

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

Tuesday, January 5

7:30 a.m. – Personnel via Zoom  
9:00 a.m. -Coffee with Katie via Zoom  
1:00 p.m. – Mission & Peacemaking via Zoom

Thursday, January 7

3:30 p.m. – Tea Time with Katie via Zoom

Assisting in Worship This Week

|   |                                   |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Preacher – Rev. Randy Campbell, Pastor Emeritus | Worship Leader – Carol Litherland |
| Accompanist – Em Krall                          | Zoom Host – Carol Linder          |
| Director of Music – Karyl Lyne                  | Visuals – Tegan Palmer            |



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



December 30, 2020

Dear FUPC Family and Friends,

Thank you to Rev. Randy Campbell for filling the virtual pulpit today.

I write this anticipating our Christmas Eve service, the celebration once again of the coming of the Christ child into the world, and the coming of a new year. I am remembering last March when we first moved into “COVID mode.” At the time, I certainly didn’t think that, as we enter 2021, we would still be in that mode. It has been a year for the history books, and not in the best of ways: pandemic, social and political unrest. . .the all-too-real effects of climate change evidenced by fire and storm. As the year closes, let’s say a prayer for those who have seen the worst of 2020 up close—those who have lost loved ones to COVID and natural disaster; those who continue to suffer and die because of racism and unjust systems.

We do not know what 2021 will bring. We know we will continue to deal with COVID restrictions, but we have hope in an approved vaccine. We know our problems won’t disappear. We are called as people of God to serve all of God’s people, and that means working for justice and for the health of the planet God has given us to tend. These are daunting tasks; the thought of confronting them can leave us fearful and angry. But, as James Thurber once said, “Let us not look back in anger or forward in fear, but around in awareness.” I hope 2021 will be a year of heightened awareness for us all—awareness of how we can serve God’s people in our church family, our community, our nation and our world—because God calls us to live as sisters and brothers, united in love.

I leave you on the cusp of this new year with the words of sociologist and poet Minnie Louise Haskins (1875-1957):

The Gate of the Year

And I said to the man who stood at the gate  
of the year: “Give me a light that I may tread  
safely into the unknown.” And he replied: “Go  
out into the darkness and put your hand into  
the hand of God. That shall be to you better  
than a light and safer than a known way.”

In the hope, peace, joy and love of our amazing Creator God, I wish you a HAPPY NEW YEAR!

With thanks for all of you,  
Pastor Katie



## FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1000 Douglas Avenue, Las Vegas NM 87701

January 3, 2021

10:30 a.m.



### SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

**MEDITATION** - “*Without solitude it is virtually impossible to live a spiritual life. Solitude begins with a time and place for God and him alone...We need to set aside a time and space to give him our undivided attention.* - from Henri J.M. Nouwen, *Making All Things New.*”

|                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>PRELUDE</b>       | Em Krall            |
| <b>WELCOME</b>       | Rev. Randy Campbell |
| <b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> | Carol Litherland    |

### RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Let’s worship the One who dwells beyond time and space yet inhabits them in silent mystery.

**We praise the One who draws new life out of destruction, hope out of despair, and growth out of difficulty.**

Let’s worship the One who never abandons, who constantly coaxes toward the beauty of wholeness.

**We ask the One to bring us into fresh awareness of the miraculous unfolding of our lives as we celebrate the beginning of 2021.**

We ask the One, revealed through Christ, to bless us with abundant life and fullness of joy, that we may rightfully worship and generously share.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**HYMN**      *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* (GTG #687)

### CALL TO PRAYER FOR RECONCILIATION

Through the grace revealed to us through Jesus Christ, we have confidence that God is more eager to forgive us than we are to ask. Trusting the truth that sets us free from all that inhibits our worship and the abundant life Christ promises, let us pray for reconciliation with God, with each other and with all Creation.

**O God of Shalom, as a new year begins, we ask you to renew our hope for universal Shalom. We confess we have permitted angry frustration and gnawing anxiety to overwhelm our calm trust in you. We’ve allowed our times of quarantine to depress us instead of opening us to deeper fellowship with you. We’ve built emotional barriers to protect ourselves from those we fear, but these defenses also shut us off from receiving and giving your love. Break down those walls. Help us to see that the way to your heart is through the reconciliation of our hearts with you and all your creation. Bless us, that we may continue to grow in love for all and thus fulfill the Commandment you gave to your disciples, “Love one another as I have loved you”. Through Jesus Christ, your love in human form, we pray. Amen.**

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The Spirit of Christ works ceaselessly within us, around us and through us. This gives us reason for hope and belief in salvation. In the name of Christ, we are assured of forgiveness.

**Thank God for this Good News! Amen. Let us be at peace with God and each other.**

### 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.*

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**FIRST LESSON**      Ephesians 3:1-10

**HYMN OF MEDITATION**      *Of the Father’s Love Begotten* (GTG #108)

**THE GOSPEL**      John 1:1-18

**SERMON**      *All Things*      Rev. Randy Campbell, Pastor Emeritus.

### OFFERING PRAYER

### PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN**      *Let All Things Now Living* (GTG #37)

### CLOSING WORDS

We shall all be one in Christ, one in our life together.

Praise to God who has created us, praise to God who has accepted us,

Praise to God who sends us into the world. Amen.

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE



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

- ✳ There will be a brief **congregational meeting** following worship on January 10 to receive the report of the Nominating Committee.
- ✳ The Christmas season study for the Bible-based class for adults and youth is a discussion led by Richard Lindeborg of the rest of the book, *Hidden Christmas: The surprising Truth Behind the Birth of Christ* by Timothy Keller (2016). Sessions will run through January 17 on Zoom at 9:15 on Sundays. The reading assignment for January 10 is Chapter 7, “A Sword in the Soul,” pp. 116-128. Since sessions have already started it might be best to purchase a Kindle copy or order a hard copy with expedited shipping. Richard can also order a copy shipped directly to your home.
- ✳ **Samaritan House Food Donations** – January – Peanut Butter and Jelly - 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 Sharon & Ed Roe & family, Judi Ruprecht, and Willy Ryan & Jane Warsaw as well as Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Albuquerque NM (1948)

*January Elder of the Month – Carol Litherland – 505-429-0923*

*January Deacon of the Month – Juli Salman – 505-429-0290*

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

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

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