

# La Epístola

Advent 2016 / Vol 47, No 5

## The 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration Continues

*from the 150<sup>th</sup> Task Force*

A grand celebration week to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organization of First Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe, the oldest continuing protestant church in New Mexico and Arizona (formerly New Mexico territory), is fast approaching and special events are in the final planning stage. Highlight of the week, January 6 through January 15, is the festive anniversary banquet at the La Fonda, Saturday evening, January 14, and a special worship service on Sunday, January 15.

We are extremely honored to have denominational leaders planning to be present and participating. They include Tony De La Rosa, Interim Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency, the Reverend Jan Edmiston, Co-Moderator of the 222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly, the highest elective office in the Presbyterian Church (USA), and Susan Jackson-Dowd, Executive Director of Presbyterian Women.

Special arrangements have been made with the La Fonda for room rates of \$99 the nights of January 13 and 14. As they are identified with your help, persons who grew up in the church,

past members, and members who live elsewhere have been invited. If you know of someone we should invite, e-mail or call Krista at office@fpcsantafe.org or 982.8544 x10.

Among the events scheduled leading up to the celebration dinner and Sunday services:

- **Sunday, November 13:**

During the 9:45 church school hour, Andy Wulf, church member and Director of the New Mexico History Museum, will speak of the historical significance of the Palace of the Governors to both Santa Fe and First Presbyterian Church. The first worship services of the church in 1866 were held in the Council Chambers of the Palace.

- **Sunday, November 20:** We'll go back and have a taste of worship 100 years ago, when Ray Kersting delivers a sermon his grandfather the Rev. William Hayes Moore wrote while pastor of the church from 1897 to 1904. In keeping with the first worship service of the church in 1866, our service



*The Reverend Jan Edmiston, Co-Moderator of the 222<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly (2016) and Ruling Elder Tony De La Rosa, Interim Executive Director, Presbyterian Mission Agency*

will be at 10½ o'clock (10:30AM). Following the service we'll walk to the Palace of the Governors to see the plaque commemorating that first service in the Palace followed by a reception at the museum.

- **Sunday, December 11:** We'll celebrate the opening of the school begun by the Rev. David McFarland, founding missionary pastor of the church, with 10 children on December 10, 1866. Jill McCormick has a special presentation planned.
- **January 6 and 13, 2017:** Special TGIF programs featuring music composed especially for the celebration. Programs are at 5:30PM each Friday.

# Dear Theophilus,

“Fundraising is, first and foremost, a form of ministry. It is a way of announcing our vision and inviting other people into our mission. Vision and mission are so central to the life of God’s people that without vision we perish and without mission we lose our way.”

These words do not come from some stewardship manual but from Henri Nouwen, one of the spiritual giants of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. As we approach a time of stewardship and pledging for the coming year it would be good to remember these words and also be reminded of our own vision and mission. So I lay before you a biography of our vision and mission since my arrival almost five years ago.

Along with over 26 years of pastoral experience I brought with me three ideas that proved very effective in my Ohio Church, carved out of necessity in being Church in a rapidly changing world. “Do your passion. Do what gives you energy. Be what God has given you.” It was freeing. People responded. The old committee structure gave way to small groups, teams, innovative initiatives to address societal issues, and spiritual practices replacing programs. Burnout was nearly eliminated and participation increased. We became Church and enjoyed being together. This did not happen overnight but took years to develop.

When I arrived I held close to the findings of *Discerning God’s Future for First Presbyterian Church Santa Fe*, the document this church worked on prior to my coming as it looked to its future ministry. *Ministry to and with Young Families and Youth, Diversity, Hospitality, and Spiritual and Pastoral Care* were the four goals identified and they became, in effect, my job description and a foundation for our vision and mission. Session attempted to bring this into focus with a more fluid and memorable statement but after several starts and stops we put it on hold.

In order to help us continue this process, I looked to my Spiritual Direction experience and applied its four movements to the congregation’s life and rhythm. In 2014 we spent a year with **Reconnecting** to God, our world, community, and church. In 2015 we gave our energies to **Rediscovering** Jesus, his life, message, and ministry. This year we are **Remembering** who we are through the great stories of God as well as Re-Membering ourselves into this congregation. Next year is our time of **Renewal**. It was hoped that this exercise in spiritual direction might help to bring our vision into clearer focus.

Enter our tagline and logo. Through the dedication and hard work of members of the Communications Committee, and working with a local company called BadDog Design, we came up with the phrase **Behold, Be Still, Become**, words taken from scripture and carefully selected to point to God, not us. This phrase now accompanies our new logo featuring a colorful rendition of the front of our sanctuary. I spent the entire summer of 2015 preaching on each part using multiple scriptural sources. I have spent three Sundays of our stewardship season talking about what they might mean to us today and am including a fourth, Blessed Church, as we contemplate supporting our ministry in the coming year, anticipating our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year as a time of **Renewal**.

Finally, a Session task force expanded the definitions of each part of the phrase which now graces our bulletin, website, letterhead, and every other document we produce. This is our vision and mission. This is our statement to describe what we believe God is calling us to be and do, here and now. We are reminded, however, that no one statement is ever complete. It is never all there is to say because God is greater than any words or attempts to capture God’s dreams for us.

As I remind us of our vision this day, brought forth by our congregation through years of discernment, I invite you into our mission, to support and give generously to our many ministries, participate in our faith practices, engage in our outreach, and find joy in our being together: “**Behold** a transforming God who invites us to a joyous way of being, a bolder way of believing, a deeper way of seeing. **Be Still** and take time to focus on the spiritual, restore your energy, experience God’s word in scripture, music and art. **Become** followers of Jesus who are open to God’s Spirit, trusting, welcoming, caring for one another, passionate about including everyone, confronting injustice, and healing the world.”

*Pastor Harry Eberts*

# Celtic EvenSong

Wednesday evenings  
5:30PM in the Sanctuary

In a time when attendance at worship is lower across the country, why have one more? It is simple: because we need to do it, especially during midweek to experience a time of respite, a pause in our busy lives, a chance to respond to the crises and issues of our day, to experience God's Shalom in a shattering world.

So come any given Wednesday at 5:30PM in the sanctuary for a time of quiet with the sun's fading light still coming through the windows. Come to sing beautiful Celtic songs and pray the prayers of Iona. Come to experience communion around the

baptismal font. Come and welcome new people into our church (up to half of our attendance thus far have been people from the community or visiting Santa Fe). Come and experience a different theme each week: Justice and Peace the first Wednesday of the month, Healing on the second, Creation Care on the third, Hospitality on the fourth, and on those rare fifth Wednesdays our worship will center on Commitment. Come and have the opportunity to be liturgist, as a musician to play along with Linda Raney, to welcome people into our sanctuary, or provide light refreshments following the service in Pope Hall. Come and join in on several committees who meet Wednesday evenings following the fellowship meal.

Come because Christ has invited us to come. Celtic EvenSong—**Refresh, Renew, Restore.**



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
*of Santa Fe*

*Behold. Be still. Become.*

208 Grant Avenue  
Santa Fe, NM 87501  
505.982.8544  
fpcsantafe.org

### Pastor

Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts III

### Session

Rie Clark	Richard Lindahl
Bill Eklund	Margaret Lyerly
Karen Finney	Jim Martin
Janis Gonzales	Tom Paalman
Judi Haines	Dennis Sanderson
Steve Kinnett	Jim Smock
	Gale Wright

### Deacons

Mary Black  
Darryl Bowman  
Sharon Eklund  
Art Hansen  
Kathy Hansen  
Barbara Hutchison  
Arlena Jackson  
Dorothy Karayanis  
Paul Kincaid  
Donna Krulitz  
Rose Mott  
Tom Mott  
Patti Poitras  
Alice Tinkle  
Dawn Wink  
W Grant Wright  
Madeleine Wright



Wednesdays present two opportunities for renewal—Morning Prayer (top) at 7:00AM in McFarland Chapel and the new Celtic EvenSong (bottom) at 5:30PM in the Sanctuary.

## In Memoriam

The **Reverend William McDermott (Bill) Stark Jr.** was born in St. Louis, Missouri, March 17, 1936, and died August 24, 2016, at home in Santa Fe, with his daughters at his side. He died after a swift decline from metastatic cancer. He is survived by daughters Marg of Coronado, California; Cate of Kansas City, Missouri; sons-in-law Duke and Brian; grandsons Patrick, Liam, Taylor, and Spencer; as well as sister Jenny Womble of New Port Richey, Florida.

A retired Presbyterian pastor, Bill served multi-racial congregations in Detroit, Indianapolis, Kansas City, New York City, and concluded his career with an interim in Baltimore. Bill was a graduate of Northwestern University, McCormick Seminary, and later received his doctorate from Louisville Theological Seminary.

Active in civil rights, peace, and social justice advocacy throughout his life, Bill was one of the ministers who marched with Martin Luther King Jr at the 1963 March on Washington and he served as a bus captain for those who traveled from the Midwest to the tense 1965 Selma to Montgomery March. His specialty in ministry was bringing diverse people together in vibrant congregations focused on social justice.

We also remember all the other relatives and friends who have recently left us, including Barbara Roush's husband **Nic Walker**.

**We miss you!**

# Worship & Music

## Reflections on the Requiem for All Saints

This year for the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary music of the church's composers will be featured at many of our festival services. Look forward to hearing works by David Beatty, Greg Schneider and Linda Rice Beck. The congregation is blessed by having so many talented musicians, composers as well as singers and instrumentalists.

As Linda Beck reflects on her piece for All Saints, she says "We have all lost beloved friends and family, and music gives me great comfort when dealing with such losses. My Requiem is a simple and personal journey—an expression of my belief that God is with us in life, in death, and forever. I have always been particularly touched by the Latin texts of the requiem mass, and some of my favorite choral music is from various requiems (especially Fauré and Mozart). Mine is a seven-movement work which was written over several years. It is full of symbolism, and there is meaning behind the melodies and harmonic lines. I tried to express the imagery and beauty of the ancient Latin texts, giving each movement its own character inspired by these profound words. As the chorus embodies the spirit of the piece, the instruments weave their musical colors into its texture. This Requiem is my way of acknowledging God's infinite love for us all. It is my deepest hope that those who have lost loved

ones, and those who suffer desolation and despair in the dark places of the soul, will be comforted."

For the requiem on All Saints, Tim Willson, baritone, Nancy Maret, soprano, and Kehar Joanna Koslowsky, mezzo, sang solos and Rebecca Heindel, flute, and Jim Toevs, trumpet, played in the instrumental ensemble that accompanied the singers. They were joined by Dana Winograd, cello, and Elaine Heltman, oboe.

Michael Roybal shares the following about singing this year: "The hard work that goes into singing any requiem is gratifying. When we sing a requiem for service or for TGIF and I see the people that love the music and feel the heartfelt performance and hard work that goes into these pieces it gives me a sense of worth as well as a connection to the arts that even as we age we get to not only contribute to but to be a viable part of. This is all about being part of the community in which we live and cherish. Singing any piece written by one of our own just makes it that much better. And then a requiem by our own Linda Beck. It doesn't get any greater or more meaningful than this. If someone was to say, 'this is as good as it gets,' I would say thank you, Lord, for this blessed life of music ministry that I am part of."

As part of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Requiem will be sung again at the Friday concert on January 13, 2017.

# Lessons and Carols

*Walking in the Dark* inspired by the writings of Barbara Brown Taylor is the theme of the celebration of Lessons and Carols for Sunday, December 18. In addition to the thoughts of Dr. Taylor the choir will sing *Seek him that maketh the seven stars* by Jonathan Dove based on Amos 5:8 and Psalm 139:

*Seek him that maketh the seven stars and Orion and turneth the shadow of death into the morning. Alleluia, yea, the darkness shineth as the day, the night is light about me. Amen.*

The service will conclude with Gerald Finzi's inspiring work *In terra pax* that combines poetry by Robert Bridge from *Noel: Christmas Eve, 1913*. Peace and goodwill to all and Luke 2:8-14 the angels appear to the shepherds. Finzi reflects that *"the Nativity becomes a vision seen by a wanderer on a dark and frosty Christmas Eve in our own familiar landscape."*

Join us in reflecting on the mysteries of Advent and Christmas.

## Poinsettias

Beginning the first week in November, there is a signup sheet on the lobby table for those who want to purchase poinsettias for Advent/Christmas to honor or in memory of someone in your life. Let's fill the Sanctuary with the beauty of these flowers. You may choose from an array of colors. Flowers may be picked up after the 10 o'clock service Christmas Eve, or left to be distributed to our homebound and others who may not be able to attend services. See Jeannie Bowman, Worship and Music Committee Chair, for your questions.

## Communion

You have likely noticed that we are now experiencing Communion in a different way. It has come to the attention of the Worship and Music Committee that some are concerned about the sanitary issues associated with the practice of intinction (dipping bread into the juice). We will continue to use individual cups and gluten-free bread, so as to include everyone. As we come to the table to share in our Lord's Supper, may we do so knowing that we are all welcomed and loved in this community of faith.

We encourage your comments and impressions as we seek to discover what enhances the worship of all who come through our doors. You may speak with any of the committee: Pastor Harry, Elder Steve Kinnett, Communion co-chairs Malissa Haslam and Jane Stringfellow, Music Director Linda Raney, Youth and Children Director Jill McCormick, Liturgical Arts Chair Leah Paalman, Usher Captain James Smock, Past Chair Chris Haynes, Member-at-large Janice Mayer and Committee Chair Jeannie Bowman.

## Advent Calendars

The Advent Calendars detailing all the special services, music and activities for the Christmas season will be available beginning Sunday, November 20.



# Fall Greetings from the *Presbyterian Women*



The PW Bible Study is off to a good start. There's still time to join us if you wish (contact Jean Ball or Helen Sutton). Next meeting is Friday, November 21, at 1:30PM as we discuss Jesus through the eyes of Matthew. We meet on the third floor of the church.

The Presbyterian Women invite all the congregation to participate in the following events.

## **November 20: Thank Offering**

Since 1888 PW have been sharing their blessings with those in need at home and around the world through our Thank Offering. These offerings provide education, safe housing, clean water, health care, help for prisoners, justice for women and many other projects. Giving envelopes will be available in the pews the remaining Sundays in November.

## **December 4:**

### **Alternative Christmas Market**

This churchwide activity has been helping support charitable/mission related groups since 1993. At the same time it offers participants the opportunity to shop for lovely gifts or to honor someone with a donation to his/her favorite charity or mission project. Local handmade gifts and gifts from other countries are also offered. The popular "food table" with homemade sweets and goodies sponsored by PW is a must stop. All proceeds go to the specific charity or mission project involved. If you belong to a nonprofit organization/group or mission project or are an interested individual and would like to participate please contact Jean Ball and complete a form; forms will be available in the church lobby during the month of November.

## Gatherings Especially for Women

For more information on these events, contact Charlotte Whitcomb at whitcombcharlotte@gmail.com.

**Circle of Friends** met in September at the lovely home (and garden) of Janis Gonzales, and sought a direction for our gatherings this fall. This is a group open to any woman who wants to connect with other women in the church. We meet every second Saturday morning at 10:00AM in various homes for an informal gathering to discuss topics of interest and share ourselves, as we seek to enrich our spiritual lives together.

This fall we will reflect on various questions posed from a book *Living Brave, Women, Stories and Pathways to Thriving*, written by Hilda Villaverde. In January the group discussions will be guided by the book *The Cup of Our Life* by Joyce Ruff.

### **Women's Retreat 2017:**

Anticipation continues to build for a church wide retreat for women led by United Church of Christ minister Laura A. Loving. Originally planned as an Epiphany Retreat the greater wisdom has been to hold out for warmer days and better weather allowing for more participation. As dates are finalized they will be published in the church bulletin and on the website so you can mark your calendars!

## Alternative Christmas Market

Sunday  
December 4  
9:00 AM  
to  
1:00 PM

			<b>Handmade Crafts</b>
			<b>Nonprofit Organizations</b>
			<b>Baked Goods</b>
			<b>Fair Trade Items</b>

Good gifts  
and  
gifts for good



*Missing?  
Prefer not to be listed?  
Contact the church office.*

## November

- 1 René Harris
- 2 JR Martinez
- 3 Bill Jackson
- 4 Diane Buchanan
- 5 Peggy Ater
- 6 Jane Stringfellow
- 7 Julia Hudson
- 8 Tim Vellinga
- 10 Noé Villarreal
- 11 Jim Moore
- 12 Judy Crawford  
Robert Watson
- 13 Brian Ortiz
- 15 Anne Liley
- 16 Jennifer Elliott  
David Mason
- 18 Caroline Doyle
- 19 Annabella Flores  
Lelah Larson  
Barry Lyerly
- 20 Ann Rowe
- 21 Jeannie Bowman
- 22 Esther Milnes  
Nicole Phelps  
Eva Roberts
- 23 Susie Mercer
- 26 Janis Chitwood  
Andrew Wilder
- 28 Guinnevere Phelps

## December

- 1 Sara Romer
- 2 Tom Paalman  
Roger Prucino  
Doug Sieck  
Martha Wood
- 3 Hutch Hutchison
- 10 Mary Larson
- 11 Sarah Miller
- 13 Djohariah Toor  
M'Lea Walsh
- 14 Leslie Calabrese
- 15 Jacob Allen  
Sharon Eklund  
Andy Smith  
Bernie van der Hoeven
- 16 Jean Withers
- 17 Juanita Thorne-Connerty
- 18 Amy Gross  
Rebecca Hodges  
John Ruybalid
- 19 Mayzie Sultan
- 23 Richard Crawford  
Mary Ann Lundy
- 24 Margaret Lyerly  
Jenny Vellinga
- 26 Roger Copple  
Plato Karayanis
- 27 Mary Wright
- 29 Pam Najdowski
- 30 Shirlee Davidson
- 31 Linda Beck  
Mary Anne Fowlkes

## January

- 2 Owen Van Essen
- 3 Al Hill  
Harold Lerew
- 4 Richard Haber  
Larry Haslam  
Helen Sutton
- 5 Bill Amorous
- 7 Elizabeth Roghair  
David Stevens
- 9 Jim Finney  
Betty Jones
- 10 Julianne Jones Sherman
- 12 Pauline Toevs
- 13 Nat Dean
- 16 Patricia Copple
- 17 Alan Hook
- 21 Connie Austin  
Ken Bateman
- 23 Robert Carr
- 24 Jan Hoover  
Jan Worden-Lackey
- 25 Cora Bixby  
Gwen Eberts  
Leah Paalman
- 27 Laverta Moore
- 28 Franny Anderson  
Barbara Gay
- 29 Bruce Rolstad
- 30 Janet McKay  
Jim Roghair  
Barbara Strange



**A Lovely Luncheon:** *On October 24 we held a luncheon in honor of our treasured members who have reached the age of 90. Organized by Mary Black and the Deacons, this has become a yearly event with a fun theme each year.*

# Mission and Social Justice

## A Visit to Cuba and Our Sister Church

by Bill Eklund

On September 21, Sharon, Howard Webster and I travelled to Cuba for 10 days. Our group consisted of ourselves and 12 other Presbyterians from the Albuquerque area, led by Susan Keil Smith, a seasoned Cuba traveller and cousin of our Jean Ball.

We visited six *Presbiteriano* sites along the north central coast of Cuba. We travelled in the Central Presbytery's colorful "pastorsforpeace.com" bus, a remarkable donation from someone in the US that brought us stares everywhere we went.

Today there are modern air-conditioned buses toting tourists along the Cuban highway. But our bus was an old, uncooled school bus painted in 1960s "hippy" style. But as we came to appreciate, travelling in that bus at 55 mph, with all the windows wide open, was one of the

only ways to keep reasonably cool in the hot and humid Cuban climate.

Our first couple of nights were spent at the flagship First Presbyterian Reformed Church of Havana. The church is an architectural marvel that would be right at home in any city in the eastern US. While it was once surrounded by stately Spanish colonial homes and businesses, today it stands alone in a sea of narrow, crowded streets and buildings that have seen much better days.

Pastor Hector Menendez and his wife and staff treated us like royalty, with marvelous food at every meal and tours and lectures on the history and status of the Presbyterian Church in Cuba. Sadly, Hector and his wife will soon retire after 26 years of service as Pastor of the Church. They plan to move to Miami to be close to their adult daughters.



*First Presbyterian  
Reformed Church of Havana*

plus acre hilltop site, complete with its own dormitories and vegetable farm, and overlooks the city and bay of Matanzas. Yet, strangely enough, it does not have even a sign announcing its existence to visitor—a lingering remnant of the Cuban government's policy of encouraging only the private practice of religion.

From Matanzas our bus took us to our sister church at Sagua la Grande, about 150 miles to the east along the north Cuban coastline. Along the way we dropped off others of our group at churches in the villages of San Nicolas and Caibarien.

In Sagua la Grande the three of us were left on our own with our hosts for several days. We attended their Sunday service, visited with their regular group of seniors from the surrounding neighborhood, and generally hung out.



*Pastors for Peace bus*

We next went to the coastal city of Matanzas to visit the famous *Seminario Evangélico de Teología*, which today serves the Presbyterian, Methodist and Episcopal churches in Cuba. The seminary campus occupies a beautiful five

Much of our time was spent in the church kitchen, getting to know Pastor Dalia Valdes and her staff and congregation. With our broken Spanish and the patience of Dalia and a couple of her Session Elders who speak some English, we did just fine and had a great time. They have fond memories of First Presbyterian visitors from years past, showing us photos and telling stories. Especially memorable were the trips that some of them took to Santa Fe. Elder and nurse Ms. Caridad C. Mesa, who had never seen real mountains, remembers with excitement the “scary” winding drive to Los Alamos with Alice Tinkle! (Most members of the congregation do not own cars. Pastor Dalia has a Russian Lada at least 30 years old.)

Their church occupies a large, old colonial residence that once belonged to a Spanish military officer, who high-tailed it home to Spain after the Spanish-American War was lost to America in 1898. That loss left Cuba ostensibly independent; but, in reality, Cuba was heavily influenced by occupying US forces, who remained for years to facilitate extensive US business investments in Cuban sugar mills, railroads, utilities and commercial facilities. While Cuba’s economy thrived during the first half of the 20th century, it has deteriorated since the revolution of 1958, with vast numbers of urban and commercial buildings falling into decay. Today the old colonial building has been partially restored and contains a beautiful sanctuary, courtesy of the Armbruster family and others at FPC.

Your gifts of clothing and other items were immensely appreciated. Times are tough for ordinary Cubans, with first Russia terminating its economic support some years ago, and now Venezuela increasingly unable to

## Mission 101

In recent years, Presbyterian World Mission conducted an in-depth survey of mission leaders across the denomination and heard both hopes and concerns for how our church might increase the faithfulness and effectiveness with which we engage together in God’s mission. Three critical global initiatives were identified. They are

- Address the root causes of global poverty especially as it impacts women and children.
- Share the good news of God’s love in Jesus Christ together with other members of Christ’s body.
- Work for reconciliation amidst cultures of violence including our own.

As your Mission and Social Justice Committee works together to establish goals and budgets for the coming year, we keep these challenges in mind. We strive to find ways to address these initiatives and others locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally. We ask for your prayers and for those serving Presbyterian Mission worldwide.

provide financial assistance. The pain is borne by ordinary Cubans in the form of water and electrical outages, limited food distribution, and generally neglected roads and public facilities at all levels.

As a result the congregation at Sagua la Grande greatly values its relationship with our church. This is virtually the only contact that most

of the congregation has ever had with Americans. We discussed plans for continuing communications. Also, our partnership agreement with the Church needs to be renewed, which will provide a foundation for ongoing relationships in the coming years. The congregation sends their greetings and blessings, and will be praying for us.



Services at Sagua

# Getting to Know the Unknown

Four Presbyterian “church ladies” were fortunate enough to take part in the School of the Americas (SOA) Watch *Encuentro at the Border*: Judy Crawford, Betty Kersting, Liz Hinds, along with Barbara Medina from Westminster. This border convergence took place October 7 to 10 in Nogales, both on the Arizona and Mexico sides.

“Over the past 26 years, SOA Watch has grown from a handful of people into one of the most dynamic multigenerational, cross-continental movements against militarization in the Americas. Thousands have been educated and mobilized to take a stand against US policies and to engage in nonviolent direct action. The militarization of the border means the expansion of US military strategies across the Americas. To speak of the border means naming the root causes of migration, as well as policies that criminalize and



*Families visiting through the wall*

exploit communities of color inside and outside the United States.”

Here is a brief description of events we attended.

At the vigil at the Eloy, Arizona, Immigrant Detention Center on October 7 at 5:00PM there was a dramatization of immigrants being caught by ICE and harshly taken to detention; stories of untreated medical conditions while in detention, including loss of a baby; prayer and music; and pleas for release of some detainees, i.e., prisoners.

That day we also viewed the Migrant Quilt Project at the University of Arizona. These beautiful, intricate quilts were made to memorialize *Los Desconocidos* with names of the migrants who had died in the desert of the Tucson Sector and others whose names were unknown made

to memorialize these people. Some of the quilters spoke about humanizing the dead migrants in this way. The project was founded by Jody Ipsen, a border activist, to recognize the nearly 3000 migrants who have died in the Tucson Sector since 2000. Each quilt documents deaths from October 1 to September 30 in a specific year. First Presbyterian has volunteered to create a quilt for the year 2000–2001. We will need lots of help with this and we’ll let you know when we receive the names and some materials. There will be a discussion about the quilt project on December 8 at the downtown library.

October 8 we participated in the walk led by Veterans for Peace, to the border wall in Nogales, Arizona. There were 750–1000 “walkers” some of whom crossed to the Mexican side. On the US side we spoke with family members visiting together on opposite sides of the fence.



*Judy Crawford by one of the memorial quilts for Los Desconocidos.*

That afternoon we attended several eye-opening workshops:

- “Empire of Prisons: How the US is spreading mass incarceration in Mexico”
- “From Palestine to the US/Mexico Border: Border Militarization Practices”
- “Guatemalan Women Heading Toward Justice: the Case of Sepur Marco”
- “Border Communities Struggle Against Militarization”

These are only a few of the many workshops offered—amazing and shocking information that could actually make up a year-long college course.

On Sunday, October 9, Southside Presbyterian Church in Tucson “celebrated” Migrant Sunday. Rick Ufford-Chase, a past moderator of the PC(USA) General Assembly gave the inspiring sermon *A Foreigner’s Faith*. A table held small rocks with the names of the migrants, including *Los Desconocidos*, who had died in the Sonoran Desert this year, along with candles. Under the table were gallon jugs of life-saving water, which would later be placed in the desert by groups like the Samaritans and No More Deaths. At the end of the service we all chose a rock to place prayerfully



Placing rocks with migrants’ names

on the Migrant Shrine in the patio. This church, with the Rev. John Fife, ignited the Sanctuary Movement in the 80s and is very committed to this area of Social Justice.

That evening the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship celebrated the Rev. Gene LeFebvre as the 2016 recipient of the Anne Barstow and Tom Driver Award for Excellence in Nonviolent Direct Action in Retirement. He is a founder of No More Deaths” which our Mission and Social Justice Committee supports. We also support border ministries through Frontera de Cristo and through the purchase of Just Coffee by members and for use in the church coffeemakers.

The four of us are even more aware of our border issues and will support justice in any way possible, beginning with the creation of the quilt.



The walk along the wall

## Volunteer Here

### **Fridays with First at the Shelter:**

Come join us Fridays at the Interfaith Community Shelter, 2801 Cerrillos Road, preparing lunch for our homeless neighbors. From 8:30 to 10:30 help prep the food and from 10:30 to 12:30 serve the guests. The shelter can also use your help on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

The **Community Closet** at the Interfaith Shelter is always in need of new men’s and women’s socks and underwear. You can put donations in the Coat Closet, and they will be delivered to the shelter.

**Happy Habitat Helpers:** Join us on Thursday, November 17, from 8:30AM to 4:30PM to work on a Habitat house in Oshara Village. Contact Krista Peterson or Jenny Vellinga for more information.

**Interfaith Tutoring** is currently looking for people interested in volunteering to tutor beginning algebra or geometry at Santa Fe High School. We are also looking for tutors for English as a Second Language. This is a way to use your talents to make a difference in the success of individual students. Once you’ve registered with the public schools, you’ll be teamed with a teacher and tutor one period a week (or more, if you’d like.)

If you are interested and want more information, your contact person is Lynn Heffron lgheffron@gmail.com. If you’d like more information on what it’s like to tutor, call Carolyn Stupin 983.1481 or e-mail cstupin@yahoo.com.

# The Seed That Prospered

Our church became the first permanent Presbyterian work in the New Mexico Territory, coming after other failed Protestant efforts. With the US occupation of New Mexico in 1846, Protestant denominations found new mission fields to sow within the continental United States. In next ten years, Baptists, Methodists, and Presbyterians sent missionaries to establish churches and schools in the territory. These efforts mostly failed, including the first Presbyterian minister, Rev. William Kephart, sent in 1849. Most denominations abandoned their efforts during the Civil War.

After the war, the Presbyterian Board of Domestic Missions began to send missionaries west to establish new Presbyterian churches and preserve existing churches. The Board foresaw population growth in the West driven by the building of the transcontinental railroad, the influx of immigrants, migration from the South, and the lust after precious metals.

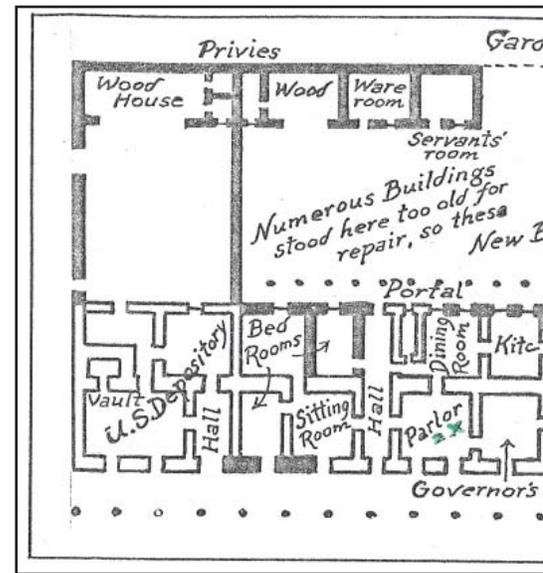
On November 22, 1866, Rev. David F. McFarland stepped off the stagecoach in

Santa Fe. He had been commissioned by the Board, traveled by train to Missouri and then rode the stage coach for 900 miles over two-and-a-half weeks. He found Santa Fe made up of mostly adobe houses with no paved walks or streets. The old Palace of the Governors was occupied by the appointed territorial government. In the center of town, near the Governor's Palace were army headquarters, army corrals, barracks, a hospital, and saloons.

Rev. McFarland spent the Friday and Saturday after his arrival calling on prominent men in town. On Sunday, November 25, he held services in the council chamber of the old governor's palace and held Sunday School in the afternoon.

With a strong belief in education, he was distressed at seeing children running around the streets with no school to attend, so within three weeks of his arrival, he opened a school with ten pupils. On the second Sunday that Rev. McFarland preached, Mrs. A.J. Alexander, the wife of an army officer attended. She then wrote to her mother, Mrs. Cornelia Martin about the little church and the need for education in New Mexico.

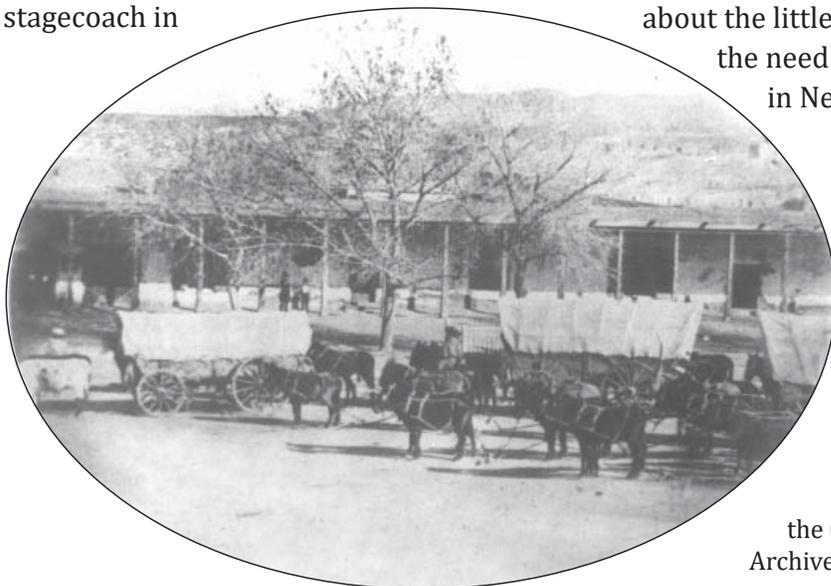
*Palace of the Governors in the 1860s, where the first worship service was held and the church was organized in 1867. Courtesy of the Palace of the Governors Photo Archives (NMHM/DCA).*

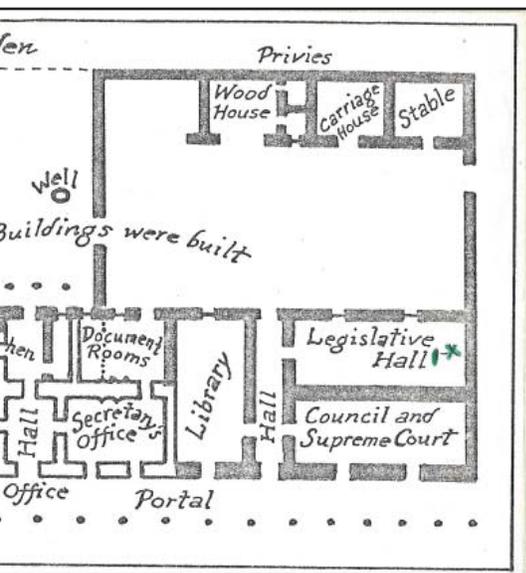


*Floor plan of the Palace of the Governors, organized and the Legislative room v*  
Source: Centennial Scrapbook Vol. 2, First

On January 6, 1867, with a petition signed by 12 persons, McFarland officially organized the church in the Council Chamber in the Palace of the Governors. A plaque inside the Palace dedicated on January 6, 1967, celebrates this historic event. In March 1867, Rev. McFarland arranged for the purchase of an old adobe church abandoned by the Baptists. Rev. McFarland's wife, Amanda, who had been staying with relatives and raising funds for the new church during the winter, joined him in May 1867. The only woman passenger, she rode in a three-seated stagecoach, sitting upright for 13 days of continuous travel. She wrote in her journal, "There were a good many privations... Twice we were surrounded by Indians and once we expected to be killed. But I didn't believe the Lord would call us to go to the field and forsake us in the wilderness."

Upon her arrival, Mrs. McFarland took on teaching duties at the school and the care of many of its pupils, some of whom lived in their home. Then in June 1867, Rev. McFarland





showing the Parlor where the church was where the first communion was held. Santa Fe Presbyterian Church Santa Fe Archives.

answered a letter from Mrs. Cornelia Martin, who offered assistance from the Auburn Female Bible Society in the form of Bibles. However, because of the illiteracy of the people, Rev. McFarland requested that, instead, her group assist by employing a "Christian lady to teach a free school in Santa Fe."

After receipt of this letter, the Auburn women, assisted by other women in New York state, formed an organization known as the Santa Fe Mission Association and offered to raise \$500 a year for a teacher's salary. Miss Charity Ann Gaston was found as teacher. She joined the McFarlands in 1867 and began her work by assisting with the school held in the McFarlands' home and soon afterwards continued teaching in the dreary old church building with a wood stove that would regularly belch heavy smoke into the room.

In February 1868, Mrs. McFarland gave birth to their only natural child, Harry Fulton McFarland, who died of cholera seven months later. His grave is one of the oldest in Santa Fe's Fairview Cemetery.

Mrs. McFarland, a courageous and industrious woman, continued to work with her husband on the school and church. She wished to set up a school for American girls, and after some difficulty found a place for it in a rented room on the south side of the river. Miss Gaston taught for two years until she was transferred to Fort Defiance to work among the Navajos.

The school continued to be a special cause for the women of New York. In March 1868 several local women's mission societies joined together to form an organization called the New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado Missionary Association, an auxiliary to the Presbyterian Boards of Domestic and Foreign Missions. In 1870 this group became known as the Ladies' Board of Missions. The Free School, as Rev. McFarland called it, became known as the Santa Fe Academy, and it was taken over by the Ladies' Board.

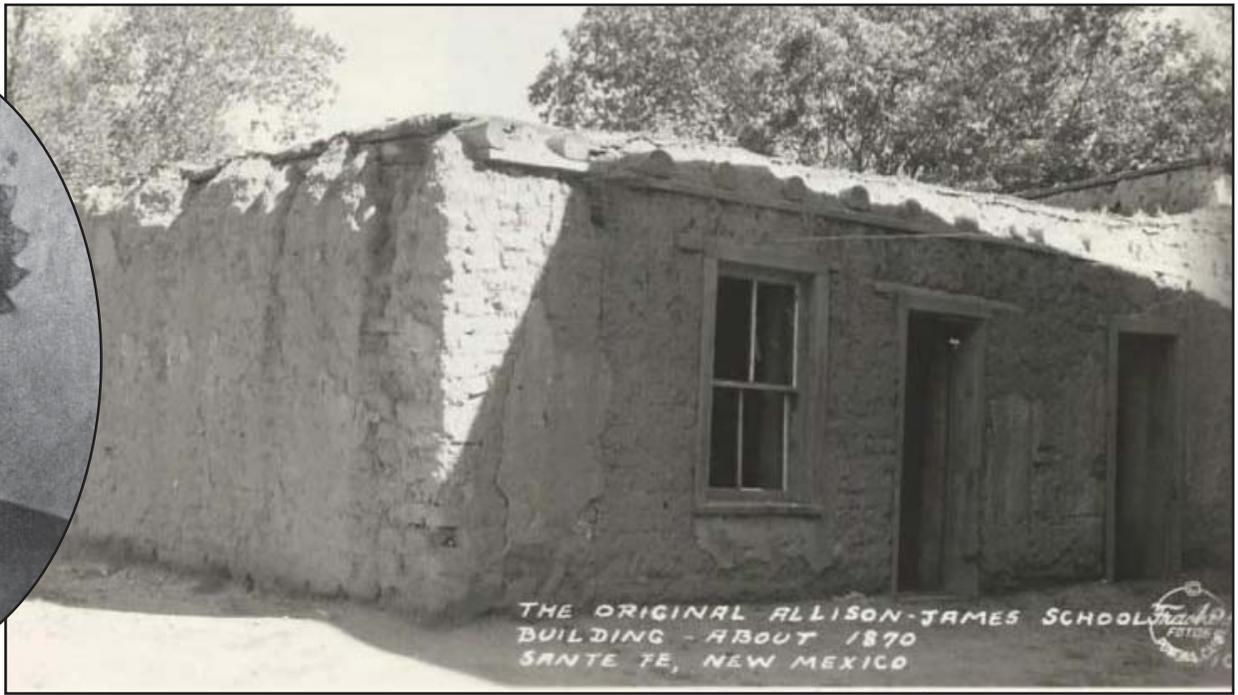
Rev. McFarland was not a well man, but he had vision and energy so that he accomplished wonders during the few years he was in Santa Fe. Besides establishing the two schools and building up his congregation, he also helped to form the first Presbytery, called the Presbytery of Santa Fe, in December 1868. Rev. McFarland started the first circulating library in Santa Fe with books sent by the Auburn women. He purchased valuable acreage adjoining the property bought from the Baptists and a house to serve as a manse for the pastor's family, school teachers, and boarding students.

Fundraising then, as it is now, was a critical part of the survival and welfare of the church. Rev. McFarland

attended the General Assembly in May 1869 as the commissioner from the Presbytery and reported on progress in Santa Fe in order to assure further support from the Board of Missions. He also made presentations to churches and individuals to raise money to pay off the indebtedness incurred to acquire the church building, school building, and manse. Amanda McFarland also raised money for the new church, traveling back to West Virginia to enlist support. When the McFarlands were obliged to leave Santa Fe in 1874 because of his failing health, the property was turned over to the Ladies' Board free of debt.

Shortly, after her husband's death in 1876, Amanda McFarland was commissioned to Alaska as its first woman missionary. She served there for 20 productive years until her retirement in 1897. In 1908 she addressed the General Assembly talking about her work in Alaska, but also noting the outcome of the work she and her husband started in Santa Fe many years before: "We began the work alone, and I am amazed to see how it has grown. There is now a Synod and Presbyteries, and schools spread all over that land, and hundreds of people have been converted."

The church and schools started by David McFarland, Amanda McFarland, and Charity Gaston did not follow the fate of so many failed efforts before them. This seed took hold and has continued to prosper for 150 years. We inherit a history rich in difficult circumstances, rich in hard work, rich in success.



Original school where Charity Gaston taught.

Source: Menaul Historical Library of the Southwest. Photo taken about 1870.

## Charity Ann Gaston

*first paid schoolteacher*

Charity Gaston was born in Ohio “of godly parents,” as noted by the New York women’s group who hired her. In 1855 she served as a mission teacher to the Choctaw Nation and remained there until the mission was closed because of the Civil War. She was the first “lady teacher” to cross the plains from Knoxville, Illinois, all the way in a stage coach, arriving in Santa Fe in 1867. After two years, she was transferred to work among the Navajos at Fort Defiance. She kept a school of 30 pupils aided by Rev. J. M. Roberts. In 1871 she married physician and pastor, Rev. John Menaul, who was newly assigned to the mission at Fort Defiance. She raised the widowed Menaul’s two young daughters while continuing to teach school. In 1875 the Menaul family moved to Laguna Pueblo to establish a Presbyterian mission church and there. They served in Laguna for 10 years before retiring to Albuquerque and eventually to Oklahoma. Charity A. G. Menaul died in 1906 at age 81.

## Missionary Wives in New Mexico

 from Chapter One of *Women of the New Mexico Frontier: 1846–1912* by Cheryl Foote

*“I hope I shall be enabled to perform my duties faithfully to my husband and my Lord ... that I may prove a blessing instead of a curse to my dear husband and to the world.”*

~ Letter by missionary wife

Churches sending missionaries to New Mexico between 1846 and 1880 often made it clear that they wanted couples. A letter to the Baptist Home Mission asked the church to

[Send] *“married men (unmarried ones would be useless) ... able to endure long, toilsome, and somewhat dangerous journey to the field and its privations and difficulties when there.”*

Missionary wives shared those dangers and privations. They considered themselves and their husbands partners, although still they were wives first. They struggled to establish Eastern-style homes in the wilderness, stretched meager resources, distributed tracts, taught Sunday and elementary school, and petitioned women’s groups for clothing, Bibles, and supplies. Many raised a family and boarded pupils.

**When they started out, few of the missionary wives or their husbands realized the enormity of the task they planned to undertake.** But their conviction that they were called to this work by God sustained them. And like Amanda McFarland many looked back at the impact they had made, and **they felt God had blessed their efforts.**



Source: Presbyterian Historical Society



## Rev. Dr. David Fulton McFarland

*first pastor*

David McFarland, the first pastor of our church, was born in Pennsylvania in 1820, graduated from Washington and Jefferson College in Philadelphia and Western Theological Seminary in Pittsburgh, and was ordained in 1852. In 1857 he married Amanda Reed, and during the Civil War he taught at the Mattoon Female Seminary in Illinois, with her as his assistant, and later served two Illinois churches. In 1866 he was sent to Santa Fe, where he established our church, began a school, and organized the first Presbytery of New Mexico Territory. He retired in 1873 due to ill health, and the couple moved to San Diego. After he recovered somewhat, they became missionaries to the Nez Perce tribe in Idaho. He died on the reservation in 1876.

## Amanda Reed McFarland

*pastor's wife and co-missionary*

Annie Amanda Reed, co-missionary with her husband, was born in 1832 in West Virginia, grew up in Ohio, and was educated at a seminary in Steubenville. She was teaching in Virginia when she met and married Dr. David McFarland in 1857. She served with her husband in Illinois until he was commissioned to Santa Fe in November 1866 and she joined him in May 1867. In 1868, the McFarlands' only natural child, Harry, died of cholera at the age of seven months, and Mrs. McFarland devoted herself to the work of the church and school. In 1873 the McFarlands moved to San Diego and later served in Idaho. In 1877, a year after her husband's death, Mrs. McFarland was commissioned as the first woman missionary in Alaska by the Presbyterian Board, where she served for 20 years, sheltering girls destined for slavery and later establishing a girls' school in Sitka. While living in Alaska she adopted a daughter, Bessie J. McFarland. She and Bessie retired to Oklahoma in 1897. Amanda died in while visiting her family in West Virginia in 1912, shortly after her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

If David and Amanda McFarland had made a **To Do List**, it might have included these items:

- Share the good news of Jesus Christ
- Create a Presbyterian presence in a territory dominated by the Roman Catholic Church
- Call on prominent people in town and convince them to assist in the formation of a Presbyterian church
- Write sermons
- Conduct worship services
- Examine and receive new members
- Baptize infants and adults
- Find a worship space, school facility, and a house to live in
- Arrange financing for property purchases with Board of Domestic Missions, local bank, donors.
- Sign deeds and mortgages, taking personal responsibility for meeting the terms of these documents
- Incorporate the new church with trustees from the community; obtain court approval
- Find musician and instrument to enhance worship services
- Obtain school supplies
- Obtain furniture for church, school, and home
- Moderate Session meetings
- Keep all church records—finances, minutes of Session, registry of membership
- Obtain firewood daily for cooking and heating
- Keep buildings clean
- Teach school
- Board teacher and students in our home
- Prepare meals, do laundry
- Haul water from acequia between the church and the manse
- Organize a Presbytery
- Attend General Assembly
- Travel between Santa Fe and the East
- Visit other parts of New Mexico Territory
- Raise funds by speaking at churches and with individuals in the East
- Correspond with donors to publicize work and raise money
- Send reports and correspondence to the Board of Domestic Missions
- Publish notices of worship and school in newspaper

# Time and Talents

For more information or to volunteer, call Krista Peterson at 982.8544 x10 or e-mail her office@fpcsantafe.org.

**Share Your Passion—Join a Circle!** Many meet after the Celtic EvenSong service at 5:30PM on Wednesdays.

The Outreach Committee is looking for **Mentors for New Members**. Mentors would be available to answer questions about the church, explore the interests of the new members, and point them toward areas of potential involvement.

Krista is always in need of **Publications Assistance** such as:

- Posting items to social media such as Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest
- Developing a media contact list for press releases and a marketing strategy for special events such as the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Helping with mailings

We need a **Lending Librarian** to care for the well-loved lobby library that has an excellent selection of fiction and nonfiction books for your reading pleasure. A special thanks to Gail Pasch who started and maintained this service for many years!

A fun way to volunteer is to become a **Front Desk Volunteer or Substitutes**. On any given day you might hear the musical stylings of one of our musicians or groups, the laughter and joy of the preschool kids going to and from school, or the phone and doorbell ringing with friends and visitors.



**Top:** During MorningSong the kids do a project with Jill McCormick relating to the message for the day.

**Right:** Margo Wulf walks with Pastor Harry's dog Atticus in the Pet Parade. This annual event passes right by the church on Fiesta Saturday.

**Bottom:** On October 9 we celebrated the baptisms of Alvin Baca's grandson Callum Reilly and Lucia VanDenzen, daughter of Elizabeth and Brian.



# *Children and Youth*

## **The Youth Are Back! And a New Ministry Kicks Off**

When Session voted to reactivate the Youth Ministry at FPCSF, a group of excited and energetic Teens and Tweens began making plans for how to use the opportunity to grow in their own faith and to make a difference in the community and in the life of the church.

A core group of six youth plus two advisors began to gather on Sunday mornings in their new third floor room. Their first priority became the creation of a space that was fun and welcoming. The youth wanted a place where Teens and Tweens could hang out, fellowship, invite friends and dig into God's Word. Now, with the support of church staff and Session, there are plans to paint, to build a

youth library, and to redecorate with beanbag chairs and other comfy teen type furniture.

Next came ideas for outreach and local ministry "projects," fellowships and outings, fundraising proposals, and small after school groups getting together to share a meal and go deeper into Scripture and how God is working in their lives. On Wednesday, October 19, four representatives of the Youth Ministry met with Session to present their plans for the Youth Room, outreach, fundraising, and to ask for prayers and support from Session and from the congregation.

The vision for Youth Ministry is big but the energy, anticipation and faith of every young person involved is evident. Please pray for our youth, their plans, and for God's Will working in their lives. And remember that youth are indeed the future of the Church.

Contact Sharon Kirby or Bill Humphreys with questions, donations, and especially with introductions to any Teen or Tween who might be interested in joining us. Thanks to all and look for an invitation to visit the newly painted Youth Room in the near future.

# Presbyterian Men's Breakfast

Presbyterian Men's Breakfast has a new page on Facebook. For those who missed the September and October programs they can catch up on two very interesting live-streamed videos now posted. We feature the following programs in the upcoming months.

Linda Trujillo member of our church and the Santa Fe School Board and who will be a Representative of District 48 in the state legislature is speaking to us on November 12.

The program for December 10 will have Jungian analyst and adventurer—our assistant organist David Solem—speak on spirituality.

To begin our 2017 breakfast season and our church centennial celebration the 150<sup>th</sup> Task Force has arranged for the dynamic Santa Fe City Historian Ann Pacheco to speak on the 14<sup>th</sup> of January about the historical development of Western spirituality in Santa Fe with special emphasis on the role of our church.

To cover the charge of a breakfast we ask members to contribute \$2, but to encourage friends and those interested from outside the church who are able to drag themselves out of bed to make the 8:00AM event, the breakfast is now free. More details are in church bulletins and the eNews. Sign up for events is by a list in the Lobby, the Facebook page, or by e-mailing John at [travel@theway2go.com](mailto:travel@theway2go.com) so we can get a good idea of how much food and coffee to prepare for you and your friends.

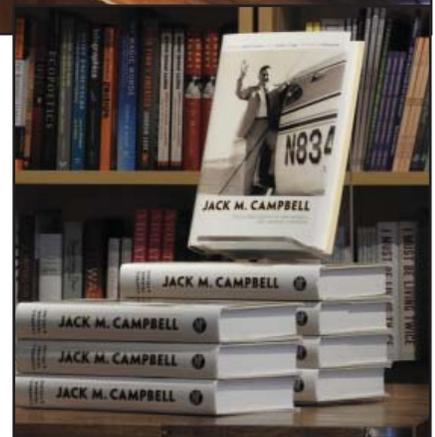
# Meditation with the Mystics

Join us on Tuesdays from 5:00–6:00PM in the Rendon Room as we enrich our spiritual journeys by leaning in to the wisdom of Christian mystics and sharing silence and holy friendship. Currently Thérèse of Liseux is informing our spiritual growth; Catherine of Siena's writings will inform us in the new year. All are most welcome and weekly attendance is not required—each

gathering stands on its own. When Rev. Linda Loving is available she provides leadership and other times committed lay leaders step forward so that the weekly meetings continue uninterrupted. Note that because of holidays the group will not gather on November 22 nor December 27. For more information contact Linda at [lclev@aol.com](mailto:lclev@aol.com).



*Maurice Trimmer—along with former Senator Jeff Bingaman, Governor Campbell's son and Charles C. Poling—answered questions about the autobiography of Governor Campbell at one of Collected Works special book evenings. They all contributed to the book (inset right) about Jack M. Campbell, New Mexico's first modern governor.*



# News You Can Use

A huge thank you to these local restaurants for their generous donations of dinner meals for the **English Language Learners Program** we participate in jointly with Westminster Presbyterian.

Alicia's Restaurant

Tomasita's

La Choza

The Pantry

Olive Garden

Valentino's

Buffalo Wild Wings

Counter Culture

Santa Fe Bar and Grill

Rancho de Chimayó

We are grateful for these contributions and urge you to patronize these restaurants. Please let them know how important their donations are to our program.

## 150<sup>th</sup> Capital Campaign

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the Potential and Possibility segment of the **Church as Mission: Great Heritage—Bold Future** campaign by either participating in an interview or taking the survey prepared by our campaign consultant, Sanford Coon, from Horizons Stewardship. Through this process, in which well over 100 people participated, we have gathered a great deal of useful information. Additionally, we added to that cache of good data through the questions asked and comments made at the presentations that Sanford made to the congregation

**Arlena Jackson** expresses her appreciation for all the assistance, visits and well wishes she received after her accident. Thank you!

**Connie Austin** gives thanksgiving in her own words, "I was totally healed by the prayers and the surgery done by Dr. Carolyn Muller on August 29! Have been feeling perfect since the 1<sup>st</sup> of October."

Maurice Trimmer reports that they recently received an e-mail about 8-year-old relative **Wiley** we prayed for last year who suffered a severe injury when he was kicked in the head by a horse. While Wiley was praying with his grandparents, he sat up straight and said, "I am well and ready to go home to my family." The e-mail also said, "Your prayers had a part in this healing."

on September 18. The Session will be supplied with the written report prepared by Sanford just prior to its October meeting. Due to the length of the report Session will discuss the report at its November meeting. After the report is accepted by Session at the November meeting it will be made available to the entire congregation,

The 150<sup>th</sup> Capital Campaign Committee continues to work diligently to plan a campaign about which everyone in the congregation will be excited. Stay tuned for further updates and information about how you can be involved.

We are hoping to form an "at home" prayer group, sometimes called a **Prayer Chain**. It would be for people who would like the discipline of intercessory prayer in connection with other folks but who don't have the ability or time to meet outside their home in a group setting. We are thinking this could be set up to occur on a given day with notice of any prayer requests sent by e-mail. The usual precautions around privacy will be observed. If you feel like you would like to join a trial for this idea please contact Anne Maglisceau at [anedmag@prodigy.net](mailto:anedmag@prodigy.net) or 466.1120.

We congratulate **Gerald Heggen** who was honored at the Feeding Santa Fe luncheon on Thursday, November 3. He has been a long-time volunteer, board member, and all-around supporter of this organization.

**November 13 is Pledge Sunday:** Pledge cards may be mailed or dropped in the lobby box before that day and will be blessed on the 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Church Directory Update:** Pick up a copy of the updated church directory available Sundays in the lobby or weekdays in the church office. We update the directory quarterly at the same time as the newsletter is published.

Thanks to all who made the **Rooftop Garden** a wonderful place to worship at 8:30 from the end of May until the middle of September. The flowers were beautiful and the vegetable plants produced greatly. Marjorie Lunderville, Al Hill, Alice Tinkle, Dick Crawford, Judy Crawford, Dennis Sanderson, Booker Wright, Charlie Spring, Bill Adrian and Julia Hudson made up this year's team. Also thanks to those who made contributions for the summer produce.

# New Member Bios

## Welcome, new members!

**Gary Murphy**



New member and retired teacher, Gary Murphy arrived in Santa Fe this June to begin his next phase of life, after a long career in education.

Gary grew up in the St. Louis area. He earned a Bachelors Degree in Education at Southern Illinois University. In 1970, his family moved to Los Alamos. He studied at Northern Arizona University where he received a Masters Degree in Education. His first teaching position was in Lake Havasu City. The majority of his career in education has been with the Department of Defense Dependents School. He has lived and worked in US Military installations in Germany (Hahn and Vilsekt), and Japan (Yokosuka, Yokohama and Misawa) and South Korea (Seoul). He was a first grade and literacy teacher.

Gary enjoys reading and travel, as well as long walks.

He remembered First Presbyterian from his earlier years in New Mexico. He purchased his Santa Fe home five years ago planning to make it his retirement home and visited First Presbyterian back then. He decided then that he would join our congregation when he retired. He is very happy to be here and is interested in serving as an usher and possibly in other roles to support worship services.

### Sharon and Keith Kirby



room is a goal they hope to achieve in the near future. Sharon continues that effort while Keith has assumed the new-member program that assimilates new members into the life of the congregation.

Keith continues his work as a Marketing Services Consultant, and Sharon's dedication to making a

difference in the world by serving the underserved bring valuable gifts to us. They have found First Presbyterian's progressive worship style and its inclusive endeavors to take care of one another in the community of Santa Fe aligned with their own philosophy and theology.

They both have varied interests that include outdoor exploration of the high desert, enjoyment in cooking and entertaining in their home, road trips, seeing new things, festivals and hot dogs. As Keith sums it up, they "like discovering the creativity of nature and people." You will want to get to know this delightful duo!

Sharon and Keith Kirby fell in love with Santa Fe after visiting long-time friend and FPSF new member Judy Banner. They moved into their charming home in Aldea in the middle of May. Since that time, they have both become very involved in the life of the First Presbyterian community.

Previously, the Kirbys lived in Houston, Texas. They were active members of Memorial Drive Presbyterian where Sharon was also an ordained Deacon. Bringing their enthusiastic and energetic interests to First Presbyterian Santa Fe, they worked together in the summer to establish a youth room for an organized youth program that began in late September. Furnishing the

Blair and Stewart Anderson, in joining our church said they love our community involvement, service work, helping at the ground level, providing support where it is needed. Blair said, "We think of the grand things to change the world but we can do small things that make a difference right here. We worked one evening at the shelter and it was life changing for me to know what we can do on a local level."

Blair was raised in the church and wanted to provide this experience for her daughters. She is grateful to have grown up in a strong Presbyterian Church where Sunday mornings included worship and Adult Education for her parents while she attended Sunday School.

Stewart was raised in a home of devout Roman Catholic parents. When they married his mother said to them "I don't mind what church tradition you find, just so it is a church you can together join and have faith in your lives." This is, for Stewart a return to church life. He has felt a warm connection with Harry and is glad to be a new member.

They moved to Santa Fe from Shiprock where Stewart practiced medicine with the Pueblo there and Blair was doing photography. Most important Franny was born. They have lived in Santa Fe for seven years, Blair busy with the creative project of building their house, and again, most important, Grace was born.

Blair and Stewart met in New York City where Blair was working at the Museum of Modern Art and Stewart was finishing his residency in emergency medicine. The spark was Stewart's delight in the outside world which Blair shared. As a family they love to be on bikes, and the girls have learned to ski; they have a raft and do rivers in the summer. Blair is a trail runner. Stewart has hiked the Pacific Crest Trail, from Mexico to Canada. He has worked in Chiapas, Mexico. He has trekked in Nepal and worked as an emergency doctor at base camps at Mt. Everest.

While at St. Edwards University in Austin studying for her MFA, Blair spent a year in the art school at Cortana, Italy. Their shared passion is travel.



A cradle Presbyterian, Judy grew up in Texas. She met her husband when both were attending college in Dallas. He majored in journalism, while she majored in home economics. Their life together was full of adventure. He worked for the *Dallas Times Herald* at the time of the Kennedy assassination, an event that shook all Americans to their core. The family moved when he took the job of Director of Information at SMU. The couple met such luminaries as Charles Goren, Bob Hope, George W Bush and Henry Kissinger. Judy became a medical assistant, a career she pursued for 15 years.

Two years after her husband's unexpected death, Judy and her daughter moved to Santa Fe. She had been to New Mexico often to visit her father-in-law, who pastored a church in Magdalena. Judy has been living in Santa Fe for 18 years.

Judy was drawn to First Presbyterian by the friendliness of the congregation and the excellent music program. She plans to join the women's Bible study group.

In her spare time, Judy enjoys playing bridge and reading mysteries. She likes the "cozies" that provide recipes in the back of the book.

## Jennifer Elliott

---



Jennifer Elliott has grown up in First Presbyterian, but it was not until this spring that she decided to make a statement of faith and become baptized. On July 10, she stood before the congregation with her father at her side and committed her life to Jesus. The Christian emphasis on love is important to her. Jennifer has

grown up in a two-faith household, her mother being Jewish and her father Christian. She still attends temple and is active at Temple Beth Shalom. "God likes my doing what honors God," she says of her participation in both Jewish and Christian worship.

A musician, Jennifer plays the violin and remembers singing in the church choir as a child, as well as ringing in the bell choir. She now sings with the Chancel Choir and plays in the handbell choir here at First Presbyterian. Sharing her violin for EvenSong is a joy for those who have been attending our Wednesday evening worship service.

Family is very important to her. Since her mother's death four years ago, she lives with her father. Her brother is living in Israel. She teaches

violin privately and enjoys tutoring in math and communications. She also volunteers with Make Santa, finding that a peaceful and calming experience happens when she is sharing her experiences with the people in that program.

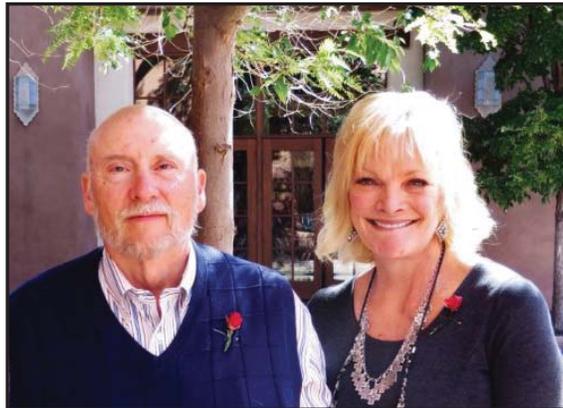
Jennifer holds a BS in biology from the University of New Mexico. Her involvement in the local community allows her to share her interest in robotics while supporting the local school district. Her favorite movie is *Transcendence*, a movie she first saw as a four-year-old. The movie is a story of the struggle between reality and imagination, a theme that she finds relevant in her life. She looks forward to becoming even more integrated into the congregation here at First Presbyterian. We are so happy to have her join us.

## Karin and Harold Lerew

---

Karin and Harold Lerew moved to Santa Fe from Wichita Falls, Texas, in 2012, after buying their home in La Mariposa in 2010. Their daughter Katje, husband Zack, and daughter Morgan also live here in Santa Fe. They have four children who live in Texas and three grandchildren with two more due in 2017.

Both Karin and Harold are graduates of Midwestern State University. Harold earned his law degree at Texas Tech and retains his Texas license since retirement. While Karin's love was nursing in hospice, she is now the owner of Mind Body Santa Fe, which specializes in gender-specific small groups.



Both of the Lerews find First Presbyterian a warm and welcoming congregation and are attracted to its connections with the city of Santa Fe. They have quickly become involved in the life of the congregation: Harold serves on the Archives and History

Committee, and Karin prepares meals for Wednesday's EvenSong. Karin also has an interest in Liturgical Arts. Both like the variety of programs in adult education: the historical richness, open minded approach to new ideas and thought, and a men's breakfast that includes women.

Their beautiful home reflects a love for gardening, Harold's woodworking skills, and Karin's interest in crafts and sewing. They enjoy walking and hiking in nearby trails and making new friends in their church. We welcome them with open arms!

# Highlights from Session

You can find Session agendas, official minutes, and materials in the loose-leaf binder housed on top of the mailboxes just outside the library and on the First Presbyterian website. Session usually meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30PM.

Session has been busy the past few months. Below are the highlights:

- Financial Policies Task Force rolled out the updated and revised Financial Management Manual, which has been reviewed by a number of members of the congregation and FPC Staff. Final version was provided to Session at the September meeting for review, as task force will be seeking Session approval and implementation at October meeting.
- Session approved the preliminary Case Statement for the proposed capital campaign.
- Marjorie Lunderville provided an update to Session on plans for 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Dinner including invitations to luminaries within the Presbyterian Church and local politicians.
- Session welcomed a new Elder, Jim Martin who has agreed to serve the balance of Gayle Lomax's term.
- Session agreed to endorse Howard Webster and Sharon and Bill Eklund's application for the Presbytery sponsored Partnership Trip to Cuba in September.
- Session agreed to support initiative from the Interfaith Leadership Alliance by approving a special offering of \$5 per member to support the Interfaith Community Shelter
- Session approved Worship Committee request to designate July as music month.
- Session approved Celtic EvenSong Services to be held every Wednesday at 5:30 in the Sanctuary.
- In August Session received an excellent presentation from Bill Adrian and John Whitcomb regarding the parking issues facing FPC in the near future.
- Rebecca Hodges has resigned as Elder and Chair of Adult Ed.
- Richard Lindahl was named Chair of Nominating Committee
- Margaret Lyerly was named as Chair of Stewardship Committee. Stewardship campaign schedule was approved.
- An *ad hoc* committee of the corporate officers has been formed to revise and update the Bylaws in January of 2017.
- Session has approved a Financial Review Committee. Jim Martin, Janis Gonzales and Ed Maglisceau have agreed to evaluate the 2015 balance sheet and conduct other such reviews of 2015 and prior years, as they deem appropriate.
- Session approved motion from Music & Worship that, with the exception of November 20, 2016, future "one-service" worship will consistently meet at 10:00AM.
- Session received a presentation on the new website from Mary Neff and authorized conversion to the new site.
- Session approved Personnel's request to hire a Publications Intern to assist Krista through the end of the year.

## Contact Church Staff and Volunteers

Name	Extension	E-mail	Schedule
Rev. Dr. Harry Eberts III, <i>Pastor</i>	x11	harry@	Mondays off
Linda Raney, <i>Director of Music</i>	x16	lraney@	Mondays off
Jill McCormick, <i>Children's Ministry &amp; Music</i>		children-youth@	Sunday mornings
Anne Liley, <i>CDC Director</i>	x20	preschool@	Monday-Friday
Krista Peterson, <i>Office Manager</i>	x10	office@	Monday-Friday
Bill Adrian, <i>Facilities Manager</i>	505.501.3453	facilities@	Tuesday-Saturday
Judi Haines, <i>Clerk of Session</i>	x15	clerk@	Tuesday afternoons
Gale Wright, <i>Treasurer</i>	703.795.1520	treasurer@	Wednesdays
Betty Kersting, <i>Membership</i>	x15	membership@	Fridays
Business Office	*	businessoffice@	Thursdays
Archives	x27	archives@	Thursdays

Main number is 505.982.8544 and e-mail addresses are all @fpcsantafe.org.

\*You can leave a message for Maria Romero, contract bookkeeper, with Krista at extension 10.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
*of Santa Fe*

*Behold. Be still. Become.*

208 Grant Avenue  
Santa Fe, NM 87501

## *La Epístola* *Advent 2016*

### **Back Pew Gallery**

The Back Pew Gallery will have a new exhibit of Christmas ornaments, November/December. ALL proceeds will go to Adelante, a mission for the homeless families of Santa Fe. We ask everyone to bring in their homemade and/or gently used Christmas ornaments and place in a designated box in the lobby. Please tape your name on back of each ornament so we know who donated the item. The deadline for collection is Sunday, November 20. The exhibit will open Friday, November 25. This is your opportunity to free yourself of those long-held items you have never used.

### **New Website Launches**

The Communications Committee announces that a new website for First Presbyterian Church was launched on October 21 and invites you to visit the site at [www.fpcsantafe.org](http://www.fpcsantafe.org). The site can be accessed from a variety of devices, including personal computers, tablets, and smart phones. We would very much appreciate your suggestions, comments, and corrections; please send them to Mary Neff at [maryneff@aol.com](mailto:maryneff@aol.com).

The committee is grateful to all who have been involved in the project and to the church for supporting this new website.

### **Christmas Eve Services**

**5:00PM**  
**and**  
**10:00PM**