

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 mask and observe social distancing protocols.

Our staff members can be reached individually by phone or email between 8am and 4pm, Monday through Friday:

Matthew Miller

505-764-2902

Frank Yates

505-681-0625

Carolyn Rhodes

505-764-2900

or 505-764-2906

Libby Whiteley

505-764-2924

Nicole Pierre-Williams

505-764-2911

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

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

Congratulations to Rev. Stephanie and Brian Urban and their beautiful baby boy, Dominic Joseph Urban. He was born on April 16, 2021. Our greatest gift to Stephanie is the peace of quiet time to adjust and focus on her new family. She will be on parental leave until mid-July. Please reach Matthew or Carolyn with any inquiries.

First Presbyterian Church of Albuquerque's

Messenger Lite

April 21, 2021



As Earth Day is recognized on April 22, 2021, it is a perfect opportunity to highlight two programs First Presbyterian Church has been participating in to help heal and take care of God's creation.

During the Lenten Season in 2019 our community read "Creation and the Cross" which led us to discern how we could care for God's creation. Out of this discernment, a "Green Team" was formed and tasked with looking into becoming an Earth Care Congregation. This is a national PCUSA program which helps congregations become active stewards of the earth. Members of this team are Marjorie Buck, John Farris, Brenda Sinfield, and me. The Earth Care Pledge encompasses "Worship, Education, Facilities and Outreach" and in part states: "to be careful, humble stewards of this earth, and to protect and restore it for its own sake, and for the future use and enjoyment of the human family. As God offers all people the special gift of peace through Jesus Christ, and through Christ reconciles all to God, we are called to deal justly with one another and the earth." Our church completed its recertification in this program for 2021. You can read about this program and the full pledge by following this link: <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/earth-care-congregations/>.

Our "Green Team" has also been involved in the Albuquerque Mayor's Energy Challenge: Save money. Save energy. Save the planet. The Challenge was kicked off in early 2020 with a workshop to help participants understand the basics of how businesses can save energy, reviewed information on incentive programs and the next steps for technical assistance. Following the workshop our "Green Team" was tasked with analyzing where our energy use is today and how we can streamline operations to reduce utility bills and improve the environment. The team began developing a plan to reduce energy use in three main categories: Building Efficiency, Site Efficiency and Transportation Efficiency. Prior to joining this program, the Building and Grounds committee implemented replacement of all church lighting to LED lighting with the help of the "QuickSaver" program through PNM which was completed in 2018 and our Session approved funds to be used from its Endowment Session Reserves to install solar panels which was completed in October of 2020. As we continue working with the Mayor's Energy Challenge, the "Green Team" is researching innovative ways to change behaviors and implement projects that affect each of these efficiency areas in hopes of reductions in the church's energy use, utility bills and +GHG emissions.

I welcome your conversations as we continue this important work. Look for future updates in our "Messenger Lite" newsletter.

Carolyn Rhodes, Church Administrator



Online Giving Options

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 Visit the App Store on your smart phone to find "Church by Ministry One." Download the app; open; type in "First Presbyterian Albuquerque"; click on Find My Church and select. You can use this app to make donations quickly and securely, as well as access our YouTube channel for videos and sermons.

Calendar for the Week

- **Thursday, April 22nd - Earth Day!** - plant sale at East Central Ministries begins at 12pm
- **Saturday, April 24th** - Stewardship Fair via Zoom with the Presbytery of Santa Fe from 9:00am to 12:00pm (see included flyer for details)
- **Sunday, April 25th**
 - Sunday Virtual Worship Service ~ 9:00am (view on our YouTube and Facebook pages)
 - Godly Play and Adult Sunday School at 10:30am
 - Through the Bible Class at 11:30am
 - Deacons Meeting ~ 12:30pm via Zoom
 - Safe Church Meeting ~ 2:00pm via Zoom
- **Tuesday Prayer / Book Study Group** ~ 12:00pm via Zoom meeting with Marjorie Buck
- **Wednesday Support Groups** (Zoom meetings)
 - 12-Step Program 5:30-7:30pm
 - AA Meeting 7:45-8:45pm
- **Sunday, May 2nd**
 - Sunday Virtual Worship Service ~ 9:00am (view on our YouTube and Facebook pages)
 - Godly Play and Adult Sunday School at 10:30am
 - Through the Bible Class at 11:30am

Special Announcements

- If you or a family member are **graduating** this year (from any level of education or certification program) please inform Niccole via email or phone call so that we may formally recognize your outstanding accomplishment!

Plant Sale Begins April 22, 2021

This year you are invited to purchase plants directly from East Central Ministries! Beginning on Earth Day, April 22nd, they will be open to the public on Fridays from 12:00pm-4:00pm and Saturdays from 9:00am-1:00pm. There address is
123 Vermont St. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87108



COVID-19 Return to Worship Survey

A printed copy of our Covid-19 survey is attached to this Messenger issue. If you would prefer to submit a digital copy of your survey feedback, the link to the online survey has been emailed to our congregation. If you did not receive this email, here's the link to complete the survey online:
<https://forms.gle/3CXad2UE8T3SmDC17>
***You only need to submit one survey.

Fall Camp: September 17th - 19th 2021

Save the dates! We have reserved Friday, September 17th – Sunday, September 19th for our Fall Camp at Ghost Ranch. Registration will begin in June. Contact Libby for more details.

South American Music in Worship

Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959) composed pieces entitled "Bachianas Brasileiras" fusing Brazilian folk music and dance rhythms with J. S. Bach's style. Our April 25th service features this South American music. Brazilians Ruth V. Corrêa and Manuel Bandeira wrote poetry sung in Portuguese by a singer with eight cellos. One song evokes the exotic tropics, the sea, the moon, the sky dressed like a maiden that unconsciously adorns herself simply to be seen. Poem two uses bird calls saying, "Irene, yours is the song from the depths of the forest like summer winds that comfort every mournful heart." Enjoy these lovely selections!

~ J.A.Y.



COVID-19 RETURN TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP SURVEY

First Presbyterian Church of Albuquerque

Name: _____

1. How often do you attend Sunday worship at FPC?

- Every Week
- At least twice a month
- At least once a month
- Less than once a month

2. Have you received one of the COVID-19 vaccines?

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to answer

3. If “yes” to the previous question, when will you be fully vaccinated?

(Two weeks after second dose of the Pfizer/Moderna, or single dose of Johnson & Johnson)

Date (mm/dd/yyyy): _____

4. Do you currently participate in online worship?

- Yes
- No
- Unable to use/access the technology required to do so.

5. What is your comfort level for a return to in-person outdoor worship with the following requirements in place: Turquoise status for Bernalillo Co., mandatory masks, social distancing?

very uncomfortable 1 2 3 4 5 very comfortable

6. Which of the following would make you more comfortable returning to in-person worship? (select all that apply)

- More time before opening church doors
- Stricter safety measures
- Lower case numbers and rate of infection in Bernalillo County
- Nothing, I am medically vulnerable
- Not Sure
- Other: _____

7. When the church returns to in-person worship, would you be willing to volunteer to help with COVID-safe practices?

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure / Need more information

8. What other questions or suggestions do you have for the Safety Team?

Please mail back completed survey to:

First Presbyterian Church of ABQ
215 Locust Street NE, Albuquerque, NM 87102



STEWARDSHIP FAIR

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2021 9:00-12:00

Zoom Registration on the Presbytery Website

What: An interactive forum for people of the Santa Fe Presbytery to explore the meaning and application of stewardship with **Keynote:**
Rev. Shannon Webster

Who: Christians wrestling with how to be faithful with their lives and resources: Congregants, Deacons, church school teachers, Elders and pastors

Purpose: To challenge us to examine the whole of stewardship in our lives, including exploring (1) Gratitude; (2) Biblical bases for stewardship; (3) Stewardship versus budgeting; (4) The differences between stewardship and fundraising; (5) "Who owns my stuff?" and (6) Practical tools in stewardship

Where: Your Zoom living room

Register for the Zoom meeting at the following link:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUoc-qhrjkiEt2bNzrHRmM8SWFk5r-KxCG7>

Or simply visit the Presbytery of Santa Fe's website at <https://santafepresbytery.org/> and look for the "Stewardship Fare" details on the right-hand side of the home screen.