

**Education Class for Adults And Youth** - Rod Billingsley's class on *Old Testament Stories Your Mother Never Told You* runs through February 11. Topic for Jan 21 is Jephthah's Vow- Judges 10: 6,11 and Deuteronomy 23:21-23.

**Game Night** - Join us for games, pizza and make-your-own ice cream sundaes. When: Friday, January 26, 2018; Where: Old Town Mission; Time: 5:30 p.m.

**Worship Leader Training** - In an effort to improve the flow and worshipful atmosphere of our services, the Worship & Music Committee has asked Pastor Katie to offer training for Worship Leaders. The first training session will take place on Sunday, January 28 from Noon - 2:30. We hope many people will attend and pick up helpful tips about being a better Worship Leader. Please email [christie.baskett@gmail.com](mailto:christie.baskett@gmail.com) if you plan to attend.

**Mission & Peacemaking** invites you to a light lunch and a workshop after church next Sunday, January 21, presented by Frank Beurskens. The workshop, titled "The Other Side has Another Side," challenges our belief that something must be either true or false, strong or weak, good or evil. There is a human need for believing we have chosen the 'right path'; that we are of a 'right mind', while 'they' are wrong. This presentation explores the challenge that right can be wrong, and wrong can be right. It asks: how can we accept contradictions and ambiguity without blame, honor diversity while holding onto our own values and realize the essential role love plays? In this time of conflict and controversy at every turn, this seems particularly timely and we're appreciative that Frank has volunteered to share it with us. Do plan to come!

**Prayers for the Church Family** - Please pray for Elisa White, Charlotte Wootton & Susan Apodaca, and Evelyn Wootton as well as for Community United Presbyterian Church, Jemez Springs NM (1881). These names remind us to pray for each other and for the churches in our Presbytery.

### **THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN**

#### **Monday, January 15**

Church office closed for Martin Luther King, Jr., Day

#### **Tuesday, January 16**

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. - Coffee with Katie at Charlie's

6:30 p.m. – Session Budget Meeting

#### **Wednesday, January 17**

6:00 p.m. – Chancel Choir

7:00 p.m. – Rainbow Ringers

#### **Assisting in Worship Today**

Pastor – Rev Katie Palmer

Worship Leader – Beth Urech

Choir Director – Karyl Lyne

Accompanist – Em Krall

Sound – Patrick Rucker/Sean Croto

Visuals – Christie Baskett/Linda Solyntjes

**FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
1000 Douglas Avenue Las Vegas NM 87701

January 14, 2018

**THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS**

### **WE GATHER AROUND THE WORD**

**MEDITATION** – *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances. – 1 Thessalonians 16-18a*

### **GATHERING MUSIC**

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*(Please use this time to share the peace of the Lord with your neighbor.)*

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you

**People: And also with you**

*(Please return to your seat when the introduction to the hymn starts.)*

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;**

**The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

### **PRELUDE AND SILENT MEDITATION**

#### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from a poem by Howard Thurman)

God's tent is gone from our sanctuary

**But our hearts live in it with Christ.**

What now do we do

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,  
when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks?

**Now the work of Christmas begins:**

**to find the lost, to heal the broken,**

**to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner,**

**to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among the people,**

**to make music in the heart.**

#### **\* OPENING HYMN** PH #464, *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

### **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.*

Leader: God's love and mercy stands outside of time; its magnitude is outside our comprehension. But know: you are loved, forgiven, and created anew.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us our shortcomings, O Holy One. Forgive us when our response to your call in our lives is “not now,” “maybe later,” or “I can’t do that.”

Forgive us when we waste the gifts you lavish on us. Remind us that each of us is uniquely equipped to work toward making your kingdom a reality.

Turn us toward those things you would have us do to offer nurture and to spread joy among your people. We offer now our silent prayers. (Pause in silent prayer.) Amen.

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

STF #2230, *Lord, We Come To Ask Your Blessing, verse 4*

Lord, we come to ask your blessing in the presence of our friends.

Grant us joy that blesses others, grant us love that never ends.

## WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS Psalm 104:1a, 14-15 Pew Bible Page 483

John 2:1-11 Pew Bible Page 863

ANTHEM *The Work of Christmas* Dan Forrest

SERMON *When Is The Time Right?* Rev. Katie Palmer

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

(from *The Confessions of 1967*, 9.35 – 9.38)

Wherever the church exists, its members are both gathered in corporate life and dispersed in society for the sake of mission in the world. The church gathers to praise God.... The church disperses to serve God wherever its members are, at work or play, in private or in the life of society. Their prayer and Bible study are part of the church’s worship and theological reflection. Their witness is the church’s evangelism. Their daily action in the world is the church in mission to the world. The quality of their relation with other persons is the measure of the church’s fidelity. Each member is the church in the world, endowed by the Spirit with some gift of ministry.

## WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

### CALL TO OFFERING

### GIVING OF OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

#### \*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

A Dios el Padre celestial;

Al Hijo nuestro redentor

Y al eternal Consolador,

Unidos todos alabad. Amen.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

Leader: Lord in your Mercy (or Lord, with Joy)

(The people respond to each petition with “*Hear our prayer*”)

### THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

### WE SEAL GOD’S WORD.

### INVITATION TO THE LORD’S SUPPER

SONG OF PREPARATION STF #2269, *Come, Share the Lord*

### GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### INSTITUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

### COMMUNION OF GOD’S PEOPLE

*Communion will be served by intinction.*

*Please come forward, take a piece of bread, and dip it in the cup.*

*Gluten-free elements are available near the west door.*

### UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Gracious God, you are the Holy One who nourishes and guides us. Thank you for inviting us to sit together at your table. As we leave the table this morning fed by the love that Jesus’ birth brought to us, let us go out to do the work of Christmas. Let us make music in the hearts of all those whom we encounter; let us listen to the music they make for us to hear. We pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

## WE GO FORTH IN GOD’S NAME

CLOSING HYMN *Now Go In Joy* (on insert)

### CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

\*Please stand if you are able.

*Communion is offered each Sunday from October 1 through Pentecost (May 20, 2018) and on the first and third Sundays of each month from June through September. We do not celebrate Communion on the fifth Sunday of a month due to the addition of the Healing Liturgy to the service.*

*Church Office: 505-425-7763*

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

*Rev Katie Palmer – Office: 425-7763 Cell: 505-231-1923*

*January Elder of the Month – Christie Baskett – 505-930-0667*

*January Deacon of the Month – Christina Litherland – 505-429-1007*