

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 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday, February 23

8:45 a.m. – Adult class in Session Room and via Zoom

10:30 a.m. –Worship in sanctuary and via Zoom followed by fellowship

Monday, February 24

11:00 a.m. – Deacons in the Session Room

Tuesday, February 25

6:15:00 a.m. – Personnel and Session in the Session Room

Wednesday, February 26

6:30 p.m. – Choir Rehearsal in Perea Hall

Thursday, February 27

5:30 p.m. – Bell Choir Rehearsal in Perea Hall

Friday, February 28

4:00 p.m. - Samaritan House Cook Team

Sunday, March 2

8:45 a.m. – Adult Study in Session Room and via Zoom

10:30 a.m. –Worship in sanctuary and via Zoom with Rev. J.R. (Randy) Campbell followed by fellowship



P.O. Box 37, Las Vegas, NM 87701



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1000 Douglas Avenue, P.O. Box 37

Las Vegas, NM 87701

February 23, 2025

10:30 a.m.

MISSION AND VISION - We seek to grow in our faith, share God's love, and serve others, following the Holy Spirit that has sustained us and our ministries for over 150 years. As an inclusive and welcoming segment of the Body of Christ, we actively seek justice for all and work together to build a compassionate world where all are valued. Led by Christ and dependent on God's grace, we embrace today's challenges and live into tomorrow's opportunities.

MEDITATION - "Bet your life on it: The seemingly worst things are never the last things with this alchemist God. God always has something creative up God's sleeve. What that means is: There is a basis for hope, and for never, never giving up." —Rev. John Claypool

WE GATHER TOGETHER

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Let us make a commitment during this time to visit with someone today and wish them the peace of Christ.

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love.

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The way of Christ turns the world upside down.

All: God's ways are not our ways.

Leader: It moves us beyond retribution and cycles of violence.

All: God's ways are not our ways.

Leader: It leads us to enemy-love and scandalous forgiveness.

All: God's ways are not our ways.

Leader: It calls us beyond reciprocity into radical giving.

All: God's ways are not our ways.

Leader: So let us commit our way to the Lord together

All: until our righteousness shines like the dawn and our justice like high noon.

***OPENING HYMN**

O, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

GTG #610

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.*

UNISON PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

O Christ, the economy of your love is beautiful, expending goodness and extending lines of forgiveness beyond our imagining. The economy of our love is stingy and crooked. We invest love where it can be repaid. We spend mercy where it yields gain. We advance blessing we can bank on. We hold grudges with interest. We do all of this with no recognition of how deeply indebted we are to you. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, we pray with our whole hearts.

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

GOSPEL READING

Luke 6:27-38

Kent Reid

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 45:1-15

The Rev. Catherine Robinson

SERMON

“Alchemist God”

The Rev. Catherine Robinson

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

RESPONSE

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

GTG #815

WITH THANKS FOR GENEROUS GIVING

God, thank you for our church, for the way we are called to be church to a world in need. Help us to continue to share with those in need and with each other through these gifts. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

WE GO FORTH IN GOD’S NAME

***CLOSING HYMN**

God of Grace and God of Glory

GTG #307

***CHARGE AND BEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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

*******OPPORTUNITIES*******

Join us for fellowship in Perea Hall: after worship today! **February/March fellowship time reminder:**

2/23 Van Swan_____

3/2 _Nina Johns_____

Sign-up sheet is in Perea Hall; please sign up for a Sunday. Nothing elaborate is expected.

The Sunday morning Bible-based class for youth and adults is discussing the book *The Bible As Story: An Introduction to Biblical Literature* by Marion G. Bontrager, Michele Hershberger, and John E. Sharp. This discussion will run through May 11th with a break for Lent and Easter. The reading assignment for Feb 23 is Ch. 20--Wisdom Genre, pp. 176-184 and the reading assignment for March 2 is Ch. 26-- Gospel Genre pp. 240-249. Classes are at 8:45 a.m. Sundays in the Session Room, next to the kitchen in Perea Hall and on Zoom on the same link as the Sunday Worship Service.

Our after-church fellowship is seeking hosts. The shared experience of eating and/or having a beverage with others promotes a fellowship atmosphere that allows us to learn more about each other through conversation. Covering hosting duties is easy. Nothing fancy is expected-- a few packages of store-bought cookies or chips are enough. Ask a Deacon if you need help making coffee. We do have a tradition of having birthday cake on the first Sunday of the month. And, we've just decided to have soup luncheons after church during Lent. We'll need two folks to sign up to bring soup and 2 to bring bread. The sign-up sheet is hanging in Perea Hall just outside the kitchen door.

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 Judy and Michael Long, and Rosalie Lopez, as well as La Mesa Presbyterian Church, Albuquerque, NM (1944).

Joining us today in the pulpit is The Rev. Catherine Robinson. The Rev. Catherine Robinson, a native of Lubbock, Texas, attended the University of Texas at Austin, completed her M.Div. at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, and earned a D.Min. in preaching at Aquinas Institute of Theology in St. Louis. Catherine has served churches in Louisiana, Texas, Missouri, and New Mexico. Now retired, she works as a spiritual director and preaching mentor. Catherine is married to Mr. Kenny Jones.

February Elder of the Month: Carol Linder, carollinder@msn.com 505-429-2139

February Deacon of the Month: Deb Allen-Reid, pethyena@gmail.com, 505-331-9125

The office is open on Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. For all other times, please email or call and we will get back to you

fupc.nm@gmail.com

505-425-7763

www.lvpresbyterian.org

Assisting in Worship This Week

Preacher – The Rev. Catherine Robinson	Worship Leader – Kent Reid
Pianist – Em Krall	Choir – Amy Hufnal
Custodian – Henry Herrera	Bulletin – EJ Nelson
	Sanctuary Hosts – Kevin Johnson, Charlotte Wootton
	Tech Crew – Carol Linder, Karyl Lyne, Deb Allen-Reid