

First Presbyterian Church of Albuquerque's

# MESSANGER LIGHT

December 10th, 2025



**Church Office Hours**  
**Monday—Thursday**  
**8:00am to 2:00pm**

Our staff members can  
be reached individually  
by phone or email  
between 8am and 2pm,  
Monday through Friday:

**Matthew Miller**  
505-764-2902

**Essie Koenig-Reinke**  
505-764-2903

**Leon Lake**  
505-900-5317

**Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo**  
857-212-0158

**Carolyn Rhodes**  
505-764-2906

**Saira Herrera**  
505-764-2911

If you have an after-hours  
emergency, you can reach  
pastoral staff through our  
helpline at 505-764-2910

**First Presbyterian  
Church (USA)**  
215 Locust Street, NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87102  
505-764-2900  
[www.firstpresabq.org](http://www.firstpresabq.org)



## Christmas Eve

### Wednesday, December 24th

## *First Presbyterian Church*

Invites you to our Christmas Eve Services, featuring

**"The Birth" by Frederick Buechner,  
a witness to the Nativity in three monologues**

**Family Worship**  
**4:30 pm**

Join us for a Family Service on Christmas Eve  
in the Sanctuary, followed by Christmas Family pictures.

**Candlelight Christmas Eve  
Worship Service**  
**8:00 pm**

In-person Livestream Candlelight Christmas Eve  
Worship Service, in the Sanctuary.

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

### **Wednesday, December 10th**

- Archives, 10:00 am.
- Social services network
- Chancel choir rehearsal, 6:30 pm.

### **Thursday, December 11th**

- Book club, 10:00 am in the conference room.
- Dulce Salado, 9:00-4:00 pm in the FH.
- Young Voices, 1:30 pm.
- ABQ Girls' chorus rehearsal, 5:00 pm in choir room.
- High Desert Pipes and Drums, 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

### **Friday, December 12th**

- NM Philharmonic, "Messiah" at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

### **Saturday, December 13th**

- NM Philharmonic, "Messiah" at 3:30 pm in the Sanctuary.

### **Sunday, December 14th**

- Through the Bible Class at 9:45 am in CE Room 219.
- Adult Sunday School at 9:45 am via Zoom/In person in Kerygma Room.
- Godly Play Sunday School (ages 3 through 5th grade) at 9:45 am in CE Rooms 210 & 211.
- In-person/Livestream Worship Service, 11:00 am, Christmas Cantata! Followed by a All-Church potluck.

### **-Monday, December 15th**

- Young Voices, 4:30 pm.
- Enchanter's rehearsal, 5:30 pm.
- Women's chorus rehearsal, 6:30 pm in choir room.

### **-Tuesday, December 16th**

- Tuesday Study group, at noon via Zoom.
- Sandia Pipes and Drums rehearsal, 6:00 pm in Fellowship Hall.

### **Wednesday, December 17th**

- Archives, 10:00 am.
- The Longest Night, in the Chapel at 5:30 pm.

### **Thursday, December 18th**

- ABQ Girls' chorus rehearsal, 5:00 pm in choir room.
- High Desert Pipes and Drums, 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

### **Friday, December 19th**

- A Child's Garden, at noon in the Fellowship Hall.

### **Sunday, December 21st**

- In-person Fellowship Hall Worship Service at 8:30 am.
- Through the Bible Class at 9:45 am in CE Room 219/2

- Adult Sunday School at 9:45 am via Zoom/In person in Kerygma Room.
- Fiber Arts group, 9:45 pm.
- Godly Play Sunday School (ages 3 through 5th grade) at 9:45 am in CE Rooms 210 & 211.
- In-person/Livestream Worship Service, 11:00 am.

### **Wednesday, December 24th**

- Family Service, 4:30 pm , followed by Christmas pictures.
- Candlelight Worship Service, 8:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

### **Thursday, December 25th**

- Church Office Closed.

### **Friday, December 26th**

- Church Office Closed.

### **Sunday, December 28th**

- We are only having one In-person Fellowship Hall Service at 8:30 am.

## *Mission- Advent Tree*

We are again blessed to be able to live into Advent by giving to some of our mission partners.

You have been VERY generous each year and our mission partners have been grateful for the gifts you have provided.

We have chosen the following partners you have been happy to serve in the past. This year the need is even greater and these daily necessities are not affordable for our at risk neighbors.

**Cards will be on the tree starting the week of November 24.** Take a card from the tree for the agency you wish to support and replace it with an Angel from the box nearby. Please attach your card to the bag or box of supplies you provide so we can get your gift to your recipient.

### **Agencies this year:**

Albuquerque Healthcare for the Homeless  
Barrett House  
Rio Grande Food Project  
Cuidando Los Ninos

*Thank you for all you do!*

You are a generous and caring congregation.  
You are known for the contributions you make to our community







*First Presbyterian Church of Albuquerque*  
invites you join us in worship for the world premiere of  
**“Christmas Oratorio”**

written by First Presbyterian Church's Music Director

*Leon Lake*

The Oratorio features the Chancel Choir of First Presbyterian Church, joined with choral scholars and soloists from UNM's voice and opera department & the fabulous 4 Manual Muller Organ played by Dr. Jessie Lo

**Sunday, December 14th at 11:00 am**  
**215 Locust Street NE in Albuquerque**

# CANTATA POTLUCK

BRING A DISH TO SHARE!



**14  
DEC**

After 11 a.m service  
Join us at our All-Church  
Potluck brunch in the  
Fellowship Hall.

## POINSETTIAS *Sale!*

### We have poinsettias for sale!

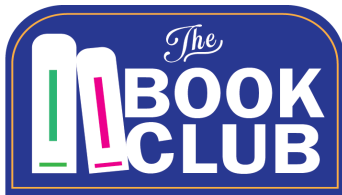
A beautiful red color, perfect for decoration on your Christmas table or for that last-minute gift for the in-laws! We got you covered!

Don't wait long, because these are selling fast; we still have some at the Commons 2. You can pay in

cash or make a check payable to Presbyterian Women.

***Come and get yours!***

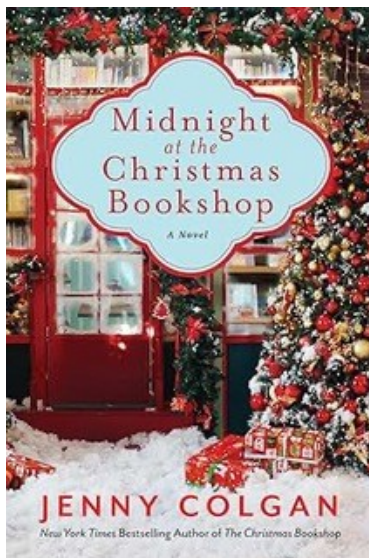
**For only \$15 each**



## “Midnight at the Christmas Bookshop”

by Jenny Colgan

Please join us on Thursday, December 11th at 10:00 am in the Conference room, for our monthly book club. Lorna will be the leader in the discussion.



## Advent

Community activities



### **The Tuesday Study and Prayer Group**

Will be using the book, “Songs For The Waiting; Devotions Inspired By The Hymns of Advent”, by Magrey R DeVega during advent.

The 4 week study will start on Tuesday December 2nd at noon via Zoom.

*\*Contact the church office to add your name to the list of folks who receive the zoom link.*





The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.

Isaiah 9:2

# Advent

## Starry Night Advent Study (on Zoom)

Join us this Advent as we prepare for Christmas together

*Sunday's*

**Nov 30, Dec 07, 14 & 21 @ 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm**

"Dark skies are perfect for stargazing, for seeking out the Light of the World among the deep indigos, bottomless blues, and inky blacks of God's night sky. Just as the shepherds and Magi looked up to the heavens and faithfully followed the stars, we'll spend the next four weeks training our eyes to wait, and to watch, and to wonder at all God has done – and will do – for the love of this broken, beautiful world."

**Contact Rev. Essie to receive the zoom link**

EXPERIENCE AN INTIMATE  
PERFORMANCE BY  
THE NEW MEXICO  
PHILHARMONIC

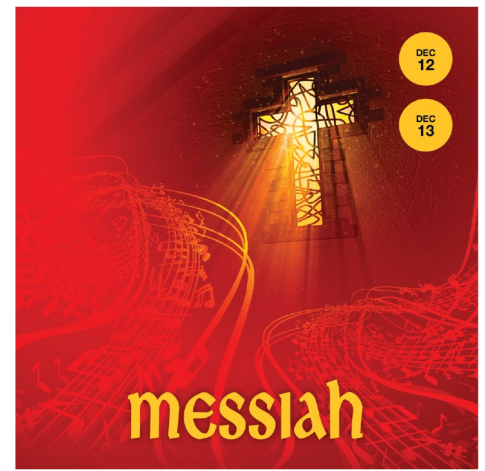
# Handel's Messiah!

Celebrate the holiday season with the world's most beloved sacred symphonic work: **Handel's Messiah**.

**When:** Friday and Saturday. December 12, 13 2025.

**Where:** First Presbyterian Church, 215 Locust St NE, Albuquerque, NM 87102

**Buy tickets at:** <https://nmphil.org/>



## A Grief Support Group

### Acknowledging Grief during the Holidays

If you have experienced a loss in this past year or anytime prior to this holiday season and would like to sit with others to share experiences as we travel into the season, **please join us in Room 220 on Sunday, at 1:00 pm, December 14th, following the 11:00 service activities.** A lite lunch will be provided.

**For questions or to RSVP, please contact Susan Smith at [susankeil1246@gmail.com](mailto:susankeil1246@gmail.com)**



### THE LONGEST NIGHT ,CHAPEL

Join us in the chapel for our longest night service. So often the world tells us the holidays should be happy and full of joy all the time. When the feelings are deep and night is long - sometimes all we can do is gather, pray and wait together. This service is a space to come as you are, to bring all that you carry, and find a moment to rest. This service is not a cure or a quick fix. Rather it is a space to be, to pray, and to be reminded that the dawn is coming, the world is turning, even when we cannot hold it for ourselves. You are welcome here, so come, join us. See you at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, December 17th!



## Christmas Office schedule



The Church office will be closed on:  
**Thursday, 25th & Friday, 26th**

### Sunday, December 29th

We are only having one In-person  
Fellowship Hall Service at 8:30 am.

**NO 11:00 am Service**

**NO Adult Sunday School**

**NO Godly Play**

