking! If you're interested in taking some frozen fish home to eat or compost, we would love to share! If you're interested in getting involved with Aquaponics in the future, please let Stephanie know. stephanieurban@firstpresabq.org

An Advent Book Study with Libby and Stephanie

As they say, winter is coming. And during this season of longer nights, colder temperatures, civil unrest and a raging pandemic, we need to find the light in the darkness.

Join us for an Advent study, *Light of the World*. Advent is not only the perfect time to read the story of the birth of Jesus; it's also a great time to dive deeper into the biblical texts that surround the event. In *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent*, author, professor, and biblical scholar Amy-Jill Levine shows how the Gospel narratives connect to the Old Testament; highlights the role of women in first-century Jewish culture; and emphasizes the importance of Mary's visitation, the census, the stable, the star of Bethlehem, and the flight to Egypt.

This study will meet Wednesdays, December 2, 9, 16 and 23 at 5:30 PM via zoom. A 12pm class will also meet Tuesdays beginning December 1st. You may register through the church office by calling or emailing Libby, libbywhiteley@firstpresabq.org or Stephanie, stephanieurban@firstpresabq.org. Please let us know if you wish to order your own book or e-book from Cokesbury, or if you wish for us to order one for you. Deadline for book order requests is November 12th.

90+ Birthday Honoree Interview Stories, P. 7 of Our Celebration Book

Delford Benson

Delford Benson grew up on a farm in northwest Iowa. He did a lot of farming. Other family members now work the farmlands. Relatives were important in his life, especially his cousins. Flocks of turkeys might have been considered his “pets” during his farming time. In addition to the farming, he was an electrical engineer.

In the early years, movies were a part of their entertainment with the movies being shown in the local town hall. Delford recalls that the first picture show he saw in the 30’s featured actress Clara Bow. Music was also part of his entertainment and was an important part of his life. He played the trumpet in bands for about 50 years.

In high school, a favorite subject was mathematics. Although he played football in high school, Delford doesn’t think of himself as a spectator of sports. Fishing has been a favorite hobby.

Delford got his college education at Iowa State University where mathematics continued to be a favorite subject. His wife was at one of the Iowa colleges. His first car was a 1941 Chevrolet.

In the 1940’s Delford and his wife lived in Lordsburg, New Mexico for two years before moving back to Iowa. He said he enjoyed living in Lordsburg because it was a nice change from Iowa. He and his wife enjoyed traveling and fishing in many locations. They were married for 65 years.

Since then, he has had a girlfriend for 12 years who he says is a youngster—she’s 91. Delford says he does not have any place where he wishes he could live because he has done what he wanted to do in life and he has enjoyed it.



- Interviewed by Deacon Dean Tooley