Weekday Studies & Ministries

Evening Prayer/Mindful Movement: Sun., 5-6:15pm, McFarland Chapel
Religion & Science: 1st/3rd Mon., 7-9pm, Pope Hall C
Prayer Shawl Ministry: 1st/3rd Tues., 9:30-11:30AM, Rendon Room
Environmental Ethics: Tues., Noon-1pm, Rendon Room
Fireside Chat with the Mystics: Tues., 5-6PM, Rendon Room
Presbyterian Women: 2nd Weds., 10AM, Volunteer Room
Bible Study: Fri., 11:30AM-12:30, Rendon Room
Journaling as a Spiritual Practice: December 20, 11:30AM, Pope Hall C (returns to last Friday schedule in Jan.)
Spanish Bible Study: Sat., 9-10AM, Volunteer Room
Men's Breakfast: 2nd Sat., 8-9AM, Pope Hall

Weekday Worship

Wednesday 7-7:30AM—Morning Prayer McFarland Chapel: contemplative, prayers, Book of Common Prayer
Wednesday 5:30-6PM—Celtic EvenSong, Sanctuary: Celtic songs & liturgy, communion, weekly themes:
  week 1—justice & peace, week 2—healing, week 3—creation care, week 4—welcome; week 5—commitment
This week on December 18, a special Celtic Service will include three singers from the Santa Fe Desert Chorale: Kathlene Ritch, Bradley Naylor, and Matthew Goinz. The service will include the Creation liturgy from the Iona Abbey Worship Book, Communion and Celtic Music sung by the Desert Chorale Trio and by the congregation. All are welcome to this service celebrating creation.

A light supper is served after EvenSong.

Be an ANGEL to a homeless teen. You still have time to select an Angel and put a smile on someone's face! Pick an angel from the Angel Giving Tree in the lobby. Lily Bair will be there to assist you. Bring your unwrapped gifts to the church by Wednesday, December 18. Youth Connection will wrap and deliver your gifts to the Youth Shelter and Family Services on Thursday, December 19. Make this a Merry Christmas for all in our community.

Acts II Adult Education
9:45-10:45AM in Pope Hall
Did you know that the birth of Jesus was not celebrated until the fourth century, and that the December date was chosen in good measure to absorb pagan mid-winter festivals loved by the public? Or that in the Middle Ages Christians attended Christmas services and then engaged in raucous celebrations? Or that Pilgrims in Boston outlawed the celebration of Christmas from 1659 to 1681? Or how Christmas came to be celebrated as it is today? The class will include an historical overview, and reflections on “the clear, bright blade of amazing grace” that lies at the core of our Christmas experiences, "amidst all forgettings, denials, and sheer clutterings,” as the theologian Joseph Sittler put it a generation ago.

Join in the All Church Christmas Caroling Party today after the 11:00 service. (Music and Itineraries provided)
12:00: Soup and Bread Lunch in Pope Hall
12:45-2:00: Carol for 2nd Family Friends
2:00-2:30: Carol at Genesis Care Facility (Casa Real)

Next Sunday: After the 11:00 service, help the youth make farolitos while waiting for Las Posadas, which should arrive here around 2:00pm.
Please stand, as you are able.

Into this world, this demented inn in which there is absolutely no room for him at all, Christ comes uninvited. — Thomas Merton

**GOD CALLS US**

**PRELUDE**  
*Chorale-Fantasie: Now Come the Savior of the Nations* by Nicolaus Bruhns

**WELCOME**  
*Lighting of the Advent Candle*  
Andy, Amparo, and Margo Wulf

> **INTROIT HYMN 87**  
*Comfort, Comfort Now My People* (verse 2)

> **CALL to WORSHIP**  
*bold in unison*  
For to us a child is born,  
to us a son is given;  
and the government will be upon his shoulder,  
and his name will be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

> **HYMN 100**  
*My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*

**OPENING PRAYER**  
*Please be seated*  
*bold in unison*  
Lord Jesus,  
Master of both the light and the darkness,  
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.

*written by*  
Fr. Henri J. M. Nouwen,  
*posted on Patheos*

We who have so much to do  
seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day.

We who are anxious over many things  
look forward to your coming among us.

We who are blessed in so many ways  
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.

We whose hearts are heavy  
seek the joy of your presence.

We are your people,  
walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.  
To you we say, “Come Lord Jesus!”

**RESPONSE HYMN 107**  
*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn* (verse 3)

**EXPRESSION of DEVOTION**  
*Recognition of New Members*

**RESPONSE HYMN 306**  
*Blest Be the Tie that Binds* (verse 1)

**ANTHEM**  
*Chancel Choir*  
*Lift Up Your Heads*  
by Andreas Hammerschmidt

**GOD RENEWS US**

**SCRIPTURE**  
Isaiah 35:1-10
The Youth and the Congregation exchange the following blessing:

In body, mind, and spirit, may you be well this day.
And may you be strong for the work of healing in the world.

And Sorrow and Sighing Shall Flee Away

Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts III

Light Dawns on a Weary World

We pray for people and places, silently or aloud, and respond together:
May they know the deep peace of Christ.

You are invited to come forward to light a prayer candle.

La plus lointaine étoile (The most distant star)

by Anthony Girard

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verse 7)

May your Spirit of generosity rest upon us, Caring God,
so that our giving does not end here,
but only begins to flow forth in a baptism of hope,
of grace,
of healing,
and of peace to all around us,
as well as those we may never meet.
In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

O Come, O Come Emmanuel (verse 7)

We welcome our visitors.
Dona nobis pacem, pacem. Dona nobis pacem.

Prepare the Way, O Zion

by J. S. Bach

Now Come the Savior of the Nations, BWV 661

by J. S. Bach

GOD SENDS US

WORSHIP COORDINATORS

Officiant: Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts III
Liturgist: Karin Lerew
Organist/Music Director: Linda Raney
Assistant Organist: David Solem
Assistant Choir Director: Travis Bregier
Associate Musician: David Beatty
Worship & Music: Paul Vogel
Ushers: Penney Poole & Alice Tinkle
Liturgists: Tom Kingston
Liturgical Arts: Karin Lerew
Communion: Malissa Haslam & Barbara Ivy
Outreach: Betty Jones

Serving Today
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The church's heat will be off for maintenance Friday, December 13, through Wednesday, December 18.

**Poinsettias for Christmas**
The Worship & Music Committee invite you to donate a poinsettia to brighten our Sanctuary for Christmas services and events. Donation forms are on the lobby table. Please place filled out forms and donations in the offering plate or in the Office Manager's mailbox. Thank you!

**Third Sunday Lunch** today at Café Sonder on Guadalupe St after the 11:00 service. We meet at the restaurant, order from the menu, and have separate checks. Reservations aren't necessary but a count is helpful to the venue. If you plan to go or have questions please contact Alice Tinkle at (505) 986-1741.

Our Live Generously commitment campaign is experiencing steady progress toward our 2020 pledge goal. We thank you again if you have already turned in your gift. As of Dec. 10, pledge commitments total $367,584 — 73.5% of our goal. If you have been too busy to complete your pledge card, we are going to make it easy for you. You will find pledge cards and envelopes on top of the Friendship Pads in the pews; you may complete your card and place it in the offering plate. Because of the generosity of many church members, we are well on our way to funding the ministry to which God has called us this year. Together we are able to achieve this goal, living generously to carry on God’s work in our community and the world.

With gratitude we wish you a Merry Christmas!
Your Stewardship Committee—
Diane Buchanan and Rick Andrew, Chairs
Mary Ann Amos, Roger Said, Barry Lyerly, Margaret Lyerly, and Bill Eklund

FPC will serve suppers at **Interfaith Shelter** on Jan. 19, 20, and 21. The shelter book is in the lobby with menus and ways you can support the suppers. Please sign up to work, bring food, or give a monetary donation. We can cook at the shelter again, so money to help pay for ingredients is appreciated; put "MSJ shelter" in the checks's memo line. Your support of the shelter and its guests is greatly appreciated. If you have questions, contact Nancy Peterson, 603-5645. Thank you.

Start the new year by becoming part of the **Welcome Desk Ministry**. Three-hour shifts on Monday and Thursday morning and Monday afternoon are available. Contact Delicia at frontdesk @ fpcsantafe.org.

**PRAYERS AND PRAISE**

Please notify the church office (office@fpcsantafe.org or 982.8544) to add or remove a name on our prayer list.

**We pray for:**
- Audrey Maehl, Henry Morello, Tom & Leah Paalman, Kay Roberts, Lori Tormey (Thomas and Alexander Shumaker's cousin), Dr. Ronald C. Shumaker (Thomas's father and Alexander's grandfather), Madeleine Wright, Jeannie H. Barrera (Lisa Barrera's mother), JoAnn Hays (Pauline Toevs' sister), Anton Brkic, Laurie Wisdom, Elisa Bowles (CDC teacher), Teresa Gomez (friend of Janis Gonzales), Chandler & Jenny (Susan & Al Clark's children), Erin Armstrong (friend of Janis Gonzales), Mary Melodie Schneider, David Ingalls, Susan Slotter, Marcella Ortiz, Sheldon Thompson, Jeff Baker, Brianna (Linda Trujillo's granddaughter), Jennifer Elliott.

And our ministry partners:
- Westminster Presbyterian,
- Cathedral Basilica of St. Francis, Episcopal Church of the Holy Faith, and Sagua la Grande Church—our brothers and sisters in Cuba.

Need resources to care for others? There are Caregiving Resource packets available in the lobby. They are filled with resources for caregivers, those needing assistance, those dealing with Alzheimer’s or Dementia issues, veterans information, services, and support groups.

**Parking:** Please observe the parking restrictions at the county parking garage and the "Convention Center Business Only" signs. Thank you.

**Earth Care Tidbit:** A sustainable product is one that meets the needs and aspirations of one generation without affecting the ability of future ones to meet their own needs and aspirations. World Commission on Environment & Development

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**MUSIC AND ART**

**TGIF Concert Series 11th Season:** Friday at 5:30pm
The Chancel Bell Choir plays its annual Christmas concert of seasonal music, both favorite and new, including a world premiere by our own David Beatty.

**Back Pew Gallery:** Visit our annual “Ornaments, Ornaments, Ornaments.” Come in and find those perfect ornaments for your tree. All proceeds go to the Interfaith Community Shelter here in Santa Fe.

Call for artists for our next show "Land of Enchantment". All mediums accepted. Have 1 to 3 pieces ready for display. Art will be taken in on Sunday, January 5 from 8:30 to 11:00. No late entries accepted. Questions? Call Carol Fallis 670.9250 or Barb Hutchison 982.0684