



Presbytidsings December 2021/January 2022

An outreach of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Words from your pastor

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

It may seem early to be shouting that from the rooftops. After all, January 1 is still a month away! But in the liturgical calendar, the first Sunday of Advent marks the beginning of a new church year! Those who follow the Revised Common Lectionary, as we usually do at St. Andrew, move from the end of Year B to the beginning of Year C in the three-year cycle of Bible readings selected for use in Sunday worship.

That said, I plan to depart from the lectionary a little more often in 2022. For example, on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend I will be preaching on the story of Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-16), a story that is not included in the Revised Common Lectionary.

Also, I've just received two women's lectionaries published this year -- *The Women's Lectionary: Preaching the Women of the Bible Throughout the Year*, by Ashley M. Wilcox, and *A Women's Lectionary for the Whole Church*, by Wilda C. Gafney.

These will encourage me to preach more on the women of the Bible in the new year. The theme for this year's Advent Worship Series is "New Life is Coming!" Thanks to our Advent Worship Planning Team (Barb Sanders, Debbie Steffen, and Jan McEwen) for pulling these services together. I hope you'll join us for worship this Advent — a season of hope, peace, joy, and love.

- Nov. 28 – Signs of New Life (Luke 21:25-36) -- Like trees sprouting new leaves, the coming kingdom means new life.
- Dec. 5 – Preparing for New Life (Luke 3:1-6) -- John's "baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins" prepares us for new life. Preparing the way of the Lord looks to new life for the Babylonian exiles.
- Dec. 12 – Living New Life (Luke 3:7-18) -- John gives examples of what it means to "bear fruits worthy of repentance"— living a new life.
- Dec. 19 – Bearing New Life (Luke 1:39-55) -- Mary and Elizabeth are both pregnant, about to bear new life — John and Jesus.

The December 19 service will also feature special music sung by several members of our chancel choir and a piece played by our bell choir. Our **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** at 5:30 p.m. will include a monologue entitled "What's it all about, Alfie?" by Rev. Bill Aber and special music (The Little Drummer Boys) played by Bill Aber and Donovan Gaylor (drums) and JoAnn Rice (bagpipe). Our traditional **Service of Lessons and Carols** will take place on the Sunday after Christmas, December 26, at 9:30 a.m. On the first Sunday of 2022 our parish associate, Rev. Catherine Robinson, will be preaching in my absence. I'll return to the pulpit for the remaining Sundays in January.

- Jan. 2 – The Hymn and the Preacher (John 1:1-18)
- Jan. 9 – Baptized to Build a Movement (Luke 3:15-22)
- Jan. 16 – Cain and Abel (Genesis 4:1-16)
- Jan. 23 – We Need Each Other (1 Corinthians 12:12-31a)

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This past year -- with its periodic surges in COVID cases, severe weather events, culture wars, and political upheaval -- has been a difficult year for many. As we look forward to 2022, let us hope and pray that it will be a better year for everyone. Peace, Roger

A Christmas Prayer by Robert Louis Stevenson:

Loving Father, Help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven,

Pastor Roger's Public Comment on the NM PED Social Studies Draft Standards at the Public Hearing on November 12, 2021.

My name is Roger Scott Powers. I'm the pastor of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque.

I've read the entire draft of the Social Studies Standards, and I am very impressed with them. It was an enormous task to establish grade-appropriate K-12 performance indicators for 26 anchor standards that weave together the strands of civics and government; economics; geography; the history of N.M, the U.S., and the World; ethnic, cultural and identity studies; and inquiry! The drafting team clearly put great thought and care into them, and I want to express my appreciation for their excellent work. I fully support the adoption of the new standards. The draft captured my attention right from the beginning when I read the definition from the National Council for Social Studies: (and I quote) "Social studies is the integrated study of the social sciences and humanities to promote civic competence. The primary purpose of social studies is to help young people develop the ability to make informed and reasoned decisions for the public good as citizens of a culturally diverse, democratic society in an interdependent world." (end quote)

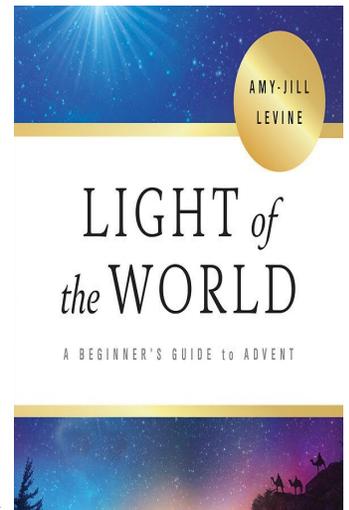
Given the growing threats to democracy in the United States, social studies so defined is needed in our schools now more than ever. I appreciate the way the new standards promote the development of students' critical thinking skills and encourage their active civic participation. This is vital for the health of our democracy. The standards also acknowledge that we are a diverse country (racially, ethnically, and culturally). Rather than gloss over our differences, the standards see our differences as a learning opportunity. They seek to empower students to develop pride in their own identity, history, and culture, while at the same time learning to value and respect the identity, history, and culture of others different from themselves. Given the deep divisions in our country, building bridges of understanding across the lines that divide us is essential if we are to keep the United States united. The standards also seek to teach history from multiple points of view, incorporating Anglo, Indigenous, Hispano/Latino, African American, and other cultural perspectives. This multifaceted approach to teaching history should give students a fuller, more accurate picture of events of the past, which is important in equipping students to understand and face the challenges of today and tomorrow.

A curriculum based on these standards will benefit New Mexico students greatly. I believe the content would benefit adults across our state as well. Perhaps the new curriculum could include prompts to encourage parental involvement. Indeed, I would recommend the new curriculum be posted online, making it available to all New Mexicans (both children and adults). Thank you.

Adult Christian Education – Advent Study

Our Advent Study this year will explore the biblical texts surrounding the story of the birth of Jesus. We'll be reading together *Light of the World: A Beginner's Guide to Advent*, by Amy-Jill Levine. Her book traces the Christmas narrative through the stories of Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, the journey to Bethlehem, and the visit from the Magi.

These stories open conversations around connections of the Gospel stories to the Old Testament, the role of women in first-century Jewish culture, the importance of Mary's visitation and the revolutionary implications of Mary's Magnificat, the census and the stable, and the star of Bethlehem and the flight to Egypt. Amy-Jill Levine ("AJ") is Rabbi Stanley M. Kessler Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at The Hartford International University for Religion and Peace (formerly Hartford Seminary). An internationally renowned scholar and teacher, she is the author of numerous books and coeditor of *The Jewish Annotated New Testament*. AJ is the first Jew to teach New Testament at Rome's Pontifical Biblical Institute. She describes herself as an unorthodox member of an Orthodox synagogue and a Yankee Jewish feminist who until 2021 taught New Testament in a Christian divinity school in the buckle of the Bible Belt. Catherine Robinson will lead the class on November 28, December 5, and December 19. Pastor Roger will lead



Congregational Musings for December 2021 and January 2022

I am writing this long after some of the events have happened and long in advance of other activities because it is a two month combined issue. My annoyance this time is Black Friday. It has become an annual occurrence that has people cutting short Thanksgiving celebrations, camping on doorsteps for a sale to buy a gift for someone who will probably be in the line in a week taking it back to the store. Is that what Christmas and gift giving is all about? Most of these people have probably never seen the inside of a church in their lifetime. Lord, help us.

We will already be in the Advent season by the time you read this. Advent is the beginning of the Church Year. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day. The focus of the season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ. Advent can be a season of spiritual journey for individuals as well as congregations as we wait in a spirit of expectation, anticipation, preparation, and longing. Each year we await the rebirth of Christ when the world will be reconciled with God. The traditional colors of Advent, as seen in our candles on the first two Sundays and then the fourth Sunday, are purple or blue. They symbolize preparation, penitence and, finally, royalty to welcome the new King. The third Sunday came to be a time of rejoicing that the Fasting was almost over. Pink is seen as that symbol when our attention is turned to celebration of the season. What about red and green, you ask? They are more secular colors of Christmas. They derive from old European practices of using evergreens and holly to symbolize ongoing life and hope that Christ's birth brings into a cold world.



Moving on to next month and twelve days after the Advent of Christ. Advent ends on Christmas Day, then the 12 Days of Christmas continue on to Epiphany or Three Kings Day (January 6) when the Wise Men finally arrive in Bethlehem with gifts for the baby Jesus. They, also, bring a warning to Mary and Joseph and they take off for Egypt with the babe. This day is often celebrated with a King Cake, which has a baby-figure baked inside. The recipient is expected to host parties in the coming year in New Orleans.

There were a greater number of people at the Worship Service on November 7. I hope we can keep this up. For one who has been very Covid-cautious, I find it a pretty safe place to be. Just a reminder that your mask should cover BOTH your nose and mouth.



Once again our sanctuary will be brightened by poinsettias on Christmas Eve and December 26. The poinsettia is America's most popular flowering holiday plant. Native to Mexico, the plant is called *Flor de la Noche Buena* (Flower of the Holy Night), due to its resemblance to the Star of Bethlehem. The Worship Committee needs your support to bring the beauty and symbolism of poinsettias to our special Christmas Eve and Lessons and Carols services. It has long been a tradition at St Andrew to help defray the cost of the poinsettias by members purchasing the poinsettias in honor of or in memory of a special person. Unfortunately, as with so many things, the price of poinsettias has gone up. So we are asking for a \$20 donation per plant. The name of your honored person will be listed in the Christmas Eve and Lessons and Carols bulletins. Bright green Order Slips-that you can place in the collection basket or mail to the church office, along with your payment- are available in the back of the Sanctuary, or in the church office. You may take your plant after the service on December 26, or the deacons will distribute them to some of our friends who are

In Gratitude

There is a small crack in the cement in my backyard, a simple, ordinary crack. As I gardened and tended gently to my new seedlings in pots I did not give the crack a thought. I did notice a small green shoot and smiled, thinking, a little shoot looking for the sun. But as the days went on I watched as that shoot became a vine, then flowered, and continued on its merry way, up and around a table, a chair. I decided that vine needed its own support and put up a trellis. It blessed me all summer with the most startling pink morning glories and strong stem and huge leaves. It is magnificent. Even today, windy and cold, it blossoms and continues as if it did not notice the season has changed. Many of my other glories on the fence have seeded and rested, but not this glory. I look and sure enough, there is the crack, still feeding and supporting this amazing vine. Its beauty shimmers out my window and it has reminded me of *kintsugi*, the centuries old Japanese art of repairing broken pottery with gold and transforming it into something unique and beautiful. It is based on the Zen belief of embracing imperfections and finding beauty in brokenness. The vase focuses on the scars and becomes not only unique but so very beautiful; from cracks to loveliness. My ugly little crack in the cement has given me enchantment and lessons in grace. As the seasons have changed and our family has journeyed through its various challenges the morning glory has taught me to look for the grace in all our broken places. That magnificent vine has turned that crack into golden art. Watching it has healed the broken, cracked parts of my spirit and taught me that accepting the changes that come to us turn this season of my life into new strengths and possibilities. There is gratitude and humbleness today that has become the golden paint of filling in the cracks. God is in the cracks, and in the hope that draws us to continue to grow. Life is such a gift.

~ *Victoria Lopez*

It has been an incredibly challenging year for our family. Yes, COVID challenged the community with its twists and turns of mandates, vaccines, masks. We all got vaccinated, masked up and carried on. But personally here at home we kept facing one challenge after another; from broken AC/heater (hot summer!), broken down cars, stolen trucks. But those are "things" and we know one way or another we shall replace, and repair in good time, or sometime! It was the challenges to health and wellness that kept getting in the way of spirit. From my little stay in hospital starting in February to Attie's many, many illness struggles and hospital stays, to my own vision and physical ups and downs, to Julian's motorcycle accident and recovery. Sometimes it seemed the downs were winning. Now with Sierra's hospital visit and new diagnosis we continue the journey of challenge. We so looked forward to Ryan and Aja's wedding - a reason to celebrate and just be filled with joy. But as I look back over the last 11 months I know the one thing that never failed, never let us flounder completely was the love, grace and prayers of friends, our family here at St. Andrew. Those constant prayers, cards, phone calls always broke through any cloudy day and lifted spirits. So today I lift my heart in thanksgiving for all of you who have been so faithful in prayer and love. I ask forgiveness for not saying thank you sooner. I hold you in my prayers and thank God for you.

May you be blessed and be filled with grace. -*Victoria Lopez*

Child Care During Worship

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church is once again providing quality child care during our Sunday morning worship services for infants, toddlers, and children up to 7 years of age. Our dedicated child care space has been refurbished and our child care workers (Ashley Petras-Graham, Irene Pallardy, and Sam Emord) are back. Emphasis is placed on each child's need for love and acceptance. Children are encouraged to spend the first part of worship with their parents (or grandparents). Please let your family, friends, and neighbors know.

(Post it on Nextdoor if you have an account and share it on Facebook.) Let them know that worship begins at 9:30

Church Office Holiday Closures

November

The church office will close in the afternoon of Wednesday 24 and will be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday November 25, and Friday November 26.

The office will reopen on Tuesday November 30 at 9:00 am.

The church office will also close on December 23 for the Christmas holiday and will be closed through the remainder of December 2021. It will reopen on Tuesday, January 4 at 9:00 am.

Pastor Roger will be on vacation beginning December 27 through January 7

Please contact Rev. Catherine Robinson for pastoral emergencies during the Christmas and



Anna Redsand and Catherine Robinson are grateful to announce the release of the PDF version of our book, ***Life with God: A Course for Growing a Spiritual Practice.***

Do you sometimes long for a deeper connection with God, at other times feel like prayer is an obligation, or even that God is just an abstraction? Eminently practical and never preachy, *Life with God* invites you into the aliveness of God's presence rather than prescribing a certain way of thinking or feeling about God. *Life with God* is not a book to be read or even savored; it is an interactive, eleven-week course. Each chapter begins with stories from the authors' experiences, illustrating that there is no single way to experience God or to develop a daily discipline. Scripture passages, quotes from many traditions, hymns, and exercises expand ways of experiencing the Divine. The book can be accompanied by a separate leader's guide for groups.

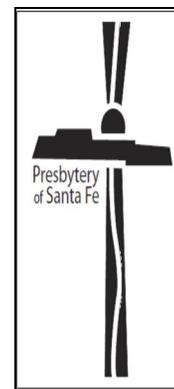
The cost is \$10. Order at <https://www.revcatherinerobinson.com>

A Thank You from the Presbytery of Santa Fe

Because your congregation at St. Andrew gave to the Presbytery through Per Capita and/or Mission Funding, you and the Presbytery

- Assisted Camino de Vida in its outreach to Latinos new to this country
- Impacted Young Adult Volunteers by providing financial assistance as they spend a year in mission in Albuquerque
- Facilitated presbytery-wide youth activities, overseen by our youth coordinator
- Gave financial help to smaller congregations, like Embudo, Peñasco, Laguna and Cuba
- Underwrote committees of Presbytery, like Commission on Ministry and Commission on Preparation for Ministry, and the Educational Networking Committee, thereby nurturing the work of the Presbytery

*As we approach the Thanksgiving Season,
the Presbytery's Stewardship Team is writing to say
Thank You! ~ Bryan Beck*



Health Ministry - Food Synergy

Food synergy is defined as nutrients in foods working together to create greater health benefits. When pairing certain foods together at a meal or snack, they can do more for your health than by themselves or on their own. Food synergy is also dynamic when nutrients between two foods work together in the body for maximum health benefits.

Bioavailability is the proportion of a nutrient that the human body can absorb and use. Just because we consume foods or supplements doesn't mean that we will absorb 100% of the nutrients. Food combinations, processing, and cooking all influence how well nutrients will be absorbed. Eating food as close to their purest form as possible is our best bet when trying to improve health and prevent disease. Our families and distant ancestors instinctually knew a few things or two, as many regional foods and classic local recipes naturally contain synergistic food pairing. As you read about these food pairings think about the cuisines that come to mind, such as the Mediterranean diet, foods of New Orleans and food pairings from India.

Here are examples of food pairing and why when paired together, they become a dynamic duo for your health:

GREEN TEA and LEMON - A hot cup of green tea with lemon is one of the most dynamic duos around. Green tea is high in a type of flavonoid called catechins, which is associated with lower incidences of cancer, cardiovascular disease, and high cholesterol, as well as an improved immune system. When lemon juice is added, it increases the utilization of catechins found in green tea by more than five times, giving a beneficial health boost.

RED BEANS or LENTILS and RICE - Beans and lentils are underused foods that should be part of everyone's regular diet. Beans and lentils are loaded with protein, fiber, potassium and magnesium. When they are included in our diet, they can help prevent heart disease, colorectal cancer, and hypertension, as well as stabilize blood sugar levels. Rice contains an amino acid that when combined with beans or lentils forms a complete protein, meaning that the combination contains all nine of the essential amino acids. Brown rice of course is a whole grain and is also high in fiber and magnesium. Think of the regional cuisines of Red beans and rice from New Orleans or Red Lentil Dahl and rice from India.

GREEK YOGURT and BANANAS - Greek yogurt is a probiotic that thrives on prebiotics to feed it. Bananas contain a prebiotic called inulin, a plant-based carbohydrate. When bananas and protein rich Greek yogurt are combined together, the inulin increases the growth of yogurt's healthy bacteria, helping regulate digestion and boosting immunity.

TOMATOES and BROCCOLI - Tomatoes are well known for their prostate-cancer fighting phytochemical called lycopene, while broccoli is known for its abundance of vitamin C and the phytochemical beta-carotene. Combine the two together and prostate cancer has a formidable opponent. The bioactive compounds in both tomatoes and broccoli appear to have varying actions on anti-cancer pathways helping slow down the growth of cancer tumors. Lycopene is also known for lowering the risk of strokes.

GARLIC and FISH - Eating fish rich in omega-3 fatty acids, vitamin D, protein and selenium (found in salmon, herring, mackerel, anchovies or sardines) are all effective in lowering triglycerides, blood pressure and reducing inflammation. Add garlic when cooking fish and you'll get an even bigger nutritional bang. Combining the two may help lower triglycerides, LDL cholesterol and total cholesterol.

OATMEAL and BLUEBERRIES - Both oatmeal and blueberries can stand on their own for their exceptional nutritional profile. Oatmeal has an arsenal of phytochemicals to prevent free radicals that promote plaque buildup in the arteries increasing heart disease. Blueberries are loaded with vitamin C, fiber, and manganese along with containing ellagic acid which may prevent certain cancers. Combining the two together creates a powerhouse of health by further decreasing the risk of plaque buildup.

SPINACH and RED BELL PEPPER - Spinach is well known for its iron content but it's in the form of non-heme iron which is not as well absorbed by the body as heme iron found in animal sources like red meat. This is where a vitamin C rich food like red bell pepper can help. The vitamin C in red bell peppers enhances the absorption of non-heme iron found in spinach.

OLIVE OIL and VEGETABLES - Olive oil is a healthy monounsaturated fat that increases the body's absorption of carotenoids, found in colorful vegetables such as tomatoes, spinach, broccoli, peppers, carrots and kale. Carotenoids are health promoting antioxidants that lower the risk of cancers, heart disease and have anti-inflammatory properties. These same vegetables also contain the fat-soluble vitamins of A, D, E, and K which are better absorbed when you cook them with olive oil. Food synergy is a very good thing. For good health, it is important to eat a variety of whole foods and pairing those that are synergistic makes sense.

Christmas Joy Offering –December 24 and 26

A gift opens doors: Proverbs 18:16



**CHRISTMAS JOY
SPECIAL OFFERINGS**
LEADERSHIP: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

OUR GIFTS AT WORK: SUPPORTING OUR PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE LEADERS

By supporting the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions (BOP), the Christmas Joy Offering honors the faithfulness of current and retired church workers and their families in need. Thanks in part to support from this Offering, church workers can receive critical financial assistance to support them through life's challenging circumstances. \$1.1 million of gifts from 2020 are being used to provide critical financial support and grants for current and retired Presbyterian church workers in their times of need. Income supplements, housing supplements and Emergency Assistance Grants have provided loving support to retired church workers and their spouses facing economic uncertainty.

OUR GIFTS AT WORK: PREPARING THE WAY FOR FUTURE LEADERS

The PC(USA), with its historic commitment to higher learning, has long promoted education and leadership development through the establishment and support of Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. Our future church leaders of color can receive much-needed assistance while they discover and pursue their professional goals at these schools and colleges.

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING SUPPORTS THESE INSTITUTIONS

Menaul School Albuquerque, New Mexico

- Most diverse private high school in the Albuquerque area.

Presbyterian Pan American School, Kingsville, Texas

- Welcomes a diverse international student body, with 26 countries represented in the last 25 years

Stillman College, Tuscaloosa, Alabama

- Stillman has been selected a College of Distinction for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 for Christian Education, Teacher Education, Support of the Military and Veteran Students, and Preparing Business Leaders

Let us pray,

*Draw us near to the light of the manger, generous God, to see your perfect gift to us.
By your grace, stoke the fires of our compassion that all might know the gift of your love. Amen.*

May we share the Greatest Gift, the love of Jesus Christ,



CHRISTMAS
IS THE SPIRIT OF GIVING WITHOUT A
THOUGHT OF GETTING.

A New Model for St. Andrew's Board of Deacons

“The ministry of deacon as set forth in Scripture is one of compassion, witness, and service, sharing in the redeeming love of Jesus Christ for the poor, the hungry, the sick, the lost, the friendless, the oppressed, those burdened by unjust policies or structures, or anyone in distress. Persons of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary lives, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion, and sound judgment should be chosen for this ministry. (*PCUSA Book of Order, G-2.0201*)



St. Andrew has been blessed to have many committed deacons who have served our congregation well over the years. We are grateful for their faithful service.

In recent years, however, it has been increasingly challenging to find church members willing to serve on the Board of Deacons. When I first came to St. Andrew in 2016, the congregation was divided into 7 geographical parishes and there was a deacon assigned to each parish. In 2018, with fewer deacons to cover our parishes, we reduced the number of parishes from 7 to 6. In 2020, we again had to reduce the number of parishes from 6 to 5. Each time we reduced the number of parishes, the size of each parish necessarily increased. Consequently, each deacon was asked to be responsible for keeping in touch with and caring for more and more church members and families.

At St. Andrew we ask a lot of our Board of Deacons. Deacons are expected to know each church member and family in their assigned parish and to keep in regular contact with them. They are expected to be aware of any important life events happening in their parish, to maintain a notebook with information about the people in their parish, and to organize social events for their parish. And that is just one part of a multi-point job description for St. Andrew deacons.

It is clear that the model St. Andrew has had for the Board of Deacons over the years has become unsustainable. We can't keep reducing the number of parishes and expect fewer and fewer deacons to do more and more work.

I have been in conversation with the pastors of four other Presbyterian churches in Albuquerque and learned that none of them are divided up into geographical parishes and most of them do not ask their deacons to keep in touch with everyone in the congregation. Instead, their deacons focus on church members who have particular needs (e.g., homebound members, members who are ill and in the hospital or are recovering at home, members who have had a recent death in the family).

In conversation with the Board of Deacons and the Session, we have decided to make some changes in what we ask our deacons to do. Beginning in 2022, deacons will no longer be assigned to a parish. Instead, the deacons will have a list of people in the congregation with particular needs, and each deacon will take responsibility for keeping in touch with 3-4 people on that list, offering to provide or coordinate assistance for them as needed.

When someone at St. Andrew is having surgery, has been hospitalized, becomes homebound, or has a death in the family, please let the moderator of the Board of Deacons (Karen Ulack) and Pastor Roger know so that they can offer support and assistance as needed. People with particular needs can be added to the Deacons' List or taken off the list as their circumstances change.

The congregation will still be divided into geographical parishes, and the lists of who is in each parish will be printed at the end of the church directory as in the past. That way, anyone who is interested in organizing a social event within their parish can still do so.

This new model for St. Andrew's Board of Deacons will take a little getting used to. But it is our hope that focusing our deacons' efforts on those in the congregation who are most in need at any given time will be a more sustainable model as we move into the future.

Climate Crisis News

Summary of an article concerning the October 2021 New Mexico Climate Summit
by Scott Wyland of The Santa Fe New Mexican entitled:

New Mexico Leaders Discuss Plans for Climate Change Action Reducing Greenhouse Gases

Political leaders, scientists, conservationists, and community activists met for the New Mexico Climate Summit to discuss how to cut greenhouse gas emissions that trap heat in the atmosphere. The central theme of the summit proceedings is described below:

“As climate change makes its early impact in New Mexico with depleted rivers, increased wildfires and a drier landscape, everyone must pull together to avoid the most dire forecasts while ensuring minority communities and poorer residents aren’t left behind.” Several topics were discussed including the necessity of transitioning from dependence on fossil fuels, which constitutes 40+% of our state budget. The transition must be equitable for all communities, including Indigenous, Hispanic, rural and others whose members are heavily dependent on oilfield jobs. Community leaders must be involved in the transition. Climatologists warned that the “warming climate is leading to weaker snowpacks, more evaporation and shorter winters --- trends that are reducing river flows and reservoirs to record lows, and shortened cold seasons keep invasive insects on trees and crops longer, increasing the strain on them.” Gov. Michelle Grisham called for making the state’s 2050 net-zero emission goal a law in the upcoming legislative session, which pronouncement was applauded by many attendees, but advocates of the fossil fuel industry claimed that such policies, along with federal policies proposed by the Biden administration would cause “energy prices to skyrocket both in Europe and here at home.”

NOTE: The problem with the above statement is that the price of gasoline is tied to the price of oil as set by OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) which is supposed to base the price on supply and demand, and is not controlled by policies set by presidents, congresses, governors, or environmentalists. The U.S. gasoline prices are much less than all advanced nations including those in Europe. The price of oil has recently dropped, and this should mean that pump prices SHOULD (?).

For your Information: Search online: <https://heinrich.senate.gov/newsroom>



PRESBYTERIAN
WOMEN

Please plan on joining Presbyterian Women on December 7th and then on January 4th, 2022, for our monthly bible study. We meet in the CE room at 10:00 am. In December we will be discussing Chapter 4 followed by Chapter 5 in January of this year's study, "*What my Grandmothers Taught Me, Learning from the Women in Matthew's Genealogy of Jesus*".

We hope to see you there!

PW is happy to announce its new officers for 2022: Kathy Jackson, Moderator; Sonia Lersten, Vice Moderator; Margo Eichwald, Secretary; and Linda Barnes, Treasurer. We thank these women for stepping up to take leadership roles in our organization. **Bravo!**

Year-End Financial Planning

- Contributions received by 12/31/2021 will be credited to your 2021 giving record.
 - Contributions dated by 12/31/2021 (even if received in 2022) will be credited to your 2021 giving record.
- Pre-paid 2022 contributions dated and received in 2021 should be marked “pre-paid” and will be credited to your 2021 giving record.
- Contributions received and dated in 2022 will be credited to your 2022 giving record.



Lectionary Schedule

Second Sunday of Advent—Dec. 5

Malachi 3:1–4
Luke 1:68–79
Philippians 1:3–11
Luke 3:1–6

Third Sunday of Advent—December 12

Zephaniah 3:14–20
Isaiah 12:2–6
Philippians 4:4–7
Luke 3:7–18

Fourth Sunday of Advent—Dec. 19

Micah 5:2–5a
Luke 1:46–55 or Psalm 80:1–7
Hebrews 10:5–10
Luke 1:39–45 (46–55)

Nativity of the Lord /Christmas December 24 Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2–7
Psalm 96:1–13
Titus 2:11–14
Luke 2:1–14 (15–20)

Nativity of the Lord / Christmas— December 25 Christmas Dawn

Isaiah 62:6–12
Psalm 97:1–12
Titus 3:4–7
Luke 2:(1–7) 8–20

Christmas Day

Isaiah 52:7–10
Psalm 98:1–9
Hebrews 1:1–4 (5–12)
John 1:1–14

First Sunday of Christmas—Dec. 26

1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26
Psalm 148
Colossians 3:12–17
Luke 2:41–52



January 2022 [Year C]

Second Sunday of Christmas—Jan. 2

Jeremiah 31:7–14
Psalm 147:12–20
Ephesians 1:3–14
John 1:(1–9) 10–18

Epiphany of the Lord—January 6

Isaiah 60:1–6
Psalm 72:1–7, 10–14
Ephesians 3:1–12
Matthew 2:1–12

Baptism of the Lord—January 9

Isaiah 43:1–7
Psalm 29
Acts 8:14–17
Luke 3:15–17, 21–22

Sunday, January 16

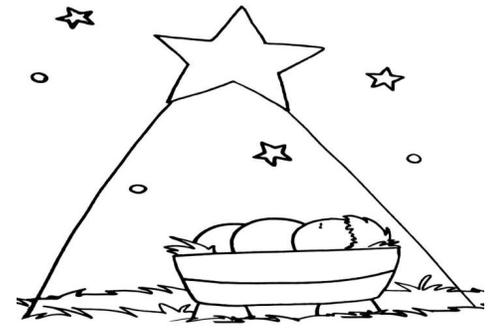
Isaiah 62:1–5
Psalm 36:5–10
1 Corinthians 12:1–11
John 2:1–11

Sunday, January 23

Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 12:12–31a
Luke 4:14–21

Sunday, January 30

Jeremiah 1:4–10
Psalm 71:1–6



Immanuel - God With Us!

December

- 1 Riley Zahl
- 3 Joshua Soliz, Tetsuo Allen
- 8 Mark Wesselman
- 10 Jann Kindel
- 12 Sofia Nolasco Prewitt
- 13 Jaynie McConnell
- 14 Hannah Roberto
- 17 Beverley McArthur
- Catherine Robinson
- 20 Bob Maze
- 23 Andrew McMillian
- 24 Valerie Dalton, Jesus Prada
- 27 Bob Shepperson
- 28 Keith Johnson
- 30 Hugo Hofstadler, Kate Ayers



- 31 Suzanne Busch

January

- 2 Anna Creamer
- 3 Sam Montoya
- Alex Delap-Padilla
- 6 Dorothy Street
- 10 Kathie Scott
- 11 Allan Emord
- 12 Barbara Dresen .
- Isabel Martinez
- 15 Ester Griego
- 17 Kathy Jackson
- 19 Geoffrey Bartlett
- Ruben Martinez

and
suddenly
there was with
the angel
a multitude of
the heavenly host
praising God
and saying
Glory to God
in the highest, and on earth,
peace, goodwill towards
men
Luke 2
13–14

DECEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>The Church office will be closed December 24 through January 3</p>		<p>1</p>	<p>2 10:00 am-11:30 am Spiritual Formation on Zoom 5:00 pm Worship and Music Committee</p>	<p>3 5:30-7:30 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>4</p>
<p>5 9:30 am Advent 2 Worship and Communion Service 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult Christian Ed. Advent Study 3-5 pm Encantada Band of Enchantment</p>	<p>6 ABQ Philharmonic Rehearsal 6:00-10:00 pm</p>	<p>7 Presbyterian Women 10:00 am Weekly Announcements Due 4:00 pm Zoom Conversation on Racial Justice</p>	<p>8 4:00 pm Deacons Mtg (In-person) 5:30-6:30 pm Social Justice Committee on Zoom 6:30 pm New Mexico Peace Choir</p>	<p>9 10:00 am Historical Jesus Group</p>	<p>10 7:00-10:00 pm ABQ Science Fiction Society</p>	<p>11 10:00 am- Noon Laguna Colony</p>
<p>12 9:30 am Advent 3 Worship Service 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult Christian Ed. Advent Study 3-5 pm Encantada Band of Enchantment</p>	<p>13 ABQ Philharmonic Rehearsal 6:00-10:00 pm</p>	<p>14 Weekly Announcements Due 4:00 pm Zoom Conversation on Racial Justice</p>	<p>15 6:30 pm New Mexico Peace Choir</p>	<p>16 8:30 am Finance Committee 10:00am-11:30 am Spiritual Formation on Zoom</p>	<p>17 5:30-7:30 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>18</p>
<p>19 9:30 am Advent 4 Worship Service 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult Christian Ed. Advent Study 3-5 pm Encantada Band of Enchantment</p>	<p>20 ABQ Philharmonic Rehearsal 6:00-10:00 pm</p>	<p>21 Weekly Announcements Due 4:00 pm Zoom Conversation on Racial Justice 6:00 pm Session</p>	<p>22 6:30 pm New Mexico Peace Choir</p>	<p>23 No Historical Jesus Group Meeting</p>	 <p>24 Christmas Eve Service at 5:30 p.m. Christmas Joy Offering</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day</p> 
<p>26 9:30 am Lessons and Carols Worship Service Christmas Joy Offering 10:30 am Fellowship Time No Adult Christian Education today</p>	<p>27 Pastor Roger begins his Vacation December 27 through January 7</p>	<p>30 Church office is closed Weekly Announcements Due</p>	<p>31 Church Office is Closed</p>			

JANUARY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 New Year's Day 2022
2 9:30 am Worship and Communion Service 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult Christian Ed. 3-5 pm Encantada Band of Enchantment	3 ABQ Philharmonic Rehearsal 6:00-10:00 pm	4 Office Reopens at 9:00 am Presbyterian Women 10:00 am Weekly Announcements Due 4:00 pm Zoom Conversation on Racial Justice	5 6:30 pm New Mexico Peace Choir	6 8:30 am Finance Committee 10:00am-11:30 am Spiritual Formation On Zoom 5:00 pm Worship and Music Committee	7 5:30-7:30 Girl Scouts	8 10:00 am-Noon Laguna Colony
9 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult Christian Ed. 3-5 pm Encantada Band of Enchantment	10 ABQ Philharmonic Rehearsal 6:00-10:00 pm	11 Weekly Announcements Due 4:00 pm Zoom Conversation on Racial Justice	12 4:00 pm Deacons Mtg (In-person) 5:30-6:30 Social Justice Committee 6:30 pm New Mexico Peace Choir	13 8:30 am Finance Committee 10:00 am Historical Jesus Group	14	15
16 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult Ch. Ed. 3-5 pm Encantada Band of Enchantment	17 ABQ Philharmonic Rehearsal 6:00-10:00 pm	18 Weekly Announcements Due 4:00 pm Zoom Conversation on Racial Justice 6:00 pm Session	19 6:30 pm New Mexico Peace Choir	20 10:00am-11:30 am Spiritual Formation On Zoom	21 5:30-7:30 Girl Scouts 7:00-10:00 pm ABQ Science Fiction Society	22
23 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult Christian Ed. 3-5 pm Encantada Band of Enchantment	24 ABQ Philharmonic Rehearsal 6:00-10:00 pm	25 Weekly Announcements Due 4:00 pm Zoom Conversation on Racial Justice	26 6:30 pm New Mexico Peace Choir	27 10:00 am Historical Jesus Group	28	29
30 9:30 am Worship Service 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult Christian Ed. 3-5 pm Encantada Band of Enchantment						

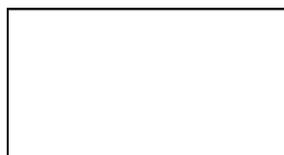
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5301 Ponderosa Avenue NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110-1216

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St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Building a community of faith unleashed into the world by the love of God

Our Mission:

Proclaiming and living the Good News of Jesus Christ by:

- Listening to a loving God
- Celebrating our faith together
- Nurturing each other in Christian love and spiritual growth
 - Working for social justice and peace
 - Reaching out in compassionate service
 - Being stewards of all God's gift

Please contact us at:

Phone: (505) 881-9626

Fax: (505) 884-9636

E-mail: adm.standrewabq@gmail.com

Website: www.standrewabq.org

We are located at 5301 Ponderosa Avenue NE
one block east of San Mateo,
and across from Montgomery Park

In-Person and Online Worship Services

Every Sunday at 9:30 am