

HELLO FUPC FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

In this mailing you'll find a note from Pastor Katie and 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 join us 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. If you need help with zoom, call D.R. Palmer before Sunday. It is so good to see and hear each other! Please plan to join us!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN

Monday, August 24

Newsletter deadline

Tuesday, August 25

9:00 a.m. - Coffee with Katie via Zoom

6:30 p.m. – Session via Zoom

Thursday, August 27

3:30 p.m. – Afternoon Tea Time via Zoom

Assisting in Worship This Week

Preacher – Rev. Katie Palmer

Accompanist – Em Krall

Worship Leader – Christie Baskett

Zoom Host – D.R. Palmer



Our Daily Devotionals

Daily devotionals are available on our Facebook page - First United Presbyterian Church (the one with our *Seeds. Roots. Branches.* logo). You can also go to our website, lvpresbyterian.org, and under "Latest News" you'll find a link to the devotional. Or just click this link: [Devotionals](#)



First United Presbyterian Church
1000 Douglas Avenue
PO Box 37
Las Vegas NM 87701



August 19, 2020

Dear FUPC Family and Friends,

This week we move almost to the end of the Book of Job—almost, but not quite; we'll be with Job for yet another week. In my mind, these final few chapters are rich with questions and majestic images and Job's growing understanding. God continues to raise questions for Job about the uncontrollable parts of nature; these questions also raise images of majesty and, to some extent, chaos. Job begins to understand how little he understands—always, I think, the path of wisdom. I hope you'll join us for worship as we explore Job's continued learning.

This book always reminds me, along with the reminder that God's creation is so incredibly beautiful, that creation also *seems* incredibly haphazard. One of my favorite books of all time, Annie Dillard's *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek*, marvels at the odd twists and turns that nature takes as she writes with an eye to understand something about the Creator. I quoted briefly from this book last week in my sermon, and am likely to again; in my mind it aligns so closely with some of what Job learns from his encounter with God. Today, I include here a poem by Lisa Bellamy about the wondrous journey of a pansy seed. Nature works in intricate and amazing ways, indeed.

On another note, **please remember to email me or call/email Linda in the office** if you would like to be included in our small group gatherings that we hope to get underway soon. Many of you said on your survey responses that you'd like an opportunity to meet together, but so far I've only heard from a couple of you about wanting to join one of these gatherings. The gatherings will give us an opportunity to visit face-to-face (or mask-to-mask) and will follow COVID restrictions—they'll be groups of five meeting on porches or patios, and socially distanced/masked.

It has been heartening to see that the latest COVID-19 statistics for New Mexico show fewer cases being confirmed each day. Unfortunately, we've seen an uptick in cases in our county. Please keep up the good work of wearing masks, keeping social distance, and washing hands often. Our goal is to do what is necessary for us to keep those numbers dropping; let's operate in ways that make that happen!

With thanks for all of you,
Pastor Katie

Wild Pansy by Lisa Bellamy

As a seed, I was shot out the back end of a blue jay
when, heedless, she flew over the meadow.
She had swallowed me in my homeland when she spied me
lying easy under the sun—briefly, I called her Mother
before I passed through her gullet like a ghost.
In a blink of God's eye I was an orphan. I trembled
where I fell, alone in the dirt. That first night
was a long night, early May and chilly, and I remember
rain filled my furrow. I called out for mercy—
only a wolverine wandered by. I cursed my luck,
I cursed the happenstance of this world, I smelled
his hot stink, but he nosed me deep into the mud—
this was the gift of obscurity. I germinated, hidden
from the giants of earth, the jostling stalks,
the various, boisterous bloomers, and this was my salvation.
After seven days and nights I pushed through—
yes. Here I am, kissable: your tiny, purple profusion.

FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1000 Douglas Avenue, Las Vegas NM 87701

August 23, 2020 10:30 a.m.

MEDITATION – *If we were to judge nature by its common sense or likelihood, we wouldn't believe the world existed.* –Annie Dillard

WE GATHER TOGETHER

WELCOME

Rev. Katie Palmer

PRELUDE

Em Krall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christie Baskett

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 24:1-2)

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for God has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

Let us praise the God of Creation; let us sing of God's powerful presence!

OPENING HYMN *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* (GTG #32)

OPENING PRAYER

WE PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING: Job 38:25-27; 41:1-8; 42:1-6

²⁵ 'Who has cut a channel for the torrents of rain, and a way for the thunderbolt,
²⁶ to bring rain on a land where no one lives, on the desert, which is empty of human life,
²⁷ to satisfy the waste and desolate land, and to make the ground put forth grass?

41 'Can you draw out Leviathan with a fish-hook, or press down its tongue with a cord?

² Can you put a rope in its nose, or pierce its jaw with a hook?

³ Will it make many supplications to you? Will it speak soft words to you?

⁴ Will it make a covenant with you to be taken as your servant for ever?

⁵ Will you play with it as with a bird, or will you put it on a leash for your girls?

⁶ Will traders bargain over it? Will they divide it up among the merchants?

⁷ Can you fill its skin with harpoons, or its head with fishing-spears?

⁸ Lay hands on it; think of the battle; you will not do it again!

42 Then Job answered the Lord: ² 'I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

³ "Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?"

Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

⁴ "Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me."

⁵ I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you;

⁶ therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.'

SERMON

"No Purpose Thwarted"

Rev. Katie Palmer

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

RESPONSE

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past, v. 3 (GTG #687)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

CLOSING HYMN

Bless the Lord, My Soul and Being (GTG #34)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Welcome! ..

We extend a warm welcome in the name of Christ to all who worship with us today!

Back by popular demand, Community Life will host an upcoming Sunday Sundaes ZOOM event. Scheduled for August 30th at approximately 4:30 in the afternoon, the event once again offers an opportunity for you to socialize virtually with those who attend. The event takes place after a special service held to install Siobhan Croto & Rosie Lopez. So mark your calendars and plan to grab a dessert and join the fun!

The reading assignment for the August 30 session of the Sunday Class for Adults and Youth is Part Three, p. 43-74, of the book *Island of the Innocent* by Diane Glancy.

Now is the time to order the book for our **August/September Summer Book Club selection: *One Coin Found*** by Emmy Kegler. Kegler, a queer woman who "knows too well how Scripture can be used to wound and exclude," narrates her experiences of being excluded and her attraction to a Bible that would not let her go. Kegler is now pastor of Grace Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. Kegler's story will allow us to discuss the Biblical texts often used to exclude. Please let Pastor Katie know if you'd like to participate in this discussion so that participants can choose a date and time that works for all.

Samaritan House Food Donations – August – Dry milk, Oatmeal and other dry cereals. Coffee and Tea are always appreciated. Please drop your donations off at Samaritan House.

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 Art, Bonnie, Diego, Connie, Carly and Celina Trujillo as well as Community United Presbyterian Church, Jemez Springs NM (1881).

August Elder of the Month – Carol Linder – 505-429-2139

August Deacon of the Month – Sharon Vander Meer – 505-425-6457

Church Office closed to the public, but calls and emails will be answered

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

fupc.nm@gmail.com

505-425-7763

www.lvpresbyterian.org

Rev Katie Palmer – Office: 425-7763 Cell: 303-775-7356 pastorkatiepalmer@gmail.com

