

HELLO FUPC FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

In this mailing you'll find the bulletin for Sunday's worship service. Join us Sunday at 10:30 via zoom by going to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5739200081>, or by phone (312-626-6799). If you're joining by phone, enter meeting ID 573-920-0081. If you've not used zoom before, follow the instructions provided at the link.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST UNITED

Tuesday, July 19

8:30 a.m. - Coffee with Katie at Charlie's (Back-up plan: Traveler's)

5:30 p.m. – Officer Training in Perea Hall

Wednesday, July 20

5:30 p.m. – Time, Talent, and Treasure Committee via Zoom



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



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

July 13 2022

Dear FUPC Family and Friends,

Greetings! As I write this at 10:30 a.m. it's already 83 degrees outside, heading for a high of 91. I find myself questioning "the good old summertime" and wondering why the heat does not feel as insignificant as it did when I was a kid spending long summer days outside without a second thought. Part of the answer is, of course, that I'm not a kid anymore. But part of the answer is climate change. When we had our first house built in Colorado about 40 years ago, builders were not installing central air. That would be unthinkable now. Gone are the predictable summer afternoon showers in that part of the country. Gone are the labels "unusual" and "rare" for days when the temps climb into the 90s or higher. I have only been in New Mexico for a little over six years, but I get the feeling that what used to be unusual here is, perhaps, not so unusual any more. Our earth is suffering.

After celebrating all of creation last Sunday, this Sunday we will pay particular attention to the earth—noting her beauty, lamenting her pain, and looking at ways in which she might be healed. I leave you with a poem called "Letter to Someone Living Fifty Years from Now" by Matthew Olzmann and ask you to ponder what environmental legacy we as a faith community want to work for.

With thanks for all of you,
Pastor Katie

Letter to Someone Living Fifty Years from Now by Matthew Olzmann

Most likely, you think we hated the elephant,
the golden toad, the thylacine and all variations
of whale harpooned or hacked into extinction.

It must seem like we sought to leave you nothing
but benzene, mercury, the stomachs
of seagulls rippled with jet fuel and plastic.

You probably doubt that we were capable of joy,
but I assure you we were.

We still had the night sky back then,
and like our ancestors, we admired
its illuminated doodles
of scorpion outlines and upside-down ladles.

Absolutely, there were some forests left!
Absolutely, we still had some lakes!

I'm saying, it wasn't all lead paint and sulfur dioxide.
There were bees back then, and they pollinated
a euphoria of flowers so we might
contemplate the great mysteries and finally ask,
"Hey guys, what's transcendence?"

And then all the bees were dead.

From <https://poets.org/poem/letter-someone-living-fifty-years-now>



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 1000 Douglas Avenue, P.O. Box 37, Las Vegas, NM 87701
 July 17, 2022 10:30 a.m.

THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

MEDITATION – *The environment is where we all meet; where we all have a mutual interest; it is the one thing all of us share.* --Lady Bird Johnson

WE GATHER TOGETHER

WELCOME

Rev. Katie Palmer

PRELUDE

Em Krall

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Mary Schipper

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

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from *The Book of Common Worship* “Service for the Care of Creation”)

One: We give thanks to God for the goodness of the earth.

All: God made it and sustains it.

One: Our voices join in praise with all creation:

All: with the sea that roars, the trees that clap their hands, and the birds that sing in joy.

One: May we be united in God’s Spirit

All: and may we live in thanksgiving as we commit to guardianship of the earth.

One: Let us praise the Maker!

***OPENING HYMN** *Hallelujah! Sing Praise to Your Creator* (GTG #18)

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE AND MERCY

*We remember that, **before** we confess and no matter what we confess to God,
 we can be assured of God’s Love and Mercy*

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION (adapted from *The Book of Common Worship* “Service for the Care of Creation”)

Giver of life, in the midst of a plundered earth, we groan with creation. Have mercy on us.

Giver of life, in the midst of poisoned water, we groan with creation. Have mercy on us.

Giver of life, in the midst of polluted air, we groan with creation. Have mercy on us.

Giver of life, in the midst of mountains of waste, we groan with creation. Have mercy on us.

Giver of life, in the midst of rising seas, we groan with creation. Have mercy on us.

Giver of life, forgive us and make us agents of healing for the good of your creation. Amen.

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 1:9-13

God said, ‘Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.’ And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, ‘Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.’ And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

Exodus 3:1-5

Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, ‘I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.’ When the Lord saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, ‘Moses, Moses!’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ Then he said, ‘Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.’

MESSAGE

Earth Guardians

Rev. Katie Palmer

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION FOR THE EARTH (adapted from *The Book of Common Worship* “Service for the Care of Creation”)

All: Holy One, mother of all creation: Yours is the womb of all life. Yours is the fountain of living water. Yours is the voice that breaks down walls. Yours is the love that cannot be contained.

One: We give thanks for this earth, our partner in your service. Move us to hear your voice in the song of the sparrow, to see your face reflected in the river. Awaken us to your greatness through the winds of the storm, and the scent of your grace on the morning dew. Empower us to hear your prophets in the croaks of evening frogs, to read your gospel in the webs of writing spiders.

All: Yours is the womb of all life, O God. Yours is the fountain of living water. Yours is the voice that breaks down walls. Yours is the love that cannot be contained.

One: In your great mercy, you call us to care for your creation, to uphold one another, and to pray for your world. Hear our prayers for the healing of the earth... for clean water, that all may drink... For the right use of resources and the careful tending of the land and the seas... For the restoration of land scarred by fire and flood, by misuse and disrespect.

All: Yours is the womb of all life, O God. Yours is the fountain of living water. Yours is the voice that breaks down walls. Yours is the love that cannot be contained. Amen.

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

SUNG RESPONSE *Touch the Earth Lightly* (GTG #713)

WITH THANKS FOR GENEROUS GIVING

***DOXOLOGY**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

OPPORTUNITIES

WE GO FORTH IN GOD’S NAME

***CLOSING HYMN** *The Earth Belongs to God Alone* (GTG #715)

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**



OPPORTUNITIES

There will be a brief **Congregational Meeting BEFORE worship next Sunday**, July 24. Please plan to arrive at 10:20 to elect an officer to fill a vacancy on the Board of Deacons.

“Christmas in July” You may remember in summers past we have celebrated by giving generously to the Garden Well project. Mission and Peacemaking would like to invite all of you to join in this project once again this summer so together we can provide a nearby source of clean water for drinking, bathing, washing and irrigation for our neighbors. Our goal is to raise \$1,500 to cover the cost of an entire well. Thank you for our gifts this July-Christmas and in summer Christmases past!

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a member of our church family, there will be a **new members inquiry class** on Sunday, July 31, beginning after worship. Lunch will be served. Class will conclude no later than 4 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend **Evensong** this Sunday at 4:30 pm in the Sanctuary of the Methodist Church on 7th and National! You will hear familiar hymns, folk tunes, and some new songs. Feel free to come and listen and/or sing along with us. At Evensong we encourage audience participation. Singing together is one of the most powerful things we can do together as humans. Come and help us make a joyful noise together! The event is free. We will be taking donations at the door that will go to students in the music department at Highlands and missions of the church!

The Sunday Morning Bible-Based Class for Adults and Youth -- now hybrid from the church teleconferencing room upstairs -- is discussing the book *The Lost Sutras of Jesus: Unblocking the Ancient Wisdom of the Xian Monks* by Ray Riegert and Thomas Moore. The classes, led by John Arnold, are at 9 a.m. Zoom attendees should use the same link as for the Worship Service.

The book is available from Alibris new for as little as \$2.99 and used for as little as \$.99 plus shipping, used from AbeBooks for as little as \$2.50 to \$6.50 plus shipping, and new in paperback from Amazon for \$9.84 plus shipping or used for under \$6.00 including shipping. Paper Trail may be able to order a copy. Richard Lindeborg can have a copy delivered directly to you for no shipping charge.

The reading assignment for the July 24 session, is from Part II of *The Jesus Sutras*, introduction and the first four chapters – pp. 43- 70.

Samaritan House Food Donations – July – Soup (any kind). Coffee and Tea are always appreciated. Please drop your donations off at Samaritan House, 501 7th Street.

Prayers for the Church Family – Each week we choose some specific names to remind us to pray for each other and for those in our Presbytery. Please pray for Kathy Franken; Bud, Rebecca, Harper and Aurora Geng and Erin, Brett, Delilah, Athena and Soledad Gilland as well as Covenant Presbyterian Church, Albuquerque, NM (1955).

Assisting in Worship This Week

Preacher – Rev. Katie Palmer	Worship Leader – Mary Schipper
Director of Music - Karyl Lyne	Accompanist – Em Krall
Office Manager – Crystal Western Ford	Tech Crew – Karyl Lyne, D.R. Palmer, Tom Trigg

July Elder of the Month – Carol Litherland - 505-429-0293

July Deacon of the Month -- Juli Salman –505-429-0290

Church Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 9:00 a.m. – Noon

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