



2020 ANNUAL REPORT

First United Presbyterian Church
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Worship: 10:30 a.m. Sundays

*With Christ as the center of our ministry,
First United Presbyterian Church of Las Vegas, New Mexico
is dedicated to sharing the love of Christ in our community and beyond.*

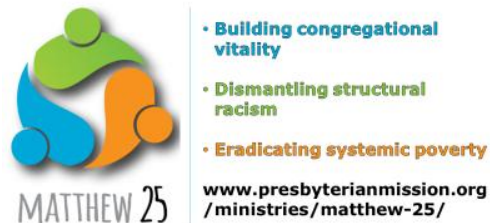


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ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2020

Moderator Rev. Katie Palmer opened the meeting with prayer. The clerk declared a quorum of the active membership.

Approval of Agenda The agenda was approved unanimously.

Annual Report

Reports of Pastor, Clerk of Session and Committees With the correction of the membership list to remove Katie Linder, Charlie Linder, Molly Salman and Mack Salman, the annual report was approved with one vote in opposition.

Confirmation of the members of the 2020 Nominating Committee The Nominating Committee will be elected in August at the same time other officers of the church are elected. This involves a change of the bylaws, which is recommended by the Session and will have to be approved by the congregation. Meanwhile, the members of the 2020 Nominating Committee are Van Swan, Chair, Joyce Litherland, Kent Reid, Mary Schipper and Bonnie Trujillo.

Rev. Katie and DR Palmer were invited to leave the room.

The Congregational Meeting was recessed and Van Swan, President of the Trustees, convened the Corporate Meeting.

The Pastor's Terms of Call were presented by Deb Allen-Reid, Chair of the Personnel Committee, who indicated there was no increase in salary or housing, but vision insurance of \$93 was added this year. The Board of Pension insurance decreased slightly. The total amount is \$72,756, which is 30% of the church budget. Richard Lindeborg moved, Joyce Litherland seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The Corporate Meeting was adjourned and the Congregational Meeting resumed.

D.R. Palmer presented the FUPC Website redesigned for our 150th Anniversary. He announced that committees and members are invited to send items and pictures to post on the website to the office, so it is current, informative and indicative of how engaged our church is in doing the work of God in our community and beyond. He thanked the web design committee of Linda Solyntjes, Carol Linder and Denice Spicer for their work on this.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05pm.

The Annual Congregational Meeting was closed in prayer by Rev. Katie Palmer.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2020. via Zoom

Moderator Rev. Katie Palmer opened the meeting with prayer. The clerk declared a quorum of the active membership.

Rev. Palmer stated that the purpose of the meeting was to elect officers and requested approval of the agenda that had been sent to the congregation via email. The motion to approve the agenda was passed unanimously.

Rev. Palmer explained that while having a congregational meeting via zoom is not approved in the church bylaws, the extraordinary circumstances caused by our need to stay safe from the coronavirus and the need to do the vital work of the church, mandate meeting this way. She mentioned that the General Assembly of PCUSA is currently meeting via zoom. She explained that we will ratify the votes taken at this meeting in the minutes and will change our bylaws to allow such meetings as necessary for the future.

Rev. Palmer expressed thanks for the service of Elders Robin Carlson and Karyl Lyne, who have served on Session for 3 terms of 2 years, and Van Swan, who has served 1 term of 2 years; and Deacons Murl Baker and Patrick Rucker, who have served 3 terms of 2 years.

Van Swan, chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the nominees for Elders for the Class of 2022 Tom Trigg for a 2nd term; and Siobhan Croto, Carol Litherland and Joyce Litherland for a 1st term on Session indicating that all of the nominees have agreed to serve if elected. Rev. Palmer asked for nominations from the floor and Rosie Lopez nominated Murl Baker, who declined the nomination. The motion to elect the nominees by acclamation was approved unanimously. Their terms begin August 1, 2020. This leaves one vacancy on the Session.

Nominating Committee Chair Van Swan, presented the nominees for Deacons for the Class of 2022 Rosie Lopez, Juli Salman, Mary Schipper, Renee Soderlund and Bonnie Trujillo indicating that all of the nominees have agreed to serve if elected. Rosie Lopez and Renee Soderlund begin a 1st term of 2 years; Juli Salman begins a 2nd term of two years; and Mary Schipper and Bonnie Trujillo begin 3rd terms of 2 years as Deacons. With no nominations from the floor, the motion to elect those nominated for Deacons was approved unanimously. These terms begin August 1, 2020.

Carol Linder raised the question of whether she had to be nominated and elected again now to serve on Session because she thought she was completing a term of office for a member who left the Session. The answer was no, that she was completing the first year of a two-year term of office ending in 2021.

Chairman Van Swan presented the nominees for the Nominating Committee who have agreed to serve if elected and are Joyce Litherland, Kent Reid, Mary Schipper, Van Swan and Bonnie Trujillo. Having no nominations from the floor, the motion to elect these nominees was approved unanimously. It was pointed out that the Nominating Committee must have one member on the Session. That member is Joyce Litherland. These terms begin August 1, 2020 and end July 31, 2022, as per the change approved in the February 2020 congregational meeting to align the terms of office for the Nominating Committee with the terms of office for all other church officers.

Joyce Litherland was recognized and made an impassioned plea for people to consider serving on Session. She shared that it is very important that the Session be full, vibrant, active and forward-thinking. While the church is everyone, the Session is the guiding force and the work it does is vital to the health of the church. She said she knows people have many other commitments in their lives, but would ask that folks prayerfully consider serving on Session.

Katie thanked the Deacons and Elders for their service to the church and the members of the Nominating Committee for their work.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Rev. Palmer with prayer at 11:53am.

BYLAWS OF FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1000 Douglas Avenue
Las Vegas, New Mexico 87701

ARTICLE I: Name

The name of this Congregation and Corporation shall be “The First United Presbyterian Church of Las Vegas,” located in Las Vegas, New Mexico, a Congregation of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

ARTICLE II: Authority

This Congregation and Corporation are governed in all its parts by the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and by the laws of the State of New Mexico for religious Corporations.

ARTICLE III: Congregational and Corporation Meetings

Meetings of the Congregation and the Corporation shall be held in conjunction with each other to the extent permitted by civil law.

Annual and special meetings of the Congregation and Corporation shall be called by public notice from the pulpit during the two Sunday worship services preceding the meeting. Such notice will include the time, place and purpose of the meeting. The annual meeting shall, if possible, take place in January or February.

The annual Congregational meeting will include election of a Nominating Committee for the coming year.

A quorum (G-1.0501) of congregational and corporation meetings shall consist of the moderator and ten percent (10%) of the active (G-1.0402) members. All active members of First United Presbyterian Church of Las Vegas shall be eligible to vote. Voting by proxy is not allowed.

ARTICLE IV: Elected Officers

The officers of the church shall include:

- Ruling elders, who will make up the session, shall be ordained elders elected to the session by the congregation;
- Trustees of the corporation shall be ruling elders currently serving on the session, who are eligible under civil law to be corporate officers and are elected by the session;
- Deacons, who are elected by the congregation.

The number of each type of officer to be elected shall be determined by the session based on church membership and activities.

The term of office for all officers shall be 2 years, with a limit of 6 years of service on a body. Terms shall be staggered so that approximately ½ of each body is elected each year.

Elections for ruling elders and deacons will be held annually at a special meeting of the congregation (normally in the summer).

Candidates shall include those presented by the nominating committee and those nominated at the meeting from the floor. Any person, whether nominated by the nominating committee or from the floor, must have agreed to the nomination.

ARTICLE V: Nominating Committee

Nominating Committee - The nominating committee shall be elected at the annual congregational meeting and consist of at least five members of the congregation, one of whom shall be a ruling elder.

The nominating committee shall nominate candidates for the following year's nominating committee and other officers of the congregation. Those nominated must have agreed to serve.

Once elected, nominating committee members will serve through the next year's annual meeting.

ARTICLE VI: Conduct of Meetings

The session, its committees and the deacons shall hold scheduled meetings at least quarterly.

A quorum of the session shall consist of the moderator and three session members.

ARTICLE VII: Delegations of Responsibility

The session may delegate responsibilities to committees, working groups, task forces or other units, provided such units include a member designated to report activities to the session.

The Book of Order lists the responsibilities of the session, trustees and deacons.

ARTICLE VIII: Amendment Procedure

These By-Laws may be amended subject to the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the Charter of the Corporation and the laws of the State of New Mexico. Amendments may be voted at any Annual Meeting of the Congregation or at any special meeting of the Congregation by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the active members present and voting. There shall be a full reading of the proposed change(s), or printed distribution of same shall have been made in connection with the call for the meeting. There shall be a quorum of active members present as provided for in ARTICLE III above.

ARTICLE IX: Effective Date

Approved May 31, 2015, these by-laws immediately replace all previous by-laws, including those revised 2/8/2004.



PASTOR'S REPORT 2020

It has certainly been a year of ups and downs, a year unlike any we've known before.

The year began with some "ups." On January 19, FUPC celebrated Baptism of the Lord Sunday with a renewal of our baptismal vows and the witness of Edward Coltrane (Cole) Fraser's baptism. What a privilege to baptize Cole!

On January 31-February 1, the Session and Deacons chair Mary Schipper attended an overnight retreat at the Pecos Benedictine Monastery. I planned and led our time together—a time full of visioning, planning, and fellowship. We came home from this event with a shared vision and ideas for a mission question that emphasizes our love for God and community.

Also early in the year, FUPC was looking forward to many celebratory events. This year marked FUPC's sesquicentennial anniversary, for which a variety of events were planned, including a community picnic in June, a church-wide retreat at Ghost Ranch in September and an October performance by the Cornerstone Chorale and Brass under the direction of Bruce Vantine. I had worked with Mr. Vantine and leaders from both FUPC and other churches to coordinate the performance and with Rev. Brad Munroe, who was to be the retreat speaker.

Then in March FUPC, like churches everywhere, was confronted by the reality of the coronavirus pandemic, which caused cancellation or postponement of many plans and a completely new way of being church together.

On March 13, I called a Session meeting so that Session members and I could discuss how to proceed in light of what we understood of the virus, of the governor's orders, and of ways in which other faith communities were responding. I am grateful for FUPC leaders, who acted decisively and quickly to protect the congregation at the same time ensuring that we would continue to be the church together, at work in the world. In-person meetings and gatherings were cancelled or moved online. The church office was closed to the public, although Office Manager Linda Solyntjes continued to staff it, to receive deliveries, and to safely work in necessary ways with individuals, requiring distancing and masks. Two days later, on March 15, we worshipped together online for the first time. Since that time, my work as pastor and preacher has included the following, with all professional interactions happening via Zoom or phone except in cases of urgent pastoral needs.

Congregational Worship and Education:

- As we moved to online worship, we initially pre-recorded worship, but quickly realized that this option did not allow for interaction among church family members. We moved to a live Zoom format, which we have continued with increasing fine-tuning along the way, including a move to pre-recording the music in ways that allow it to be mixed by Music Director Karyl Lyne and adding video to enhance the musical experience. I am grateful that my daughter Tegan volunteered to coordinate the video portion of the music recordings for us. The Zoom format has been widely accepted and appreciated by most of the congregation; I regret that a handful of people do not have access to Zoom and a couple of others are uncomfortable with the format. On the other hand, Zoom has allowed several people who live across the nation (and beyond) to worship with us, some occasionally, some regularly. I have put together a Re-entry Task Force to manage the technical and planning issues associated with online worship, to plan for our re-entry into the sanctuary at the appropriate time, and to design a system through which we can improve and maintain our online presence after COVID-19 restrictions end. Their knowledge, research, and guidance has been invaluable.
- Online worship has meant a big change in my schedule, as well as the schedules of the Office Manager, our musicians, our music director. With some people needing to receive bulletins via snail mail, our deadlines for completing and producing bulletins have moved from mid- or end-of-week to early in the week. Musical recordings must also happen before the end of the week so that videos can be added. In addition, we rely on the skills of those who serve as Zoom hosts and "tech crew" each week, especially D.R. Palmer and Carol Linder, who prepare visuals for display and host our worship services. The team of people who pull this together works hard and dependably. They have my admiration and my gratitude.

- I continue to work with the Worship and Music Committee (WAM) to plan and execute worship for major liturgical seasons. We held our first online planning in August to plan for the Advent and Christmas seasons.
- While I was able to take monthly communion to people who are homebound at the beginning of the year, I have not been able to do so since COVID restrictions were put in place. Additionally, WAM made the decision to celebrate the Lord's Supper monthly, on the third Sunday of each month, rather than more often during our online worship.
- While we were unable to hold ecumenical services during Holy Week this year, we did gather on Zoom to worship together at a Tenebrae service, which I designed and a crew of readers, singers, and tech folks recorded in the sanctuary, following COVID restrictions. Kevin Thomas, a member of St. Paul's Peace, joined us as a guest soloist. We also had a celebratory Easter service via Zoom.
- I had the privilege of leading the Sunday class during Lent as we discussed Anne Tyler's novel *Saint Maybe*. I continue to consult with Richard Lindeborg, coordinator of our Sunday classes, on discussion topics. The class continues to be well-attended during its time of online sessions.
- I felt it was important that the congregation have multiple opportunities to gather together and, given not only the impact of COVID on the country, but also of social unrest, began a series of book discussions over the summer. Pat Halverson led the first discussion, which focused on the book *Creating a World that Works for All* by Sharif Abdullah. I led discussions on Robin DiAngelo's *White Fragility* and Emmy Kegler's *One Coin Found*.

Church Community and Pastoral Care:

- The pandemic also had a big effect on the feasibility of community events and in-person pastoral visits. With restrictions on gatherings in place, our large, in-person gatherings were cancelled. I participated in the Community Life Committee's decisions regarding these gatherings and their work to hold small, outdoor gatherings (five or fewer) for those who wanted to participate.
- My "Coffee with Katie" Tuesday mornings at Charlie's moved to Zoom. I added an additional time for people to gather with me informally for conversation on Thursday afternoons—Thursday Afternoon Tea Time. Very few people have participated in the Thursday afternoons; I will evaluate whether to continue it after the first of the year or whether to reschedule to another time.
- Because of the pandemic, I switched gears from visits in people's homes to calls, emails, and hand-written notes. I've discovered that folks like receiving real mail in their snail mail boxes!
- For the first 10 weeks of the year, I continued weekly dinners with members of Los Mensajeros—Commissioned Pastor Shirley Sandoval, Siobhan Croto (recently commissioned to First Presbyterian Church in Raton), and Rod Billingsley. Since the threat of COVID-19 interrupted our weekly meetings, I have kept in touch via email and phone calls.
- Soon after the pandemic halted in-person worship, a congregant mentioned to me that she would like some support during the week via devotional time. In response, I gathered a team of people who agreed to record a brief devotional to be published on our Facebook page and linked on our website. I am very grateful for the people who have given generously of their time and thoughtfulness to ensure that we have a devotional posted each weekday. In addition to myself, those who have been involved are: Rod Billingsley, Pat Halverson, Carol Linder, Karyl Lyne, Denice Spicer, Beth Urech, and Lisa Weinstein. Thank you!

Las Vegas Community:

- I continue to serve on the Board of Directors for Samaritan House (SH) and to participate on its grant-writing team. The pandemic affected Samaritan House in many ways as well. Board and committee meetings moved online. The work on the new facility, which we have anticipated opening for a long time, was slowed. But the agency's work never slowed; in fact, with the pandemic affecting people's livelihoods, SH has provided record numbers of food distributions this year. FUPC continues to support SH in many ways: financial support, evening meals twice weekly, and food collection.
- As mentioned earlier, FUPC looked forward to hosting the Cornerstone Chorale and Brass in October, but the pandemic led the group to cancel its 2020 tour. That event has been rescheduled for November 2021.
- I look forward to continuing my relationship with the Interfaith leadership team; that group has not met during this time of pandemic.

Presbytery Involvement:

- I attended all presbytery meetings this year, two of which were held via Zoom.
- I continue to serve on presbytery committees, including the Worship Networking Committee.
- FUPC was scheduled to host the July presbytery meeting, but the meeting was moved to Zoom because of the pandemic. FUPC did host the worship service for the presbytery, providing music and visuals and welcoming participants from across the presbytery. I was privileged to preach at this meeting.

Pastor's Education/Growth:

- It has been a year of on-the-job training. With the interruption of “normal,” FUPC leaders have united to accommodate worship, community, and service to life during a pandemic. We continued to be church—to worship God (in a new space and format), to gather as a family (virtually and lovingly), and to serve the community. I have learned much about Zoom technology and about what does (and doesn't) work well via Zoom. I have attended webinars on virtual choirs and ministry during a pandemic; I attended the Festival of Homiletics (an annual preaching conference) via Zoom to hear sermons and advice on writing sermons during a time of pandemic.
- It has been a year of social/political unrest as well. During this time, I have attended virtual conferences on issues of race and faith (most notably, “Jesus Christ and the ‘Dividing Wall’: Race and God’s Mission,” offered through Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and “Finding Hope in a Divided Country” offered through Luther Seminary) and have, as mentioned earlier, offered book studies pertaining to issues of race and justice. In addition, the Session and I committed to undertake the 21-Day Racial Justice Challenge in the month of November. Several people, both church and community members, joined us in this challenge.
- Additionally, in October I took a week of study leave for silent retreat at the Sacred Heart Jesuit Retreat House in Sedalia, CO. The Retreat House held to strict health guidelines; each person visiting during this time had a dinner table to him/herself. It was a wonderful time of immersion in lectionary texts, reading, and renewal on the beautiful grounds of the Retreat House.

Sadly this year, I also said good-bye to church family members who are very much missed. Carol Johnson passed to life eternal on April 9, John McCord on June 19, and Evelyn Wootton on November 27.. Allan Ayers passed on November 17; I was honored to lead his memorial service via Zoom on December 11.

I continue to be enormously grateful for this congregation and for the dedication of its leaders.

With thanks for all of you,
Pastor Katie

Active Membership
First United Presbyterian Church Las Vegas, New Mexico
December 2020 (n=78)

Abreu, Pam	Laumbach, Rudy	Salas, Fred
Apodaca, Susan	Lindeborg, Richard	Salman, Julianne
Allen-Reid, Debra	Linder, Carol	Samuelson, Trudi Reyman Cozad
	Litherland, Carol	Schipper, Mary
Baker, Murl	Litherland, Christina	Seto, Sharon
Billingsley, Rod	Litherland, Nicoletta (Nicky)	Soderlund, Renee
Beurskens, Frank	Litherland, Joyce	Solyntjes, Linda
Beurskens, Jan	Litherland, Kenneth	Spicer, Denice
Buchanan, Renee	Long, Judy	Spicer, Norman
	Lopez, Rosalie	Spicer, Wamoth
Carlson, Robin	Lyne, Karyl	Swan, Van
Crespin, Irene (Estrada)		
Croto, Jim	Martinez, Karlene	Thatcher, Maxine
Croto, Sean	Meadows, Bernadine	
Croto, Siobhan	Monnheimer, Don	Topping-Billingsley, Karen
Cunningham, Linda	Monnheimer, Maridell	Trigg, Tom
	Mountjoy, Rustie	Trujillo, Art
De Herrera, Theresa		Trujillo, Bonnie
Dimsey, Pauline	Owens, Donald	Trujillo, Carolina (Carly)
Ditton, Alex		Trujillo, Celina
	Palmer, D.R.	Trujillo, Connie
Estrada, Amos	Peterson, Chuck	Trujillo, Diego
Geng, Bud	Quick, Betty	Urech, Beth
Geng, Rebecca		
	Reid, Kent	Vander Meer, Bob
Hagar, Frank		Vander Meer, Sharon
Halverson, Cordell (Corky)	Roe, Sharon (Litherland)	Veit, Gay
	Rucker, Patrick	
Igondou, Jackson Awuzing	Ruprecht, Judi	Claire Weinstein
		Weinstein, Lisa
Johnson, Bryan (Brendon Stefano)		Wertz, Bruce
Johnson, Kevin		Wootton, Charlotte
Kretz, Betty		

CLERK'S REPORT - CHURCH STATISTICS

PULPIT SUPPLY

Rev. Katie Palmer
Permanent Pastor

MODERATOR OF SESSION

Rev. Katie Palmer

MEMBERSHIP

Active Member gains

One (1) by Transfer & Reaffirmation of Faith

Active Member losses

Three (3)

Prior to December 31, 2020

Active Members: Eighty (80)

Affiliate Members: Zero (0)

Baptized Members: Twenty-six (26)

Action taken by Session,

December 15, 2020

Members removed from roll: zero (0)

Membership as of December 31, 2020

Active Members: Seventy-eight (78)

Affiliate Members: Zero (0)

Baptized Members: Twenty-six (26)

SPECIFIC MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Losses: Three (3)

Deaths: three (3)

Allan Ayers

John McCord

Evelyn Wootton

Gains: One (1)

New Members: one (1)

Claire Weinstein



BUILDINGS & GROUNDS 2020

We have finally finished the stucco, window and trim painting of the church. This was accomplished with accrual funds that were built up over time. While the trim painting was being done a leak in the steeple roof was found, repaired and the rotten trim boards replaced. We tried to coordinate the stucco and painting to utilize the scaffolding that was put up.

Your B & G crew took down the covering on the west walkway sometime in the spring to make it easier to stucco. The covering was replaced after more steel was installed to reduce the spans.

The stucco, outside painting, steeple repair and west side covered walkway were done by Michael Long and his crew. Critter Control did their annual warranty inspection, and Target Safe did inspect the smoke detectors.

The sidewalk was replaced in conjunction with the landscaping project. Again utilizing the combined efforts for the concrete.

The B&G crew painted the library, west side hallway, bathroom, storage closet and stairway, and installed a peg board in the storage closet for better organization. Faulty light ballasts in Perea hall and east side bathroom were replaced as well as a leaky faucet.

Trees were trimmed and bushes cut down at the north entrance to the church.

The floors of Perea Hall were stripped and re-waxed, and plexiglass shields were installed at the pulpit and lectern in preparation for returning to the sanctuary, although that never happened.

Several things were accomplished at the Old Town Mission, although that had little use this year because of Coved-19. The ceiling of the sanctuary was insulated, and new heaters were ordered for the sanctuary and the middle room although they have not been installed. The sign, which was falling down, was reinforced, re-shingled, and repainted. The north door, which was damaged by a break in, was replaced and the rotten flooring in front of that door was replaced.

This year saw a split in leadership of B&G as Robin went off Session and Corky took over as chairman.

B & G committee/crew: Robin Carlson, Ex Chair, Corky Halverson new Chair, Don Owens, Patrick Rucker, Secretary, and Charlotte Wootton (painter extraordinaire)



COLUMBARIUM 2020

The focus of the columbarium, the memorial garden and memorial plaque is to provide a beautiful, quiet and meditative space. Judy Long and Tom Trigg keep the plantings thriving and blooming and the courtyard clean. This year the shade cloth and table and chairs were not set up since the church was closed in mid March due to COVID. The flowers still bloomed.

There were no inurnments or name plates added to the memorial plaque this year. The columbarium has 20 niches for ashes and 10 have been committed. If you are interested in exploring future planning with the columbarium or the memorial wall please contact Judy, Tom or Linda in the church office. The memorial wall has names, date of birth and death of many members and friends of the church as a way to remember them.

There is \$3,798.45 in the Columbarium fund for upkeep and maintenance.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 2020

This year, our Christian Education program added new components to our traditional Sunday morning Bible-based class for adults and youth and special Lenten and Advent studies: Summer book studies conducted during the week instead of Sundays. And free-form studies on special topics. Sessions through March 8 were held in the church with breakfast provided prior class. For the remainder of the year classes were held online through Zoom.

Sunday Morning Bible-Based Class for Adults and Youth Average attendance 8-10.

January-February (7 sessions) Long-time bible class teacher Rod Billingsley led discussion of a second set of Christian beliefs based on the book *Christian Doctrine* (3rd edition, 1994) by Shirley C. Guthrie.

April-May (5 sessions) Elder Richard Lindeborg led a discussion of five favorite bible stories from the Old Testament: Noah's Ark, Joseph's Coat of Many Colors, Daniel in the Lion's Den, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and Jonah and the Whale

May-June (6 sessions) Elder Richard Lindeborg led discussion of the book *The Simple Faith of Mister Rogers: Spiritual Insights from the World's Most Beloved Neighbor* (2007) by Amy Hollingsworth.

July-August (8 sessions) Elder Richard Lindeborg led discussion of the book *Religion as We Know It: An origin Story* (2020) by Jack Miles, Pulitzer Prize winning author of *God: A Biography*.

August-October (8 sessions) Elder Richard Lindeborg led a discussion of the book *Island of the Innocent: A Consideration of the Book of Job* (2020) by Diane Glancy.

October-November (7 sessions) Elder Richard Lindeborg led a discussion of the book *Man in White* (1986), a novel about St. Paul, by singer/songwriter Johnny Cash.

Lenten and Advent Studies Average attendance 8-10.

Lenten Study Pastor Katie Palmer led a discussion Sunday mornings during Lent of the novel *Saint Maybe* (1991) by Ann Tyler.

Advent Study Elder Richard Lindeborg led a discussion Sunday mornings during Advent of the book *Hidden Christmas: The surprising Truth Behind the Birth of Christ* (2016) by Timothy Keller

Summer Book Studies Average attendance 5-8

June (3 Sessions) Rev. Pat Halverson led discussion of the book *Creating a World that Works for All* (1999) by Sharif Abdullah.

August Pastor Katie Palmer led a study of the book *White Fragility: What It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* (2018) by Robin DiAngelo and Michael Dyson.

September Pastor Katie Palmer led a study of the book *One coin Found: Stretches to the Margins* (2019) by Emmy Kesler.

Special Topics Studies

21-Day Racial Equity Habit Building Challenge (2018) An online study conceived by Eddie Moore Jr on a website by Debbie Irvine. Led by Pastor Katie Palmer.

Walking the Labyrinth - Pastor Katie Palmer and Elder D.R. Palmer installed a labyrinth at their home and made it available to the congregation with instructions provided in the church newsletter by Pastor Katie.

Film: Frank Beurskins, a member of the church, led discussion of the film *The Social Dilemma* (2020), and exploration of the dangerous human impact of social networking. Directed by filmmaker and environmentalist Jeff Orlowski. (Attendance: 8)

Matthew 25 Church The church became a Presbyterian Church (USA) Matthew 25 Church, fighting structural racism and systemic poverty. Orientation was provided from the pulpit and in the church newsletter by Pastor Katie Palmer.

Submitted by Richard Lindeborg



COMMUNITY LIFE 2020

This committee is charged with planning for and enhancing the fellowship life of our church. We do this in a number of ways, almost always centered on the nurturing of each other with food.

2020 activities have included:

Fellowship time following church services for Sundays in January, February, up to March 15.

- We have a list of volunteers who bring snack, set up & clean up.

Jan. 2020



Feb. 2020

- Progressive Dinner February 29th

Mar. 2020

- Lenten Soup lunches planned then canceled due to COVID-19

April 2020

- Palm Sunday Potluck planned but canceled due to COVID-19
- Easter Sunday- Sunrise Service planned for OTM but canceled due to COVID

May 2020

June 2020

July 2020

- Presbytery was supposed to meet at FUPC but canceled due to COVID

Aug. 2020

- On-line Sundae Sunday on the afternoon of August 29.

Sept. 2020



Oct. 2020

- Harvest cheer visits

Dec. 2020

- Joint Cookie Fellowship Project With Deacons

Community Life celebrates the life of our thriving congregation with a group of dedicated tireless members:

Siobhan Croto-Chair

Jan Buerskens

Judy Long

Renee Soderlund



DEACONS 2020

MEETINGS: Monthly, on the 4th Monday @ 11 AM, in person, or on Zoom.

CURRENT DEACONS: Mary Schipper (chair), Juli Salman (Secretary), Bonnie Trujillo, Sharon Vander Meer, Rosalie Lopez, Renee Soderlund

Note---We are always praying for additional interest among the FUPC membership to round out our number of Deacons to nine, instead of 6.

****This has been an unusual year due to the coronavirus, so many of the duties of the Deacons which involve communion preparation, visiting the sick, taking communion to those who are homebound, funeral services, ushering, and fellowship have been curtailed by public health restrictions on public gathering. Those activities were all carried out in the first quarter of 2020.**

PRAYER SHAWLS: We have distributed blessed shawls to 7 recipients, who were experiencing a major life event, surgery or illness.

PRAYER GROUPS: The church membership and friends have all been assigned to a Prayer Group, led by one of the 6 current deacons. The deacons are praying for their group members, offering assistance, meals, or transportation as might be needed.

DEACON MONTHLY LUNCHESES: This project was just getting off the ground, when the pandemic took front and center stage. The Deacons sponsored a monthly fellowship lunch, helped with transportation, and staffed the prep and clean up in Perea Hall.

SAMARITAN HOUSE MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION: The community is invited to donate food to Samaritan House, which is then delivered for distribution.

CARD MINISTRY: Kevin Johnson is a past ordained deacon, who has made it her ministry to send out birthday cards to the church community.

HOLIDAY COOKIE DELIVERY: The Deacons, along with Community Life, prepared and delivered cookies to the church community at Christmas time.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT: The Deacons send a monthly contribution to the three soup kitchens in Las Vegas. We also approve the pastor's use of discretionary funds to those in need.

The Deacons budget for the Samaritan House funds meals that are prepared twice weekly by church members and friends.

Respectfully Submitted, Mary Schipper



JOINT OPERATING TEAM/OLD TOWN MISSION COMMUNITY CENTER (OTMCC) 2020

Due to Public Health restrictions concurrent with the COVID Pandemic, this year Old Town Mission Community Center experienced an understandable reduction in on site activities beginning in February. The SPOT Youth team managed some online meetings throughout the period. The use of the building by single local individuals on three occasions was granted with assurances of adherence to proper sanitation protocols. Thanks to the budget planning team at FUPC and the Personnel Committee we were able to continue to pay our Custodian/Security person, George Dimsey.

With the building being empty we suffered some vandalism and a significant theft. The vandalism incidents resulted in the destruction of our portable basketball backboards. To be fair this was most likely due to over exuberant play by older youth rather than intentional destruction. Also, our feather sign and one of the street signs indicating the location of the Center were stolen. On the morning of September 30 leadership was informed of a break-in. Investigation showed the north door to have been broken open and destroyed. Contents of the building were strewn about and/or destroyed and all of the electronic equipment stolen. Losses were below the insurance deductible but quite high. Efforts to raise funds to replace items and purchase security measures are under way and by the end of the year had raised nearly \$3000.00 of our \$5000.00 goal. Of special note is that the SPOT Youth Team put a Go Fund Me appeal on line which raised a significant portion of the total above.

Once again, we offer our thanks to the Buildings and Grounds Committee for work done over the year. The list is extensive: Repair/replacement of the damaged door; stabilization of the outdoor sign in the front; installation of the insulation above the sanctuary ceiling; purchase and (pending) installation of two gas fired heaters to replace the noisy and undersized unit in the sanctuary and the electric baseboard heaters in the middle room; and collaboration on planning to upgrade the entrance area off the parking lot. Part of the funding for these improvements has come from last year's donation of \$10,000.00 from Mr. David Martin.

We continue to express our gratitude to all those church members and friends who are supporting our efforts through time, talents, and treasure.



LANDSCAPING TASK FORCE 2020

This task force was appointed by Session in 2019 to plan and execute creation of attractive, limited water usage and easy to maintain landscaping of the church, as well as new church signage. Work completed in 2020 included:

1. Removing most of the existing bushes and shrubs, keeping the apple tree and cinquefoil bush and Boxelder tree on upper level.
2. Sculpted the land to include a dry river bed for drainage and some height differences. Laying down professional grade weed barrier, river rock of varying sizes, and large boulders for accent. River rock was put down on all the front area and around the west side to a newly installed locked gate.
3. Planting included grasses and shrubs and flowering plants, as well as a 150th anniversary “Hot Wings” Tatarian Maple tree in the front. The roses on the west side were saved and edged.
4. Two new benches were installed in front of the stained glass windows, with a permanent ash/trash receptacle.
5. An enclosure for the city trash cans was built to hide them with a new sidewalk to roll out to street.
6. The Celtic cross donated by Van and Susan Swan was installed to the east of the main church entrance in a sheltered but visible corner.
7. Access to the ancient water cistern in the elevated area between the church and NMHU was retained.
8. A new block wall was installed in front of the old rubble wall that was falling down.
9. The old blue sign was saved and repurposed to a friend of the church to be used in their business. A new larger, lighted sign with movable letters was installed closer to the street. The name of our church and national Presbyterian logo is now highly visible.
10. Additionally all the play equipment in the upper back yard was donated or disposed of. Trees were trimmed as could be reached.

Some of the work was done by the task force, and the heavy lifting was contracted to Gabriel Salazar and his crew and equipment and Michael Long and his crew. Many thanks to them.

The task force will continue to water the plantings through the summer of 2021, and decide if more plants are needed. The project came in under budget with some monies left to purchase more plants and supplies to maintain the plants that were put in.

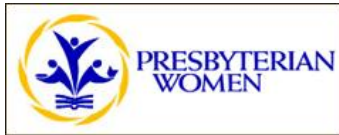
The Landscaping Task Force consisted of Judy Long, chair, Tom Trigg, Jeff Salman, Lisa Weinstein and Charlotte Wootton. We were led and inspired by the Holy Spirit, and we praise God for the chance to serve his church in this way.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARY



In 2019 a Mustard Seed grant was awarded for the creation and placement of 3-5 Little Free Libraries in Las Vegas. Arielle Hawney got help building them and artists to decorate them. We received one in the fall of 2020. Little Free Libraries are part of an international organization that promotes reading and literacy by encouraging individuals or groups to build (to specification), paint and install outdoors small enclosed boxes where people can freely take a book or leave a book and share love for reading. There are over 100,000 Little Free Libraries around the world, registered online at www.littlefreelibrary.org. Check the map online to see where they are.

Our own Free Little Library is well used and visited frequently. Judy Long volunteered to be the steward of our Little Free Library and several times a week checks to make sure the books are appropriate and varied and stocked. If you have books to donate please leave them at the church and she will sort and use them as needed.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN 2020

Presbyterian Women no longer meet as an organization in the local congregation. However several members continue to support the Presbytery, Synod, and national organizations and two specific national projects as follows:

Presbytery	\$ 40.00
Synod	\$ 40.00
National PW\$	\$240.00
Birthday Offering	\$219.00
Thank Offering	\$ 40.00

Joyce Litherland-Coordinator



MISSION AND PEACEMAKING 2020

Mission and Peacemaking (M&P) continues to lead the church in reaching local, state, national and international communities through advocacy, education, prayer, and donations.

Pat Halverson led us in 2019 to becoming an Advocacy Church, one that speaks with and on behalf of people in need and encourages the adoption of public policies that serve justice and help people who suffer. M&P has continued in 2020 to urge our church members to respond to the Action Alerts from the PCUSA Office of Public Witness as they feel moved to regarding social justice issues. In November the Session and others from the church took on the 21 Day Racial Justice Challenge as part of being a Matthew 25 Church as put forward on the PCUSA website (<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/matthew-25/racism/>) with one of the focuses being dismantling structural racism.

We continue to give ear to the work of HOPE, JOT, and the Understanding Immigration Task Force (UITF). The pandemic has posed challenges to all these organizations' efforts. Hope had been supporting its work through monthly garage sales which stopped with the pandemic, so they have been operating on a largely volunteer basis with Rosie Lopez coordinating rides to doctor appointments in Las Vegas and Santa Fe. JOT without youth and other activities being held at the Mission Church suffered vandalism and theft. A GoFundMe page and donations from church members is helping replace and fix items and cover a security system for the OTM.

M&P continued to respond to the immigration/asylum-seeker situation on the border with support of the community group, Understanding Immigration Task Force, which sponsored an Art Show, Where Edges Meet, at NMHU Kennedy Gallery with an opening reception on Monday, March 9, 2020. The show invited works dealing with "borders, barriers and boundaries as containers, keeping in and keeping out." UITF also sponsored a lunch visit with Rev. Mark Adams, Mission Co-Worker in Agua Prieta, Mexico in February. UITF met in Perea Hall Monday evenings early in 2020 but has been inactive since the meeting restrictions of COVID-19 pandemic went into effect.

M&P has responded to the current situation at the border where most of the need is on the Mexico side of the border assisting migrants, who are required to wait there for decisions on their immigration/asylum cases, by donating our portion of the Peace and Global Witness special offering (\$140) to the Migrant Resource Center in Agua Prieta, Mexico through our Mission Co-Worker, Rev. Mark Adams. M&P also supported the work of Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey/Pastora Rosemary Sanchez-Guzman in El Paso, where FUPC M&P and LV community members participated in a Border Immersion experience in the fall of 2019, with monthly donations of our congregation's Border Ministries offerings while Pasos de Fe moves its operation to Mexico and reorganizes to accept donations.

M&P supported Presbyterian Mission Co-Workers Farsijana Adeney-Risakotta in Indonesia and Carol and Leith Fujii in Thailand with \$100 each; as well as Mission Co-Workers Mark Adams and Miriam Maldonado Escobar at the Border with \$200.

M&P led the church in participating in all 4 of the PCUSA special offerings, and as always, we are amazed and touched by the generosity of our congregation. (1) Our One Great Hour of Sharing Offering of \$971.13 supported Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA), Presbyterian Hunger Fund (PHF) and Presbyterian Self-Development Fund. (2) The Pentecost Offering of \$835 supported youth activities and M&P designated the 25% (\$334) which remained here to 100% Community (<https://www.annaageeight.org/nm-san-miguel/>). (3) The Peace and Global Witness Offering of \$560 supports peacemaking efforts and the 25% (\$140) remaining here we used to support the Migrant Resource Center in Agua Prieta. And finally (4) the Christmas Joy Offering of \$940, supports retired church workers in need; and racial-ethnic education at Menaul School in Albuquerque; Pan Am University in Kingsville, TX.; and Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Ala. Thanks to you all!

FUPC once again supported the Presbyterian Giving Catalog with donations of \$1890 toward a Garden Well, which actually covered the cost of 1.26 wells. Usually this is done at Christmas, but this year we moved it to Christmas in July. And, with your generosity both the well Christmas in July donations and the Christmas Joy offerings were more this year than past years! It helped to separate them out and have Christmas twice.

In response to the Synod's direct request to keep the churches going in the north west corner of New Mexico and the north east corner of Arizona where the Navajo Nation was so hard hit by the pandemic \$500 was sent to the Synod of the Southwest for the Native American Relief Project from FUPC. We received a very nice thank you card written in Dine' and Laguna from Nelson Capitan for our support.

Once again FUPC M & P Members made up the core of the CROP Hunger Walk Planning Team. In the face of COVID-19, our challenge was how to do a CROP Walk without doing a CROP Walk. This VERY energized and creative team invited people to create their own Walk or ride or skate, on their own route, date, and time. Mayor Trujillo proclaimed October 2020, Ending Hunger in Las Vegas Month, so folks could walk and donate anytime in October. Our goal for this 20th anniversary year was \$11K, \$500 more than the 2019 amount raised. With the use of our CROP website, lovely news coverage, 3 kick-off donations equaling \$950, a 30-minute online CROP Walk Kick-Off, and the ingenuity and enthusiasm of wonderful Walk team leaders, CROP Hunger Walk Las Vegas 2020 raised about \$14,000, beating our former high of \$11,443 in 2010. Our local agencies, Comedor de San Pascual Soup Kitchen, the Las Vegas Community Soup Kitchen, and the Samaritan House, will receive about \$1166 each. As always, Las Vegas and FUPC astonish us with their amazing generosity. Thanks to everyone!

M&P has encouraged the congregation to write messages of hope and support to prisoners of conscience and messages for release to those who imprison them around the world in Amnesty International's Write for Rights efforts. This year it was a little bit different with Carrol and Bob Pearson sending out packets to those in our congregation who said they would write, instead of distributing the materials to write during fellowship in Perea Hall.

M&P continues to pray for those who are forced to leave their homes and flee violence and poverty; peace and justice for Palestinians in Israel; the congregation of Principe de Paz Presbyterian Church in Juarez; the faculty, staff, and students of Menaul School; and advocates who speak for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Members of the Mission & Peacemaking Committee are Murl Baker, Pat Halverson, Joyce Litherland, Rosie Lopez, Karyl Lyne, Bob Pearson, Carrol Pearson, and Tom Trigg.

Carol Litherland, Chair

MUSTARD SEED 2020



The mustard seed committee only received 5 applications this year. Because of Covid-19, we did not meet in person, but decided since there were only 5, and since all seemed appropriate, that we should grant them as presented. They included:

1. \$1240 to support the establishment of the Imagination Library of San Miguel County. This program, originated by Dolly Parton, provides free monthly age appropriate books to children from birth to age five. As of November, 265 children have signed up to receive these monthly books.

The Literacy Council of Northeastern New Mexico is partnering with the Northeastern Regional Education Cooperative to sponsor this endeavor. Elizabeth Ratzlaff is the primary coordinator for the project.

2. \$1500 to Comedor de San Pascual, Inc., community soup kitchen and food pantry, to help with their renovation to increase work space and storage areas. Comedor Soup kitchen has been active in the Las Vegas community since 2010; They have volunteers from many organizations. Bonnie Bolton is the executive director.

3. \$700 to Meadow city Literary Salons, a startup organization dedicated to encouraging creative expression through written and spoken words. This application was submitted by Edwina Romero, PH.D. and the fiscal agent is the Las Vegas Arts Council. The grant was to promote their premier event and cover printing and shipping of a printed collection of work created. However, because of the pandemic, this event had to be cancelled. The group therefore submitted a different proposal, and proceeded to host events via zoom. Events in the planning stages included a Writing Round-table, a book fair, directed workshops, (specific topics, to possibly include self publishing, plot development, and other interactive events).

4. \$1400 to Amistad Y Resolana to install an industrial quality stove exhaust hood. Amistad y Resolana Is an agency designated by the NM state government, CYFD, to serve those in recovery from substance abuse and domestic violence. Unfortunately, this installation has not been accomplished, again because of the pandemic. They plan to do this as soon as possible whenever COVID 19 will allow.

5. \$500 to the 2020 Women's Right-To-Vote Centennial Celebration Committee. The contact for this Committee was Sonya Berg. This special project was to involve a multigenerational cross section of the community from 4H youth, members of the business community, and various volunteer groups. Again, this was interrupted by the pandemic. I am not sure what was accomplished. Our contact person promised to give a report including what was not done, what was done, what is still in progress; and how our grant was spent. However, in spite of several prompts, this has not been forthcoming. If I get further information I will amend this report.

Our committee consists of: Cordell Halverson and Carol Linder, co-chairs, Kevin Johnson, Joyce Litherland, Chuck Peterson, Patrick Rucker and Sharon Vandermeer.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2020

1. Change in Officers Terms.

The Nominating Committee met on a number of occasions via video or email and has made recommendations and nominations to the Session and to the Congregation during the year. This year, the Session revised the Church's Policy and Procedure manual. All officers (Deacons and Ruling Elders) and the members of the Nominating Committee will be nominated and elected in the Summer, with their terms to start August 1 of each year. Terms of all officers are still 2 years. The P&P's were revised to have the Nominating Committee members serve the same 2 year term, instead of the 1 year term as previously. Unchanged from previously, the officers have term limits of 3 consecutive terms and the officers normally are elected in two classes in alternate years so that continuity is maintained on the Session and the Deacons. The Nominating Committee does not have term limits and are not elected as classes. The officers and Nominating Committee members who were serving from February agreed to continue serving and were re-nominated and then elected in June, 2020, and started their new terms in August.

2. Nominations during 2020.

Deacons: there were two vacancies for Deacons in August. The Committee nominated Rosie Lopez and Renee Soderlund to fill these positions. Both indicated their willingness to accept the nomination. This was reported to the Session, was presented at the congregational meeting in June, and these two persons were elected as Deacons.

Elders: there were four vacancies in August. The Committee nominated Carol Litherland, Siobhan Croto, Tom Trigg, and Joyce Litherland. Tom was already on the Session and was nominated for a second consecutive term. The others were all nominated for their first term. All indicated their willingness to accept the nomination. This was reported to the Session, was presented to the congregational meeting in June, and all were elected to the Session.

Both Deb Reid and Siobhan Croto resigned from the Session effective December 31, 2020. The Nominating Committee met via Zoom and nominated Judy Long to finish out Deb's term to Jul 31, 2021. Judy has accepted the nomination. Congregational meeting will be held to elect Judy to the Session.

Nominating Committee: The Committee nominated the members currently serving to continue on the Nominating Committee: Van Swan, Kent Reid, Joyce Litherland, Bonnie Trujillo, and Mary Schipper, starting a two year term on August 1, 2020. All have agreed to accept the nomination. This was reported to the Session, was presented to the congregational meeting, and the nominees were each elected to another two year term of membership.

3. Summary of officers and Nominating Committee, as of 12/13/20.

Session (2 year terms) (Nine members), Summary of Classes, 12/20

--	Current Membership	Class (current term ends)	At the end of the current term, the Elder will have served consecutively:
1	Tom Trigg	2022	2 terms
2	Carol Litherland	2022	1 term
3	Carol Linder	2021	1¼ terms
4	Siobhan Croto	2022	(Resigned 12/31/2020)
5	Deb Allen-Reid	2021	(Resigned 12/31/2020)
6	Joyce Litherland	2022	1 term
7	(Judy Long)	(2021)	Nominated but not yet elected
8	D.R. Palmer	2021	1 term
9	Corky Halverson	2021	1 term

Class of 2021: 3 Elders, 1 Vacancy. Class of 2022: 3 Elders, 2 vacancies.

Deacons (2 year terms) (Six Members), Summary of Classes, 12/20

---	Current Membership	Class (current term ends)	At the end of the current term, the Deacon will have served consecutively:
1	Mary Schipper (Chair)	2022	3 terms
2	Bonnie Trujillo	2022	3 terms
3	Juli Salman	2022	2 terms
4	Rosie Lopez	2022	
5	Renee Soderlund	2022	
6	Sharon Vander Meer	2021	2 terms
	Sean Croto		Special Deacon's Assistant.

Class of 2021: 1 Deacon Class of 2022: 5 Deacons



2020 CELEBRATION TASK FORCE

The 2020 Celebration Task Force started the year with a feeling of jubilation over the success of the truly beautiful angel float in the Electric Light Parade, with its beauty gracing the church's front yard for the rest of the holiday season.

Next was the success of finishing the new Seeds, Roots, and Branches website (lvpresbyterian.org), complete with the following statements of who we are and what we believe:

WHO WE ARE

- ⇒ We are a small congregation living a big mission. Our hallmarks: we are inclusive, active, and spirit filled.
- ⇒ We gather for compelling worship on Sunday mornings, where we recognize truths so real that our hearts bring tears, in equal part with laughter and the unexpected.
- ⇒ But you'll also find us around town, actively working to promote social justice, to build strong community, and to serve our brothers and sisters in Las Vegas and beyond.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

- ⇒ We believe that God is unconditional and unlimited Love.
- ⇒ We believe that God's grace comes first and that it is bigger than any wrongdoing we might commit.
- ⇒ We believe that God excludes no one; all are beloved children of God. No exceptions.
- ⇒ We believe that Jesus, the Christ, "pitched his tent among us", living alongside us and showing us how to live and how to love one another. While we might have different understandings of exactly how Jesus is Savior and Lord, we agree he came to save us and to give us new life.
- ⇒ We believe that, in Christ, we can work toward the realization of God's kingdom on earth. Our primary goal is to love one another. That means actively working to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, free the oppressed, and seek justice for all.
- ⇒ We believe that, in Christ, we are a family. We care for each other even when we are not particularly lovable. We're there for each other when we grieve and when we celebrate.
- ⇒ We believe that God's Spirit is present in and among us, bringing grace and truth. We work to be attentive to that Spirit so that we may grow ever closer to God and do our part to bring about God's kingdom on earth.

The "Seeds, Roots, Branches" banner was mounted on the front fence. Plans were moving forward fast when March and COVID-19 came along. First the procession and picnic were moved to 2021. Next the Ghost Ranch retreat was rescheduled to 2021.

The landscaping committee planted a commemorative tree in the front yard. A mailing was sent with seed packets and a reminder that the 150th anniversary was not forgotten, just postponed. In June five traveling signs were purchased and moved to various locations throughout the late summer and fall. Several "Did you know?" articles appeared in bulletins and newsletters. The July Presbytery meeting had been scheduled to be held here. Because of the pandemic it became a Zoom meeting still using local members in the Saturday worship service, and that service became our worship the following Sunday.

Sharon Vander Meer wrote an excellent article which was published on the front page of the Optic. A resolution of the many achievements of the church over its 150 years of existence was drafted, aided by Richard Lindeborg, and proclaimed by Mayor Louie Trujillo at a city council meeting in October. A similar sesquicentennial proclamation was issued by Senator Pete Campos on behalf of the New Mexico Senate.

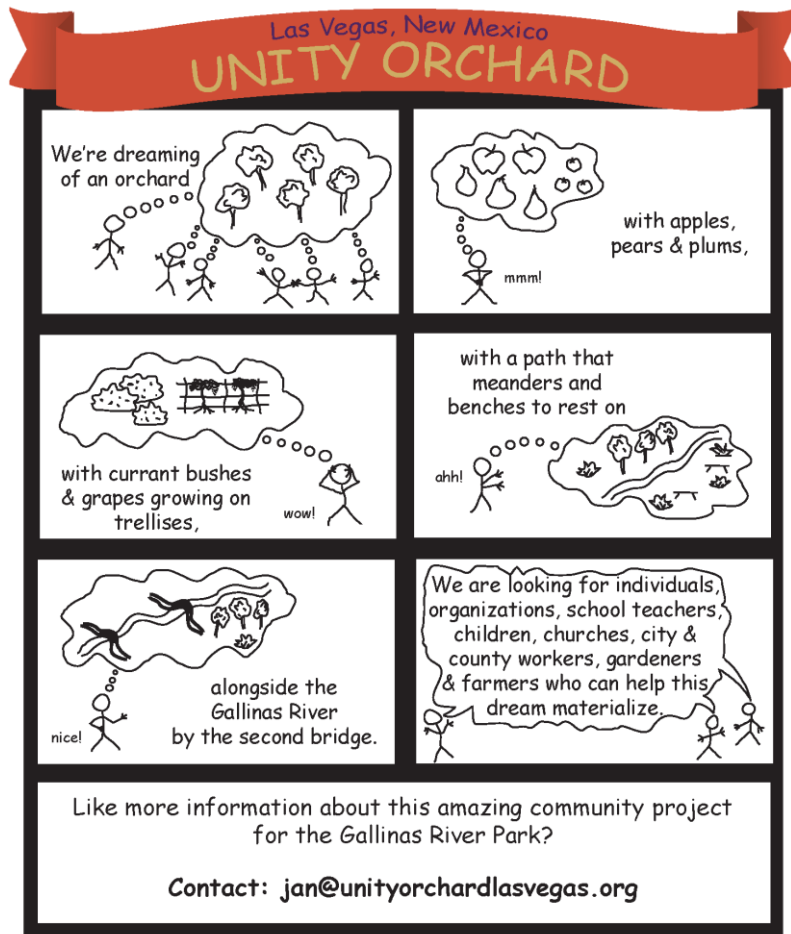
The “seeds” of the tree project began to take shape and progressed forward rapidly under the leadership of Jan Beurskens who began making contacts with key people—Paul Stagner of the Gallinas River Park, Lea Knutson, executive director and Elizabeth Juarros education director of Hermit’s Peak Watershed Alliance, Amy Bell, GRP landscape architect, and key members of West Las Vegas Schools, ELV Schools, and OLOS and IC churches.

The Unity Orchard as it finally became known, grew strong “roots “ by leaps and bounds throughout the year with tree nurseries contacted, site selection made, site preparation and irrigation needs being addressed, and an Orchard sub-committee being formed.

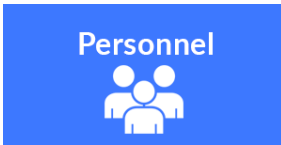
A \$5000 grant proposal was submitted by Jan to the Las Vegas Community Foundation, \$3000 was awarded. Jan and Juli have created a clever stick figure cartoon to use for advertising, correspondence and posters to be placed around town promoting the Unity Orchard.

A general Zoom meeting has been called for January 18 at 4:00 pm to develop the “branches”, with representatives being asked to attend from the city, county, service organizations, West and East Las Vegas Schools, all churches, Highlands, Luna, UWC, and any interested citizens.

This dynamic committee composed of Carol Linder, Juli Salman, Jan Beurskens, and Sharon Vander Meer and chaired by D.R. Palmer developed all the plans, successes and ideas. I only came on as chair in August and primarily feel I have the responsibility of keeping things moving forward. The Unity Orchard sub-committee is all of the above plus Jeff Salman, Judy Long, and Murl Baker, and Mary Shaw.



Joyce Litherland, Chair



PERSONNEL COMMITTEE 2020

Members: Judy Long, Don Monnheim, Pastor Katie Palmer, and Deb Allen-Reid, Chair

This year, the Personnel Committee met eight times (seven via Zoom) and frequently conferred between meetings via email. Personnel expenditures were tracked via monthly reports provided by the Treasurer and employee performance was monitored throughout the year. Progress was made in an ongoing effort to develop standardized position descriptions for each employee, and pay periods were adjusted to meet state and federal labor laws. Specific accomplishments are summarized below:

January

- Finalized the 2020 presentation budget and provided direction for payroll implementation; vision insurance was added to the benefits provided to the Pastor.
- Created first draft of Pastor's Position Description.

February

- Decided to adopt Highlands University inclement weather orders for our use (when the University is closed, our office is closed) with additional provisions for the Office Manager to work from home with approval from the Pastor.
- Following affirmation by the congregation, the annual Pastor's Terms of Call Report was prepared and submitted to the Clerk of Session, who then signed and submitted it to the Presbytery.
- Commenced work on a Child Care Position Description for an employee who would work in our nursery on Sunday mornings.

March

- Recommended and received Session approval to continue paying our staff at pre-Covid-19 levels, even though no gatherings were occurring at Douglas Ave. or at OTM.

April

- Explored expanding the inclement weather policy to include an "interruption in business" policy to cover any reason it is not safe for our employees to conduct regular activities in or at our facilities.
- Pastor's draft Position Description was shared with Session and finalized.

May

- At the request of the Pastor, researched and provided instructions on how to apply for the Covid-19 Payroll Protection Program funds; after review, it was decided not to pursue this program.
- First annual performance review was conducted with Custodian/Sexton, Pablo Hernandez.

June

- Conducted annual performance review with Music Director, Karyl Lyne. Appreciation was extended to her for her creativity in continuing to provide a music ministry as we moved to worship services via Zoom. Karyl generously serves *without pay* (at her request) as our Music Director.
- Input to the upcoming performance review of the Pastor was solicited from the Session and a self-evaluation questionnaire was provided to the Pastor for use during the review.

July

- Conducted annual performance review with the Pastor, with discussion of anonymous input from the Session and Committee members. The Pastor was recognized for the innovations she instituted so that worship and the work of work of the church could continue during Covid-19 restrictions.

August

- Began work on the 2021 Personnel budget.
- Obtained input from Session on adding new cost of \$1500/year to the 2021 budget for Sunday Child Care; decision was made to add only 6 months' (Jun-Dec) funding to the 2021 budget, due to Covid.

September

- Prepared and submitted a proposed 2021 Personnel Budget to the Treasurer. Changes in our contributions to the Pastor's benefits reflect direction from the Presbyterian Board of Pensions.
- New for the 2021 budget, to reflect the compensation breakout required in the Presbytery's Pastor's Terms of Call Report, we are separating the Pastor's mileage and professional expenses into separate line items.

October

- Conducted annual performance review with our Office Manager, Linda Solyntjes. During Covid restrictions, Linda has come to work as usual, often being the only one in the building. She continued to attend to church business, making deposits, handling mail, and keeping our employees paid.
- Mary Schipper and Tom Trigg volunteered to provide training to our Custodian/Sexton (Pablo Hernandez) in tasks that could be done while the Douglas Ave. building was closed, and to instruct him in care of the new landscaping. The Committee wishes to express its gratitude to Tom and Mary.
- The Committee recommended and the Session approved 2021 budgeting to pay all our employees at pre- Covid levels. This includes our Douglas Ave. Custodian/Sexton and our OTM Custodian/Watchman, despite changes in workload due to the suspension of activities at these buildings.

November

- The Committee approved the Pastor's request to carry over into 2021 unused 2020 vacation time that was not used due to Covid-related travel restrictions.
- The Committee approved the Pastor's and the Office Manager's requests to both take off the week between Christmas and New Year's Day. The closing of the church office for this period was approved on condition that the payroll would not be interrupted, and the bulletin would be prepared in advance.

December

- On December 2nd, Deb Allen-Reid informed Session members that she would be resigning as Chair of the Personnel Committee, effective December 31, 2020.
- At the December 15th Session meeting, Christmas bonuses for church employees were proposed by the Personnel Committee and approved by the Session. Employees were individually thanked for their service and informed that the bonus amounts would be paid by direct deposit.

Respectfully Submitted by Deb Allen-Reid

SAMARITAN HOUSE COOKING TEAM 2020



We finished our second year in November, 2020. We are still full of enthusiasm.

We spent our first year settling in, getting used to the schedule and adjusting our recipes. Our second year, 2020, was affected by the corona virus pandemic. Some of our cooks decided to sit on the sidelines, some continued the regular schedule, and some went to a limited Monday sandwich schedule. We emphasized the need for hygiene and disease prevention. We wear masks now, in addition to our regular aprons and cooking caps. Good hand washing is an important part of our program.

Because of the pandemic, the Samaritan House decided to provide meals to their clients only as take-out food, serving single portions at the door. This caused us to change our menus to simple hot casseroles in the winter and cold pasta salads in the summer. These can be served to many customers rapidly and safely. The Samaritan House requested we prepare an extra meal each week, as they lost some of their restaurant contributors. To fill the need, we started making a “picnic” meal on Mondays: a sandwich, a fruit or vegetable side dish, and a serving of homemade trail mix. It all fits in a paper bag or Styrofoam container. Since we only need one cook for these Monday picnic meals, some of our cooks have switched from Fridays to Mondays. We have been doing two cooking days for most of the year.

Our original working budget goal was \$30 per week, or \$1.50 per customer per meal. We stayed pretty close to that goal the first year, but food prices have increased in 2020. A number of donations have given us a good financial cushion which has helped us a lot. We also receive gifts of food which we incorporate into the menus. Because of the donations, we will be requesting only about half of our previous budget allotment for 2021. (For those of you who are interested, our team’s budget is detailed in the Deacons’ section of the proposed budget, which will be presented to the congregation in February.)

Samaritan House continues to work to complete the renovation of their new quarters at Lincoln and 7th. They have moved their administrative offices there, but they still serve meals at the Mills Avenue facility. Their long range plan is to have a commercial kitchen at the new location. We plan to continue meal preparation twice weekly, but expect that our team will cook at their new facility when it is completed.

The meals served by the Samaritan House, provided by our church and others in the community, are an important part of caring for those who cannot well care for themselves. We encourage and invite any and all to join in the “fun” and help make mac and cheese, tuna noodle casserole, and pasta salad with us. We have jobs that do not directly involve cooking, if you would like to help out from a distance. Call us for more info: Denice Spicer, Team Leader, and Van Swan, Scheduler.



TIME, TALENTS, AND TREASURE (TT&T) 2020

The goal of the TT&T Committee, formerly Interpretation and Support, is to foster giving of our time, talents, and treasures and monitor spending to ensure our ability to do God's work today and in the coming 150 years. The TT&T makes recommendations to the Session but ultimately all financial decisions are made by this governing body. We strive to garner input and enthusiasm from the congregation and based on last year's continued generosity, we believe we have succeeded as a committee.

Acting on TT&T's recommendation, the Session decided not to conduct an annual pledge drive in Fall 2019. Giving in 2020 was dependent on the continuing generosity of members and friends, tempered by their perceptions of changing needs and opportunities for mission. This giving framework was successful through the year, even while worship shifted online, and gifts had to come in ways other than the actual collection plate. We made a point of thanking those who were able to continue their contributions in this difficult time and we finished the year in the black. We also completed major improvements to our physical plant including the new stucco and landscaping. These projects were funded primarily through non-operating budget funds.

The TT&T committee updated the committee's duties and responsibilities in the FUPC Policies and Procedures (P&P) Manual and also spent a lot of time in the first six months of the year updating the Finance and Accounting P&P Manual. These tasks are fairly mundane but do require time and effort and are vitally important.

Our church by-laws and the national PC(USA) church require us to conduct an annual review of finances. As in years past, we reviewed payments and receipts for the 2019 year with an internal team of selected church members who have no responsibilities for making decisions about payments and receipts and do not have any responsibility to handle money. Doing this review in house saves us an estimated \$4000 per year and is permitted. Our review showed no serious discrepancies, but the team did recommend tightening up some of our procedures to minimize potential for mistakes. Changes to the Financial and Accounting P&P's were made to reflect these recommendations.

Online giving through our website portal increased in 2020, largely due to the pandemic. Contributions are made by clicking on the Give tab at lvpresbyterian.org. In August, we added instructions on the website for first-time users. September, October, and November newsletter articles focused on planned giving to the church. Gifts are made for a variety of reasons; contributions can be undesignated, but many give because they have a special interest in a program or project of the church that they want to support. Many of our church family members support the Old Town Mission Community Center or Presbyterian Border Ministry. Donations can also be earmarked for future large projects or emergency situations.

The TT&T committee has been blessed with a great committee. It was co-chaired by Van Swan and Corky Halverson until July 31, 2020 and Rod Billingsley was a long-time valuable contributing member. With the change in Session leadership, I assumed the role as chair on August 1. The TT&T committee is a wonderful mixture of new and old, with Richard Lindeborg, Van Swan, and Mary Schipper having served several years and us newbies – me, Denice Spicer, and Pam Abreu; Pastor Katie is an always present *ex officio* member. Denice Spicer assumed the role of Associate Treasurer in November 2020 to work with Linda Solyntjes and Mary Schipper and learn the ropes in preparation for Mary's departure as treasurer at the end of July 2021.

For the last six months, TT&T has focused much of our attention on developing our 2021 balanced budget! The Session approved the presentation and narrative budgets for roughly \$193,000 at its December 2020 meeting. Both are included in this annual report. As a church, we have been blessed with consistent and generous annual giving and bequests that allow us to continue to grow faith, seek justice, and build community. We look forward to 2021!

Carol C. Linder, Chair



WORSHIP AND MUSIC (WAM) 2020

The Worship and Music committee (WAM), like everyone, was profoundly affected by the coronavirus pandemic. Starting in mid-March, we worked together to build a way to keep worshipping without compromising our health. We embraced Zoom as the technology that allowed us to see each other's faces live on our smartphones and computer screens, and to create videos for preludes and hymns and for other parts of the service as needed.

Of course, it is not the same as being together in person and we long for the day when it becomes safe to gather again in the sanctuary. Many of us are doing just fine with Zoom worship; some enjoy seeing people's faces instead of the backs of their heads! Others of us find it a hardship with Zoom fatigue, or because they must call in using a regular phone and cannot see the visuals. And, we miss in particular those members and friends who don't have access to attend in any form. As the vaccines are distributed more broadly, we hope to be able to resume in-person worship in 2021.

Some positives about online worship:

- FUPC was able to lead online Presbytery Worship this summer. We had planned to host the Presbytery meeting in our facility this year; hosting the online worship was the next best thing.
- We have increased our connections to friends far away, including Colorado, Massachusetts, Montana, Virginia and even Canada. Some of these far-flung folks have been our worship leaders, which would have been impossible before online worship
- We post the worship service video recording on Facebook and on our website, which allows us to attend at our convenience if we are unable to join live on Sunday morning.
- Prayers of the people can come in via the online chat feature from anyone attending
- Some have found the worship experience in our own homes to be more intimate and meaningful in a different way than when we physically gather as a congregation. For example, the pastor feels closer than when she stands at the pulpit.
- Some have used Zoom services as an opportunity to "try out" our worship community without the pressure of being in the sanctuary in person.

We are working on continuing the online experience even after we have returned to the building at 1000 Douglas, so we can continue to keep and expand the connections we have made online.

In addition to the online worship services, we have added daily online devotionals Monday through Friday. Our devotional leaders offer their insights and perspectives, each with their own unique voice. Many thanks to Karyl Lyne, Carol Linder, Pastor Katie, Rod Billingsley, Lisa Weinstein, Pat Halverson, Beth Urech, and Denice Spicer.

You may notice that our worship services follow a theme that changes as we move through the year. The themes and sermon series for 2020 were:

"Seeds. Roots. Branches." (our new church logo) in February

"Flawed Servants" in Lent

"Faithful Witnesses" in May

"Fishing with Jesus" series in June/July

"The Book of Job" series in July/August

"The Prophets" series in September - November

"Yielding to the Potter" in Advent

Kudos to Charlotte Wootton, Susan Apodaca, and Tom Trigg for decorating the sanctuary as the church seasons change. Seeing the changing sanctuary in our worship videos helps to keep us connected to our building.

Many thanks to all those who served as worship leader this past year (and to Joyce Litherland for coordinating them), to all those who participated in creating music, to all those who hosted or participated in online worship (hey! that's thanking everyone! – yep, and everyone deserves it for adjusting to the online reality, being patient as we smoothed out the rough spots, and for maintaining our community through it all.)

And special thanks to our leaders who spent many hours figuring it all out: to Pastor Katie, to our music director Karyl Lyne, and to our accompanist Em Krall.

Thanks are also due to the full WAM committee for their creativity and energy in 2020: Karyl Lyne, D.R. Palmer (Chair), Katie Palmer, Tom Trigg, Beth Urech, Lisa Weinstein, and Charlotte Wootton.



TREASURER'S REPORT 2020

The financial year, 2020, here at FUPC, has ended successfully in the black. Specifically, this means expenses did not exceed donated income. As a church community, we are debt free, and have met all our financial obligations. Between 12-15% of our expenditure continues to be spent on Mission.

This success rests solely in the hands of YOU, the generous givers of your treasure, time and talent. We continue to be blessed with Bequest giving, which has allowed us to upgrade Perea Hall, look forward to a September, 2021 retreat at Ghost Ranch, and to address landscaping and signage needs at the Douglas Street building, among other projects.

We also were able to complete the stucco project, maintenance painting and steeple repair, and new sidewalks at the Douglas St building, all paid from our reserves. The OTM also saw major improvements with new attic insulation and anticipated heating upgrades.

Looking forward to 2021, we are able to project a **BALANCED BUDGET**, the first one in the last few years. This is all because the FUPC community has been faithful and generous in its giving, despite the pandemic challenges.

We continue to be grateful to everyone who has made it possible for FUPC to do God's work in both our local and worldwide community. We would encourage all of you, in addition to your current faithful giving, to consider setting aside a memorial or bequest that will carry us into the future, allowing FUPC to continue God's work in our community and world.

If you have any specific questions, feel free to contact me.

Mary S Schipper, Treasurer

PRESENTATION BUDGET REPORT 2020

Account #	Account Name	Yr Beg 01/2021
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Income

Operating Income

Church Income

4.0.01	Annual Giving	140,700.00
4.0.02	Loose Plate (Anonymous)	642.00
4.0.03	Gifts From Friends	12,000.00
4.0.04	Building Use	500.00
4.0.21	Interest (FUPC & Gerdeman Endowment Distributions)	900.00
4.0.51	Other Income	200.00
	Total Church Income	\$154,942.00

J.O.T. Income

4.4.61	Old Town Mission Donations from Members & Friends	2,000.00
4.4.63	Old Town Mission from United World College	900.00
4.4.64	Old Town Mission from West Las Vegas School	270.00
4.4.65	Old Town Mission Rentals	250.00
4.4.68	OTM Fundraisers	500.00
4.4.71	JOT Fund Donations	0.00
	Total JOT Income	\$3,920.00
	Total Operating Income	\$158,862.00

Other Committee Income

B&G Income

4.1.05	1000 Douglas Building Maintenance Accrual Income	0.00
4.1.06	OTM Building Maintenance Accrual Income	120.00
	Total B&G Income	\$120.00

Christian Education Income

4.2.06	Sunday School Offerings	0.00
4.2.52	Christian Education Book Donations	0.00
	Total Christian Education Income	\$0.00

Community Life Income

4.3.11	Community Life Income	0.00
4.3.14	Major Retreat Accrual Income	0.00
	Total Community Life Income	\$0.00

Deacons Income

4.9.21	Pastor's Discretionary Accrual Income	0.00
4.9.23	Other Deacons Income	0.00
4.9.24	Deacons Accrual Income	0.00
4.9.34	Samaritan House Meals - Income	1,849.00
	Total Deacons Income	\$1,849.00

I&S

4.0.36	Consecration Dinner Income	0.00
	Total I&S	\$0.00

LIFT Income

	Total LIFT Income	\$0.00
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Mission & Peacemaking Income

4.5.51	Mission Trip Accrual Income	583.00
4.5.53	Coffee Project Sales	0.00
4.5.57	Peacemaking Offering 25% Income	250.00
4.5.58	Pentecost Offering Income 40%	185.00
	Total Mission & Peacemaking Income	\$1,018.00

Mustard Seed Income

4.6.03	Mustard Seed Tickets and Donations	0.00
	Total Mustard Seed Income	\$0.00

Personnel Income

4.7.91	Pastor's Renewal Fund Donations	0.00
	Total Personnel Income	\$0.00

Session Income

4.0.11	Columbarium Income	0.00
4.0.14	Bequest Income (5 year average)	28,000.00
4.0.19	Per Capita Income	0.00
4.0.23	Mutual Fund Income Gains	2,000.00
4.0.24	Landscaping & Signage Task Force Income	0.00
4.0.31	2020 Celebration Income	0.00
	Total Session Income	\$30,000.00

Worship & Music

4.8.21	Supplemental Music Fund Income	200.00
4.8.22	Audio Visual Fund Donations	0.00
4.8.23	Other WAM Income	0.00
4.8.24	Music Purchase Donations	600.00
4.8.25	Bell Repair Fund	50.00
	Donations/Shillinglaw Interest	
	Total Worship & Music	\$850.00
	Total Other Committee Income	\$33,837.00

Pass-through Income***Church Pass-through Income***

Total Church Pass-through Income	\$0.00
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National Church Special Offerings

4.5.30	Garden Well	0.00
4.5.54	Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Income	0.00
	Total National Church Special Offerings	\$0.00

Presbytery Pass-through Income

Total Presbytery Pass-through Income	\$0.00
Total Pass-through Income	\$0.00
Total Income	\$192,699.00

Expenses**General Operating Expense****Salary & Benefits****Pastor's Salary & Benefits**

5.7.00	Pastor's Professional Expenses	500.00
5.7.01	Pastor's Salary	27,846.00
5.7.02	Pastor's Housing	18,564.00
5.7.03	Pastor's Continuing Education	1,850.00
5.7.04	Pastor's Mileage	1,500.00
5.7.05	Pastor's Self Employment Tax Allowance (Annual)	3,627.00
5.7.06	Pastor's Pension/ DD Insurance	4,641.00
5.7.07	Pastor's Renewal Accrual Expense	1,200.00
5.7.09	Pastor's Medical/Dental Insurance	12,624.00
	Total Pastor's Salary & Benefits	\$72,352.00

Office Manager Salary & Benefits

5.7.11	Office Manager Annual Wage	23,400.00
5.7.13	Office Manager FICA	1,790.00
5.7.14	Office Substitute Staff (Casual)	500.00
	Total Office Manager Salary & Benefits	\$25,690.00

Other Salary & Benefits

5.7.31	Pianist/Organist Annual Wage	3,800.00
5.7.33	Custodian/Sexton Annual Wage	9,600.00
5.7.34	Child Care & Kitchen Attendent	780.00
5.7.39	NM State Workers Comp	202.00
5.7.40	Workers Comp Insurance (Brotherhood)	887.00
5.7.41	Other Employers FICA	1,295.00
5.7.43	Old Town Mission Security	600.00
5.7.44	Old Town Mission FICA	0.00
5.7.51	Old Town Mission Custodian	2,772.00
	Total Other Salary & Benefits	\$19,936.00
	Total Personnel	\$117,978.00

JOT Program Expenses

5.1.38	JOT Grounds Maintenance	420.00
5.4.44	JOT Office Supplies	0.00
5.4.45	JOT Miscellaneous	0.00
5.4.46	JOT Hospitality Expense	200.00
5.4.48	JOT Postage	200.00
5.4.53	JOT City Utilities	1,000.00
5.4.54	JOT Electricity	2,500.00
5.4.55	JOT Internet	0.00
5.4.60	JOT Honorariums	0.00
5.4.61	JOT Phone	40.00
5.4.62	JOT Equipment and Furnishings	0.00
5.4.63	JOT Facilities Supplies Expense	150.00
5.4.71	JOT Program Expense	500.00
	Total JOT Program Expense	\$5,010.00

Building & Grounds Expense***1000 Douglas Building Maintenance***

5.1.41	Pest/Bat Control	1,200.00
5.1.44	General Building Maintenance	3,500.00
5.1.45	Fire Safety	1,000.00
5.1.55	Church Building Repair Accrual Expense	5,000.00
Total 1000 Douglas Building Maintenance		\$10,700.00

Other 1000 Douglas B&G Expense

Total Other 1000 Douglas B&G Expense	\$0.00
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OTM Building Maintenance

5.1.32	OTM Pest Control	0.00
5.1.36	OTM Fire Safety	200.00
5.1.37	OTM Building Repair Accrual Expense	1,020.00
5.1.49	OTM General Building Maintenance	4,000.00
Total OTM Building Maintenance		\$5,220.00
Total Building & Grounds Expense		\$15,920.00
Total General Operating Expense		\$138,908.00

Other Committee Expense***Christian Education***

5.2.06	Christian Education Expense	0.00
Total Christian Education		\$0.00

Community Life

5.3.01	Community Life Game Night	100.00
5.3.04	Community Life Fellowship Supplies	400.00
5.3.15	Community Life Meal Expenses (Lunches, Picnics, etc)	1,000.00
Total Community Life		\$1,500.00

Deacons

5.9.21	Pastor's Discretionary Accrual Expense	600.00
5.9.24	Deacons Accrual Expense	0.00
5.9.32	Discretionary Mission - Community Soup Kitchen	300.00
5.9.33	Discretionary Mission - Comedor San Pascual	300.00
5.9.34	Discretionary Mission-Weekly Samaritan House Meals	400.00
5.9.35	Discretionary Mission - Cold Weather Shelter	600.00
Total Deacons		\$2,200.00

Mission & Peacemaking

5.5.55	Missionary Hosting	100.00
5.5.59	Missionary Co-workers	300.00
5.5.60	Camino de Vida	200.00
5.5.63	Coffee Project Expense	0.00
5.5.66	Stress Trauma Workshop Expense	500.00
5.5.71	Mission Trip Accrual Expense	0.00
5.5.72	Mission Outreach Expense	500.00
5.5.73	Sunday Breakfast Expense	500.00
Total Mission & Peacemaking		\$2,100.00

Mustard Seed

5.6.82	Mustard Seed Grants Expense	0.00
	Total Mustard Seed	\$0.00

Personnel

Total Personnel \$0.00

Session

5.0.09	Theological Education Expense(1% budget)	1,925.00
5.0.10	Advertising Expense	460.00
5.0.12	Books & Subscriptions Expense	400.00
5.0.15	Commissioners expense	300.00
5.0.16	Payroll Expense - ADP	1,800.00
5.0.17	Office Expense (Includes two new office computers)	7,104.00
5.0.18	Accounting Expense	600.00
5.0.19	Per Capita Expense	3,185.00
5.0.20	Facilities Janitorial Supplies Expense	600.00
5.0.22	Cemetery Expense	0.00
5.0.23	Mutual Fund Losses	0.00
5.0.24	Landscaping & Signage Task Force Expense	0.00
5.0.25	Church Website/Domain Expense	750.00
5.0.26	Church Windows/VOS Expense	1,620.00
5.0.30	State Incorporation Fee Expense	10.00
5.0.33	2020 Anniversary Celebration Expense	0.00
5.0.37	Credit Card Processing	600.00
5.0.42	Session - Off-budget Expense	400.00
5.0.43	Give Thanks Dinner Expense	200.00
5.0.53	Church Property Insurance Expense	9,557.00
5.0.54	Church Property Insurance Deductible Fund Expense	1,000.00
5.0.55	Columbarium Fund Expense	0.00
5.0.56	Leadership Retreat Expense	500.00
5.0.59	Desertgate Internet (Starting July 2020)	700.00
5.0.60	Century Link Telephone (Internet thru July 2020)	960.00
5.0.61	1000 Douglas City Utilities	6,500.00
5.0.62	1000 Douglas Electricity	2,500.00
5.0.70	Unified Mission Expense	1,800.00
5.0.90	Bequests Dispersed	0.00

Total Session \$43,471.00

Worship & Music

5.8.25	Bell Repair Accrual Expenses	480.00
5.8.71	Audio Visual Fund Expense	0.00
5.8.72	Proclaim	500.00
5.8.73	Music Expense	0.00
5.8.74	Pulpit Supply Expense	2,150.00
5.8.75	Musicians - Other	100.00
5.8.76	Other Worship & Music (tuning, etc)	1,290.00

Total Worship & Music \$4,520.00

Total Other Committee Expense \$53,791.00

<i>Pass-through Expense</i>		
<i>Church Pass-through Expense</i>		
	Total Church Pass-through Expense	\$0.00
<i>National Church Special Offerings</i>		
	Total National Church Special Offerings	\$0.00
<i>Presbytery Pass-through Expense</i>		
	Total Presbytery Pass-through Expense	\$0.00
	Total Pass-through Expense	\$0.00
	Total Expenses	\$192,699.00

First United Presbyterian Church - Las Vegas NM

BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020

Account #	Account Name	Beginning Balance	YTD Balance
Assets			
Short-term Assets			
Cash and Near Cash			
1.0.01	Checking - Community 1st Bank - **155	27,518.79	14,889.49
1.0.03	Shillinglaw Fund Savings #324000 Community 1st Ban	956.39	1,004.60
1.0.11	MMDA - Community 1st Bank 1175408	12,048.88	12,643.52
	Total Cash and Near Cash	\$40,524.06	\$28,537.61
Investments			
1.1.21	Gerdeman Endowment PILP	20,000.00	20,000.00
1.1.22	Shillinglaw Endowment- Community 1st Bank CD ***60	3,438.59	3,438.59
1.1.26	Mutual Fund	157,009.59	223,849.16
1.2.50	Pres Foundation - Bunch Endowment	13,148.97	13,148.97
1.2.52	Pres Foundation - FUPC Endowment	4,906.79	4,906.79
	Total Investments	\$198,503.94	\$265,343.51
	Total Short-term Assets	\$239,028.00	\$293,881.12
Fixed Assets			
Furniture & Equipment			
1.3.11	Equipment	50,000.00	50,000.00
1.3.12	Furniture & Fixtures	130,000.00	130,000.00
	Total Furniture & Equipment	\$180,000.00	\$180,000.00
Land, Buildings, & Improvements			
1.4.01	Church Building	869,607.78	869,607.78
1.4.21	Old Mission Church Building	500,000.00	500,000.00
	Total Land, Buildings, & Improvements	\$1,369,607.78	\$1,369,607.78
	Total Fixed Assets	\$1,549,607.78	\$1,549,607.78
	Total Assets	\$1,788,635.78	\$1,843,488.90
	Total Assets	\$1,788,635.78	\$1,843,488.90
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Other Current Liabilities			
2.5.02	Pre-paid Church Pledges	14,500.00	0.00
	Total Other Current Liabilities	\$14,500.00	\$0.00
	Total Current Liabilities	\$14,500.00	\$0.00
	Total Liabilities	\$14,500.00	\$0.00
Fund Balances			
Unrestricted Net Assets			
3.0.01	General Fund Balance	34,440.74	27,945.62
3.0.03	Bequest Fund Balance	56,231.23	126,275.62
3.9.21	Pastor's Discretionary Accrual Balance	844.09	958.23
	Total Unrestricted Net Assets	\$91,516.06	\$155,179.47
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets			
3.0.04	Youth Fund Balance	459.21	459.21
3.0.05	Women's Travel Fund Balance	0.00	0.12
3.0.09	Columbarium Fund Balance	3,498.45	3,798.45
3.1.07	Douglas St. Building Repair Accrual Balance	28,192.99	7,912.99
3.1.08	OTM Building Repair Accrual Balance	(1,430.85)	11,130.00
3.1.14	Property Insurance Deductible Accrual Balance	0.00	1,020.00

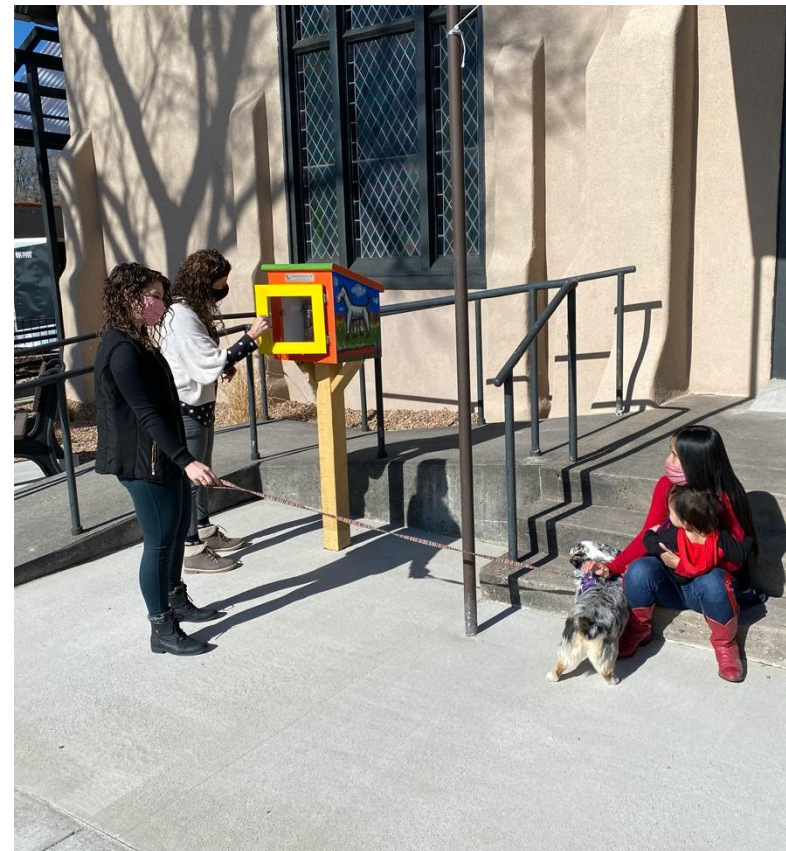
3.3.13	Major Retreat Fund Balance	6,630.00	7,486.00
3.4.71	JOT Accrual Balance	20,712.51	14,142.22
3.5.02	Mission Trip Accrual Balance	3,276.90	3,571.65
3.5.12	Coffee Project Fund Balance	(769.54)	396.73
3.7.03	Mustard Seed Accrual Balance	2,283.19	12,536.19
3.7.06	Pastor's Renewal Accrual Balance	4,400.00	5,600.00
3.8.01	Audio-Visual Fund Balance	0.00	(1,849.12)
3.8.03	Supplemental Music Accrual Balance	200.00	200.00
3.9.20	Samaritan House Meals Fund Balance	0.00	2,243.34
3.9.24	Deacons Accrual Balance	674.06	499.06
	Total Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	\$68,126.92	\$69,146.84
<i>Permanently Restricted Net Assets</i>			
3.8.00	Bunch Endowment Fund Balance	13,148.97	13,148.97
3.8.02	FUPC Endowment Fund Balance	4,906.79	4,906.79
3.8.04	Gerdeman Endowment Fund Balance	20,000.00	20,000.00
3.8.06	Shillinglaw Endowment Fund Balance	3,438.59	3,438.59
	Total Permanently Restricted Net Assets	\$41,494.35	\$41,494.35
3.0.02	Landscaping/Signage Designated Fund Balance	14,852.40	2,823.39
3.0.06	Chorale/Brass Sponsorship Designated Fund Balance	0.00	3,000.00
3.0.07	2020 Celebration Designated Fund Balance	3,344.63	6,643.06
3.0.11	A/V Equipment for Hybrid Worship Fund Balance	0.00	8,028.69
3.7.07	Pastor's Continuing Education Fund Balance	(564.40)	1,286.00
3.8.25	Bell Repair Accrual Balance	5,758.04	6,279.32
3.9.00	Net Fixed Asset Fund Balance	1,549,607.78	1,549,607.78
	Total Fund Balances	\$1,774,135.78	\$1,843,488.90
	Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$1,788,635.78</u>	<u>\$1,843,488.90</u>

2021 Narrative Budget Call to Action

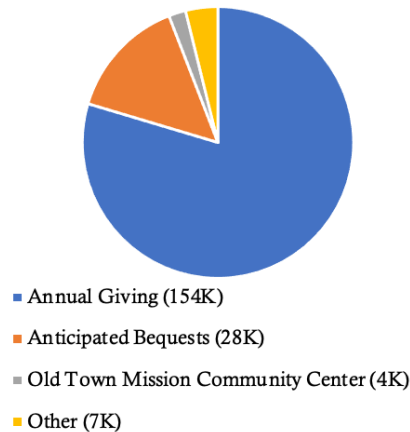
We are, indeed, a small congregation living a big mission. When we worship, **our faith grows**, our song is strong, our identity as God's family is lived. When we study, our questions are provocative. When **we seek justice**, our mission is inclusive and our compassion heartfelt. When we gather, our care is loving; our laughter is joyous; **our commitment to building community** is deep.

We also realize the reality of our ministries. To live a big mission demands financial stability. COVID has demanded we adopt new technology to remain connected and engage in thoughtful liturgies and sermons. Our justice-seeking demands monies to feed and clothe, to support programs that are making a difference, to provide the means for hands-on work. Our caregiving efforts require funds to support local organizations and to provide for those who come seeking help. Our commitment to community support requires generosity. And most basically, our ministries demand well-maintained buildings to share with our community and staff to organize and support our efforts. And so, you hold in your hands the budget through which we hope to accomplish so much in 2021.

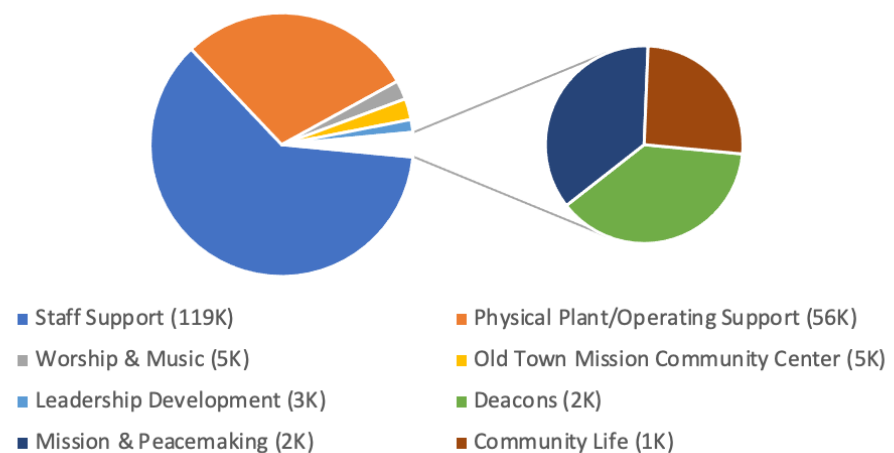
This year's budget is balanced. However, we remain dependent on your generous annual giving and planned bequests. While 2021 brings hope, uncertainty and financial insecurity due to the COVID pandemic continues to affect many among us. We ask you to prayerfully consider increasing your giving to ensure our long-term financial ability to grow faith, seek justice, and build community.



2021 INCOME \$193K



2021 EXPENSES \$193K



YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS SUPPORT

Growing Faith by

- providing spiritually engaging worship
- offering educational opportunities to learn more about our faith and our role in today's world
- engaging lay leaders in planning and leading worship
- lifting voices and hands in song
- living and giving intentionally
- gathering for renewal and visioning

Seeking Justice by

- building congregational vitality, eradicating systemic poverty, and dismantling structural racism as a PC(USA) Matthew 25 Church
- working for social justice in public policy as an ELCA (Lutheran) Advocacy Church
- striving to end world hunger and food insecurity through leading community engagement
- succoring victims of injustice through letter writing, education, and advocacy
- housing the Las Vegas Peace and Justice Center

Building Community by

- creating ways to meet, learn, work, and play at the Old Town Mission Community Center
- preparing meals for Samaritan House
- leading the Unity Orchard project
- awarding Mustard Seed grants
- hosting small group gatherings
- supporting local soup kitchens
- supporting PCUSA national offerings
- participating in Presbytery and Synod activities