

## HAPPY NEW YEAR 2012

### From Paula Roberts Wood, Helpline & New Member Coordinator 2011 FPC NEW MEMBERS

The membership committee had a busy year under the capable leadership of Moderator Mary Anne Meredith. Our new members of 2011 are receiving special invitations, hand made by Nancy Yoshimoto, to attend our **January 15<sup>th</sup> All-Church Luncheon**. Please come and get acquainted with our newer members.



**Christine Parker** returned to Albuquerque after living in New England for several years. She requested baptism by Rev. Paul Debenport and became a member in February.

**Barbara & Steve Sammons** enjoy cooking. They always bring a Sunday luncheons. We are very happy that installed on our Board of Deacons



like to travel and they both good dessert to our 3<sup>rd</sup> Barbara and Steve will be this month.



**Anila Sonia Yousaf** has been a and was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Ravapindi, Pakistan before joining our congregation. She is the sister of Samina Mall. Samina & Adnan are happy to have Anila here to help with their 5 year old Abishai and 1 year old Saer. Anila is looking for other work.

**Lynn Farris DeFrees** this congregation with her California and Houston, Tx. so she returned to her home



is the daughter of Marshall & Joan Farris . She grew up in twin sister Jane and her sister Ann. She has lived in Lynn works for Hewlett-Packard and can work from home, of Albuquerque and to us.



**Martha Byron** is a member of First Presbyterian Church of Columbia, SC and became an affiliate member of our congregation. Martha and her husband Joseph Byron are in Albuquerque while Joseph is attending acupuncture training. They have a 9 month old son. They are interested in our Young Families Fellowship.

**Melinda Cunningham Boatright** Everett King. She is a graduate of UNM and was management team just out of college. She worked and Nebraska. Melinda is now retired and eager to be usually attends the 8:45 AM service.



was baptized as an infant by Rev. recruited by Sears for their lived in Kansas, Missouri and active in our congregation. She



**Christopher Shepherd** joined our congregation in December. He is the son of Tara & Paul Metzger. Chris overcame serious health issues in his childhood that have made him stronger and his faith important to him. He is seeking a church family and young adult friends.

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The Confirmation Class, led by Rev. Karen Hill, assisted by John & Meg Meister, brought us some wonderful young members. Robert Burger and Nicholas Cook attend Menaul School. Grace Heise and Jake Meister attend Sandia High School. Isaac Morris attends Valley High School. Jonah Hoffman is at Hoover Middle School. Brittany Jeffrey is a freshman at the University of New Mexico. It has been nice to see these young members take part in our worship services.

The membership committee started information stands in Commons 1 and 2 on Sunday mornings to answer questions and direct visitors. This is in response to a recommendation that our building has so many entrances it is hard for a new person to find the sanctuary or CE classes. Marshall Farris is signing up members to man the information stands. We also have heard that our congregation is very friendly once a visitor is in the sanctuary, so keep up the good work on welcoming visitors.

New banners have been installed on the north side of Westminster to attract new people to our wonderful church. These banners have been provided and installed by the generous efforts of Alan White. Thank you, Alan and Dianna!

It has been my pleasure to work with the membership committee, the Board of Deacons, Helpline and other volunteers and staff in 2011. Best wishes to you all in 2012.  
Love, Paula

## **REMINDER - CHURCH OFFICE & ACG CLOSURES:**

**Christmas Holidays: Monday, December 26th &  
Tuesday, December 27th**

**New Year's Holiday: Monday, January 2nd**

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observance:  
Monday, January 16th**



## **NOTICE:**

**There will be an Annual Congregational Meeting on  
Sunday, January 30, 2012 immediately following the 11:00 am worship  
service for the purpose of reviewing the Annual Reports  
and approval of the Pastoral Terms of Call.**

## **CHURCH HOURS:**

**SEPTEMBER 1, 2011 - MAY 31, 2012**

**Monday through Thursday: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.**

**Fridays: 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**





## Thoughts in Transition ~ for January 2012

### **ponderings from Pastor John**

As you read this, I wish you a happy New Year, and pray that we will all experience God's blessing as we work together this coming year.

*Keep doing what you are doing ... and you will get more of what you've got.*

Albert Einstein is quoted with a somewhat more intense version of the above, and I decided to offer this softer version for your consideration.

First, know that what I have experienced with you all here at FPC is beautiful, good and useful for Jesus Christ.

However, there is one question that has come up in conversations, in various ways:

What changes are part of what God is bringing forward presently here at FPC, and how can we examine, love and cultivate these changes faithfully?

Pondering this question together will be at the core of our Mission Study effort, and will be informed by the 'mining' our history exercise. So, I invite you to think, pray, and talk with each other about this, now, as a kind of preparation for what's to come.

I'll shift our focus for a moment. Several have told me that they are feeling a letdown of the energy we shared at my arrival. This is not uncommon, and should not be of concern. Let me explain. Just as the congregation has their Six Tasks to work through during the transitional time, so the transitional pastor has [in this case] his Tasks to work through, concurrently. My first Task is "Joining the Congregation." I am doing this by working with every committee, board and 'entity' of the congregation I can find ~ attending every small group I can get an invite to ~ experiencing all the varied aspects of FPC's mission and fellowship.

Joining takes time, and our energy will build again, as we move into the visible, specific tasks.

For me, the core of it is: Getting to know one another takes some time, as we build a trusting, collaborative working relationship ... I believe your "conferring of pastor-status" is coming along normally. So, I'll continue to 'join' with you all, in varying contexts.

I've not, yet, had the opportunity to sit with and talk with quite a few of you. I bet you don't even know about my weakness for peanuts, or the ways I pray for you. We've met around worship and socially, and I've been warmed by your welcome. And, in January we'll have a further opportunity to get to know one another. We will set up some gatherings, where we can get to know one another and talk about our transitional work.

I'll close this month with the fruit of a couple more conversations. The 'goal' of our transitional work is a current discernment of God's will and call for this church and your immediate future.

The "Outcome" of our work together is calling and installing your next Head of Staff!

If we can converse with one another about our current understanding of God's call to mission and ministry, then you can know, with sufficient clarity, the kind of person you all need to call to lead FPC in that work ... as we engage God's future for this congregation.

your temporary shepherd, John

Work for our common good; love openly; and, get to know God better this month!

### **FIFTY YEAR MEMBERS**

**On Sunday, January 29, 2012 we will be recognizing  
this year's 50-Year members:**

**Joyce Barefoot  
Caroline and Ed Beaumont  
Kenneth Blueher  
Aciel and Gerald Brown**

**Marjorie Buck  
Janell and Harvey Morse  
Frank Redmond  
Charlotte Toulouse**

**THE MEN'S ASSOCIATION WILL MEET SATURDAY,  
JANUARY 7, 2012 TO HEAR FROM ONE OF OUR MEMBERS,  
ALICIA CUNNINGHAM. SHE WILL SHARE HER EXPERIENCES FROM  
HER RECENT TRIP TO THAILAND.**

Alicia, daughter of members, **Paul & Margaret Cunningham**, spent two months in Chiang Mai, Thailand as part of an internship in physical therapy. During her first month, she worked at McCormick Hospital, originally founded by American Presbyterian Missionaries in the 1880s. Her second month was spent at Maharaj Nakorn Chiang Mai Hospital, a teaching hospital much like UNMH. Though the majority of her time was spent at the hospitals, Alicia had a chance to see and experience a variety of things Thailand has to offer.

We will meet on the first Saturday of the month at 8:30 AM in the basement of the Presbyterian Hospital at 1100 Central Ave. SE. No reservations are needed. Just get your food in the cafeteria (basement level = S2 on the elevator) and head next door to our meeting room.

All of the interested men & women of FPC are invited. Please come and join us for this informative and enjoyable presentation.

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**STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN UPDATE**

For the first 5 weeks of our stewardship campaign, 184 pledges totaling \$480,000 have been received. Thank you for your commitment to all those who have pledged. If you have not prayerfully discerned your financial support for our church in 2012, please consider doing so. Additional pledges of \$89,000 would enable us to adopt the proposed budget of \$1,122,350 without the need for reductions. Please contact Mike or Sam if you require any further information about this campaign process. Peace and blessings to all our members and friends

**2011 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS**

Annual Contribution Statements will be mailed out by the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January. Please review your statement and contact Sam at 505-764-2908 with any questions or necessary corrections. Your statement of giving should be retained for income tax purposes. Thank you!

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**PRESBYTERIAN SENIOR LEAGUE - JANUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>**  
**\*\*\* ON THE ROAD AGAIN\*\*\* - NUCLEAR MUSEUM**

PSL is starting the New Year with a combined luncheon at the church, followed by one of our "on-the-road" tours. We will be visiting and touring the National Museum of Nuclear Science & History, 601 Eubank SE and hosted by two museum docents and members of First Presbyterian Church, Duane Hughes and Judith Mead. After our luncheon, we will reconvene at the museum at 1:00 PM. This is the nation's only congressionally chartered museum in its field and an intriguing place to learn about the story of the Atomic Age, from early research of nuclear development through today's peaceful uses of nuclear technology. The Museum is a Smithsonian Affiliate member. Car-pooling will be provided for those folks that would like a ride to the museum.

Everyone is welcome! Don't miss this PSL luncheon and program on **Friday, January 13 at 11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall**. Our luncheon will be lasagna with garlic bread, Caesar salad, and lemon pie for dessert. **Please sign up with the Duty Elder on Sundays prior to the program or call the church at 764-2900 no later than 3:00 PM on Tuesday, January 10. Cost for the luncheon is \$8 and a very special museum visitor rate of \$3.**

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## **FROM A CHILD'S GARDEN**

### **Celebrating 40 years in the Garden, from Jessica Carothers, ACG Board President**

When Roxanna Caird and Susan Smith asked me to write an article about A Child's Garden for this month's A Child's Garden *Messenger*, they originally conceived of it as a "state of the school" piece. As the new board president, it seemed appropriate that I could write an article like that. I was going to ask Susan for statistics and numbers so that I could portray what was going on at ACG these days with hard data. But then it occurred to me that I am not just the board president, but also a mother at ACG. So I have decided to write this article from that perspective. And here is the state of the school from my mother's perspective: wonderful.

My family and I moved to Albuquerque from Denver three years ago. Our oldest son, Abbott, was only 18-months old at the time, but I had many friends who had done early preschool with their children, to great benefit. As a stay-at-home mother, I knew I wanted Abbott to have exposure to other children, to learn to listen to adults (besides his father and me) and to learn about group living (which my mother, a former kindergarten teacher, always says is the most important thing school ever teaches you). We were moving to Albuquerque so that my husband Josh could join New Mexico Orthopedics. We didn't really know anyone here, but I had met a few people in the practice on our visits to house hunt and so I asked them: what do you think is the best preschool in Albuquerque? To the last person, each of them answered "A Child's Garden". Interestingly, none of them had children who had attended there personally, but they knew of the school's reputation. So I began my internet search. I tried to look at many schools online, but found that most offered little, if any, information. ACG had the most impressive website, with easily accessible information about the school's mission and philosophy, as well as when and how to register your child. I also saw that ACG was governed by a Board of Trustees, which I knew to be a hallmark of a good school. I called ACG and found out that the waiting list was significant, but was encouraged to apply. Once we moved to New Mexico, I started touring various preschools, understanding that my chances of getting Abbott into A Child's Garden may be slim. I was delighted when Susan called me to offer Abbott a spot in the older toddlers class. From our first day, it was a match made in heaven.

While at ACG for three years, Abbott had Maria Leyba, Sarah Morris and Michelle Norton as his teachers. Each of them was wonderful in their own unique way, and taught Abbott and his classmates with love and patience. Abbott has moved on to Manzano Day School, but our younger son, Cole, now attends ACG. Cole's teacher is Carrie Ortega, a lovely and energetic young woman who came to our house for Cole's home visit this summer equipped with her laptop to do a PowerPoint presentation about what Cole's year would be like! What I have loved about each of my children's teachers, besides the wonderful way they weave curriculum and learning into play, is that they truly seem to understand my children. The teachers at ACG view each child as a special individual, and with infinite patience, treat them as such. I feel that my children's time at ACG is the biggest gift we could have given them as young children. I feel fortunate to serve ACG. I am blessed to be able to work with my fellow board members and am so proud of the school's leadership, in Susan Smith. In this, A Child's Garden's 40th year, I hope that you will consider joining me at our fundraising Gala, scheduled for February 25th at Los Poblanos. It is sure to be a delightful evening, and one that we hope will ensure the future of A Child's Garden for many years to come.

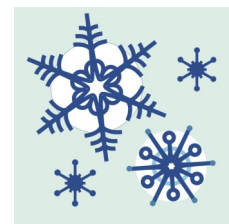


<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	
<p><b>1. NEW YEAR'S DAY</b></p> <p><b>ONE SERVICE ONLY: 11:00 A.M.</b> <b>No Sunday School</b></p>	<p><b>2.</b></p> <p><b>NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY</b> <b>Church Office &amp; ACG</b> <b><u>CLOSED</u></b></p>	<p><b>3.</b></p> <p><b>ACG CLOSED (Teacher In-Service)</b> <b>9:30 AM Archives</b> <b>9:30 AM Sunbonnet</b></p> <p><b>4:30 PM Tuesday Study &amp; Prayer</b> <b>6:00 PM Membership Committee</b> <b>6:30 PM Christian Education &amp; Youth Committee</b></p>	<p><b>4.</b></p> <p><b>6:30</b> <b>7:0</b> <b>7:4</b></p>
<p><b>8.</b></p> <p><b>8:15 AM Family Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>8:45 AM Early Worship Service, Fellowship Hall</b> <b>9:30 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>10:00 AM Sunday School</b> <b>10:00 AM Meet FPC/Inquirer's Class</b> <b>10:00 AM Health Issues Seminar (Kerygma Room)</b> <b>10:30 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>11:00 AM Worship Service - Sanctuary</b> <b>12:00 PM Health Ministries Committee</b> <b>5:00 PM Youth Group</b></p>	<p><b>9.</b></p> <p><b>9:30 AM Library Committee</b> <b>9:30 AM Religious Educators Meeting</b></p> <p><b>12:00 PM PW Circle (Kerygma)</b></p> <p><b>3:00 PM Congregational Fellowship Committee</b></p> <p><b>ANNUAL REPORTS DUE</b> <b>FROM COMMITTEE MODERATORS</b></p>	<p><b>10.</b></p> <p><b>9:30 AM Archives</b> <b>9:30 AM Sunbonnet</b></p> <p><b>4:00 PM Stewardship &amp; Finance Committee</b> <b>4:30 PM Tuesday Study &amp; Prayer</b> <b>5:00 PM Alb. Boy Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>6:00 PM Building &amp; Property Committee</b></p>	<p><b>11.</b></p> <p><b>10:</b> <b>1:3</b> <b>Rel</b> <b>5:3</b> <b>6:0</b> <b>Rel</b> <b>6:3</b> <b>7:0</b> <b>7:4</b></p>
<p><b>15.</b></p> <p><b>8:15 AM Family Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>8:45 AM Early Worship Service, Fellowship Hall</b> <b>9:30 AM Blood Pressure Clinic</b> <b>9:30 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>10:00 AM Sunday School</b> <b>10:00 AM New Members w/Session</b> <b>10:30 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>11:00 AM Worship Service, Sanctuary</b> <b>12:00 PM All-Church Fellowship Luncheon—</b> <b>Recognition of 2011 New Members</b> <b>Youth Return from Ski Trip</b> <b>5:00 PM NO YOUTH GROUP</b> <b>5:00 PM PW Sunday Sarah Circle</b></p>	<p><b>16.</b></p> <p><b>BIRTHDAY OF</b> <b>DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.</b></p> <p><b>Church Office &amp; ACG</b> <b><u>CLOSED</u></b></p>	<p><b>17.</b></p> <p><b>9:30 AM Archives</b> <b>9:30 AM Sunbonnet</b></p> <p><b>4:30 PM Tuesday Study &amp; Prayer</b> <b>5:00 PM Alb. Boy Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>6:30 PM Session Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>18.</b></p> <p><b>10:</b> <b>1:3</b> <b>Rel</b> <b>5:3</b> <b>Co</b> <b>6:0</b> <b>Rel</b> <b>6:3</b> <b>7:0</b> <b>7:4</b></p>
<p><b>22.</b></p> <p><b>8:15 AM Family Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>8:45 AM Early Worship Service/Deacon Ordination/Installation, Fellowship Hall</b> <b>9:30 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>10:00 AM Sunday School</b> <b>10:30 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>11:00 AM Worship Service/Elder Ordination/Installation - Sanctuary</b> <b>5:00 PM Youth Group</b></p>	<p><b>23.</b></p> <p><b>9:30 AM Library Committee</b></p> <p><b>5:30 PM ACG Staff Training</b></p>	<p><b>24.</b></p> <p><b>9:30 AM Archives</b> <b>9:30 AM Sunbonnet</b></p> <p><b>4:30 PM Tuesday Study &amp; Prayer</b> <b>5:00 PM Alb. Boy Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>6:30 PM Session Meeting</b></p>	<p><b>25.</b></p> <p><b>10:</b> <b>1:3</b> <b>Rel</b> <b>6:3</b> <b>7:0</b> <b>7:4</b></p>
<p><b>29. 50 YR. MEMBER RECOGNITION</b></p> <p><b>8:15 AM Family Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>8:45 AM Early Worship Service, Fellowship Hall</b> <b>9:30 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>10:00 AM Sunday School</b> <b>10:00-10:45 Teacher Refreshment</b> <b>10:30 AM Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b> <b>11:00 AM Worship Service, Sanctuary</b> <b>12:15 PM ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING</b> <b>5:00 PM Youth Group</b></p>	<p><b>30.</b></p> <p><b>9:30 AM Library Committee</b></p>	<p><b>31.</b></p> <p><b>9:30 AM Archives</b> <b>9:30 AM Sunbonnet</b></p> <p><b>4:30 PM Tuesday Study &amp; Prayer</b> <b>5:00 PM Alb. Boy Choir Rehearsal</b></p>	

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>10:00 PM Disciple Bible Study I 10:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p><b>5.</b> 8:30 AM ACG Staff Meeting 9:30 AM PW Circle (Bible Study Church) 9:30 AM PW Circle (Women Studying Women) - Off Campus 10:00 AM PW Circle (Christian History &amp; Biblical Archaeology)  5:30 PM Personnel Committee 6:30 PM Disciple Bible Study II Class</p>	<p><b>6.</b></p>	<p><b>7.</b> 8:30 AM Presbyterian Men's Association Breakfast - Presbyterian Hospital (Downtown)</p>
<p>10:00 AM Program Staff Meeting  10:00 PM Whitechapel Bells Rehearsal 10:00 PM Mission Committee 10:00 PM Old Time Gospel Band Rehearsal 10:00 PM Disciple Bible Study I 10:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p><b>12.</b> 8:30 AM ACG Staff Meeting 11:30 AM Homeless Networking Meeting (FH)  2:00 PM Called Back to the Well Group  6:30 PM Disciple Bible Study II Class</p>	<p><b>13.</b> 11:30 AM Presbyterian Senior League Luncheon  Youth Leave for Ski Trip in Taos</p>	<p><b>14.</b> Youth Ski Trip Continues (Taos)</p>
<p>10:00 AM General Staff Meeting 10:00 PM Whitechapel Bells Rehearsal  10:00 PM Worship &amp; Music Committee 10:00 PM Old Time Gospel Band Rehearsal 10:00 PM Disciple Bible Study I 10:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p><b>19.</b> 8:30 AM ACG Staff Meeting 10:00 AM PW Coordinating Team Meeting  6:30 PM Disciple Bible Study II Class</p>	<p><b>20.</b>  MESSENGER DEADLINE</p>	<p><b>21.</b> 8:30 AM Officer Retreat (Fellowship Hall)</p>
<p>10:00 AM Program Staff Meeting 10:00 PM Whitechapel Bells Rehearsal 10:00 PM Disciple Bible Study I 10:00 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal 5:00 PM AA Meeting</p>	<p><b>26.</b> 8:30 AM ACG Staff Meeting  AGO Set-Up - Fellowship Hall 6:30 PM Disciple Bible Study II Class</p>	<p><b>27.</b> AGO Practices  MESSENGER MAILING</p>	<p><b>28.</b> 8:00 AM-4:30 PM American Guild of Organists (AGO)</p>



january



## **PRESBYTERY EVENT**

**Monday, February 6, 2012**

**9:30 am - 3:30 pm**

**Covenant Presbyterian Church (9315 Candelaria Rd. NE)**

**Presenter: Phyllis Tickle**

Rooted in the observation that massive transitions in the church happen about every 500 years, Phyllis Tickle says we are living in such at time right now. In her latest book, "The Great Emergence," she compares our current situation to other "greats" in the history of Christianity, the last being the Reformation. Phyllis will explain what the Great Emergence in church and culture is, how it came to be, and where it might be going. Anyone interested in the future of the church will find this presentation fascinating.

Registration forms will be available in the Commons. Cost is \$10/person, with your check payable to Presbytery of Santa Fe. Registration deadline is January 10, 2012. For more information, call Carolyn Rhodes, 764-2900.



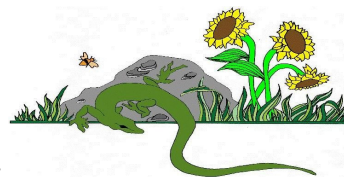
### **FPC & PW RECEIVE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT GIFT FROM MENAUL SCHOOL**



Menaul School recently acknowledged donors who had given significant funds to further promote and continue Menaul's efforts as a viable institution preparing students from middle school through high school for college. Rev. Paul Debenport and Presbyterian Women Moderator, Marita Marshall, accepted a certificate and a lovely gift basket on behalf of First Church and PW for their \$50,000.00 in funding.

### **FROM A CHILD'S GARDEN**

**ACG is hosting a Scholastic Book Fair, JANUARY 23-27, 2012, IN THE ATRIUM OF THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BUILDING. Church members and friends may shop on Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> between 9:30 and 11 or after 12:00. Please join us in promoting literacy in the community.**



### **UPDATE FROM CAMINO DE VIDA FOOD BOXES**

Rev. Guillermo Yela, his wife Celia, and their four boys joined members of our congregation on Monday, December 19th from 3-7pm for an Open House for their church members and other community members to pick up the food boxes prepared during this year's Advent Evening Events. There were **78** plastic tubs filled with the generous donations from you, our congregation. All but 19 of the boxes were picked up during the open house by entire families, who not only gratefully received their boxes but spent time to sit and enjoy hot cider or other hot drinks and some holiday goodies, before venturing out into the snowy evening. On Wednesday, Guillermo and Celia came to get the remaining food boxes to take to Camino de Vida's temporary facility where they have a weekly "food bank" for needy families. The miscellaneous items left over after filling the food boxes was given to Rio Grande Food Bank. **THANK YOU** to all of you who contributed to this year's Food Drive. You helped make Christmas a little brighter for these deserving families.

January 2012

# Youth Group

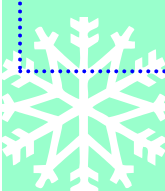


First Presbyterian Church



## Happy Birthday!

- Jan 4—Elizabeth Mather
- Jan 8—Robert Burger
- Jan 10—Isaac Morris
- Jan 17—Natalie Cook
- Jan 18—Jonah Hoffman



## Coming Soon:

Souper Bowl Collection & Mission Trip \$100 deposit due!	Feb 5
Souper Bowl Shopping	Feb 12
Pres. High School Retreat @ Ghost Ranch	Mar 2-4
Mission Trip to Arkansas	June 2-10
Youth Week @ Ghost Ranch	June 18-24

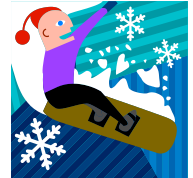


Youth Group *usually* meets on Sundays from 5-7pm

**Sunday, Jan 1**— NO youth group. Happy New Year's—go to church at 11am, then go home and eat your black eyed peas!

**Sunday, Jan 8** - back to Westminster for youth group 2012. We'll eat some dinner, play some games and talk about God. Can we prove that God exists—hm???

**Fri, Jan 13-Sun, Jan 15 - SKI Trip 2012!** We're staying at the Church House again—space is very limited. Sign up now....No Youth Group on Sunday night.



**Monday, Jan 16** - Happy MLK Day, do something good for the world!

**Sunday, Jan 22** - It's Family Night at Youth Group. Let's have a potluck dinner, an info meeting about the Mission trip, play some games and talk about God. Please, plan to join us. RSVP to Karen....

**Sunday, Jan 29** - here we go, crazy games, delicious food and an excellent topic—how can God be three-in-one? A prize to the one who is best able to explain the trinity....you, theological genius....

**Sounds like a pretty good month. See you soon!**

## Youth Mission Trip 2012 to.....ARKANSAS!!

**Who:** All young people (age 12 & up), plus lucky adult chaperones

**Where:** Ferncliff Camp and Heifer Ranch in Perryville, Arkansas.

**When:** June 2-10

**What:** We'll travel to Arkansas, stay at Ferncliff Camp & Conference Center, work at the Disaster Assistance Center there, spend time in Little Rock where we'll visit Central High School, a famous civil rights site, and then we'll spend time at the Heifer Ranch doing the global challenge. We'll live in a village in South America, Asia, Africa or rural United States—see what life is like.

**How Much?** Final cost to be determined, BUT we'll do some fundraising, and we have scholarships available.

**Please watch for an information meeting coming soon!**

## **THIRD SUNDAY LUNCHEON IN NOVEMBER**

**ALL-CHURCH FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON: SUNDAY, JANUARY 15TH,  
12:00 NOON, FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**2011 NEW MEMBERS WILL BE RECOGNIZED.  
PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A DESSERT TO SHARE.  
A FREE-WILL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN.**



## **TEACHER REFRESHMENT SUNDAY**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 29TH** will be Teacher Refreshment Sunday **from 10:00-10:45 a.m. in C.E. Room 218.** All current preschool, elementary and youth teachers are invited.

Elementary children and youth will meet in Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour for music. The preschoolers will remain in their regular room.

## **BOARD OF DEACONS REPORT - December 2011**

First Presbyterian Church continues to be blessed with Christians who truly enjoy being a Deacon, serving and interacting with so many members who are home bound, nursing home bound, lonely and grieving. I would like to personally thank the entire Board of Deacons who tirelessly give of their time, energy and spirituality with our members. A very special "Thank You" to the officers: Moderators-Elect, first Irfan Mall & now Sarah and Terry Price; past Moderators, Dolores and Bob Montoya; Joyce Barefoot, Recording Secretary; Dolores Montoya, Corresponding Secretary; Jesse May, Treasurer; Ann Dinius, Liaison to Session; and Committee Chairs, Gene and Dona Arnot, Bereavement Committee; Marcy Salazar & Julie Dilts, "90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party"; and Jesse May, ad-hoc Committee on new ways to share the Sunday Services. Thank you to staff, especially Paula Wood, for her guidance and work she does for the Board, Helpline, and the congregation.

All the members of the Board of Deacons serve each week in numerous jobs such as: Greeting; ushering; delivering altar flowers; serving at Memorial Receptions and greeting at Memorial Services; mailing cards; visiting with their "Specials"; sharing the spirit of the Lord with the ill or homebound; serving Communion and many other duties. The Policies and Procedures handbook was revised in February to enhance and define the Deacons' roles. The Annual Report of the Board of Deacons will be available by late January.

During this year I have been honored to serve as Moderator of the Board of Deacons. Blessings to ALL Deacons for their outstanding devotion and service in 2011!

THANK YOU. MERRY CHRISTMAS and a JOYOUS NEW YEAR! *Nancy Cooper*



**PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY** for our church family's loved ones

serving in the Middle East and elsewhere: Jarrett Gibson/Korea (Navajo Godson of Robert Custer); Dion Greg Chilson/Iraq; Tyler Donnell/Iraq (close friend of Jean Cates); Daniel Baldorama/Iraq (a family friend); member, Amy Wilson/Korea; Devin Hollingsworth/Afghanistan again (nephew of Bud and Holly Hodgin); Meg Ford and Taylor Ford/Afghanistan (brother and sister, friends of Lynette Darrow); Anthony Rio/Afghanistan (close friend of the Torrez family); Tyler Smith/Afghanistan (friend of Alicia Cunningham); Chris Klave/Persian Gulf (son-in-law of Terry & Sarah Price). **PRAYERS OF PRAISE & THANKSGIVING:** Clay Simmons (friend of Alicia Cunningham) is home safely from Iraq; Robert Winfield (friend of Dorothy & Bob Cole) is home safely from Iraq; Keith Adam (friend of Heidi Sims) is home safely from Afghanistan.

## HEALTH ISSUE SEMINAR FOR JANUARY

Please note that we will be meeting on the SECOND SUNDAY instead of the first in January. On January 8th, our own, Mike Dempsey, M.D., will speak on "Update On Dementia". Please join us at 10:00 a.m. in the Kerygma Room to hear this informative presentation.

## OUR FAMILY OF FAITH JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

<b>1</b>	Adnan Mall	<b>20</b>
<b>2</b>	Tom Morris	Clifford Blossom
Nancy Allred	Deborah Wells	Robert McAfee
Jeff Hoffman	<b>12</b>	Bill Waters
Rosa Steele	Amy Badger	<b>21</b>
James Werner	Mary Carstensen	<b>22</b>
<b>3</b>	Ann Farris	Lois Harvey
Neita Blakely	Phillip Halbgewachs	<b>23</b>
Mark Valverde	Erica Weiss	<b>24</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	Gail Grambling
Elizabeth Mather	Karen Clapper	<b>25</b>
Larry Caskey	Patti May	Tish Brown
Jesse May	Julia Thompson	Mary Ann Green
Al Nichols	<b>14</b>	Betty Holmsten
Heidi Sims	Kathy Schwarting	Jennifer Runkle
<b>5</b>	Martha Tuffs	William Trimble
Katie Kortkamp	Suzanne Wilden	William Valliant
Bill Laswell	<b>15</b>	<b>26</b>
Sam Rhodes	Nancy Holliday	Leann Bell
Jessica Sims	Marjorie Oakes	Imran Mall
<b>6</b>	Matthew Tandysh	<b>27</b>
Paul Cunningham	<b>16</b>	Mary Lueckenhoff
Nancy Roberts	Ilsa Garduno	<b>28</b>
<b>7</b>	Brian Salazar	Delford Benson
Nell Arnett	Christie Wiltse	John Blackley
Stephen Clapper	<b>17</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>8</b>	Natalie Cook	Laurie Dudasik
Robert Burger	Maxine Crow	Rebecca Hix
<b>9</b>	Donnie Lujan	Bob Setchell
Donald Cleghorn	Patricia Rechar	<b>30</b>
Joseph Sanchez	<b>18</b>	Inez Cocke
Darlene Van Winkle	Grant Davis	Reymundo Garduno
<b>10</b>	Kathy Day	Pamela Thuman
Nathan Cunningham	Jonah Hoffman	<b>31</b>
Margaret Cunningham	<b>19</b>	Martha Brown
Isaac Morris	Kim Denton-Hill	Becky Dees
Ginel Wheaton	Neal Kloepfer	Ian Finley
Debra White	Gene Runkle	Phyllis Martinez
<b>11</b>	Akash Mall	
Julie Ahern		

We apologize if we have inadvertently left your name off of this Birthday List, but please call us at 764-2900 and let us know so that we can add you to the list.

First Presbyterian Messenger  
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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Staff Members can be reached  
by dialing (505) 764– and the numbers  
listed in parentheses after each title.



**Rev. John Oerter**  
*Transitional Pastor* (2901)



**Rev. Mike Elliott**  
*Associate Pastor  
for Administration* (2906)



**Rev. Karen Hill**  
*Associate Pastor  
for Youth & Mission* (2903)



**Elizabeth Engdahl Whiteley**  
*Director of Christian Education*  
(2924)



**Susan Keil Smith**  
*Director of A Child's Garden*  
(2920)



**Paula Wood**  
*Helpline and New Member  
Coordinator* (2910)



**Ed Torrez**  
*Children's Choir Director*  
(2907)



**James Yeager**  
*Music Director* (2914)



**Arlene Ward**  
*Assistant Organist* (2900)

**Messenger deadline  
January 21, 2011**

**View the current and past  
issues of *The Messenger* at  
[www.firstpresabq.org](http://www.firstpresabq.org) when  
you sign up at the "Church  
Community Area."**

## ABOUT OUR MEMBERS:

**BIRTH:** A daughter, **Rose Marilyn Leckman**, was born to **Phillip Leckman** & Heather Ailes (granddaughter of **Lane Leckman**, niece of **Daniel Leckman**) on November 13, 2011. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THEM!

### **BAPTISM:**

**Emily Rose Rowan**, daughter of Steve & **Alison Rowan** (granddaughter of **Ann & Tom Bell**), was baptized on December 4, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. with The Rev. Karen Hill officiating, assisted by Elder Paula Wood.

### **OUR SYMPATHY TO:**

Member, **Karen Anderson**, on the death of her sister, Carol Mallett, on Friday, December 2, 2011. Carol did not want a Memorial service.

[**PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY** is located on page 10]

**In order to email members of the FPC Staff, spell out their entire name @firstpresabq.org.  
One exception: Sam Mayer is smayer@firstpresabq.org.**