

Lent

A SEASON OF RENEWAL

Monthly publication

United Church of Santa Fe
Santa Fe, New Mexico

March 2026

Pastor's Message	2	Holy Week	6
Worship	3	Announcements	7
Children & Youth Ministries	4	Care & Concern	8
Music Ministry	5	Outreach	9
Adult Faith Formation		10	

PRAYERS FOR OUR JOURNEY OF LENT

Orar como San Francisco de Asís

(To Pray as St. Francis of Assisi)
Hazme un instrumento te du paz.
Make me a channel of your peace.

To Trust God Goes with Us

(from the Prophet Isaiah)
They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength.
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.
Give us the wisdom to wait upon you, Lord,
and trust your strength for our journey.

To Take the Next Step

(Thomas Dorsey)
*Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand,
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord,
Lead me home.*

To Ask for Peace

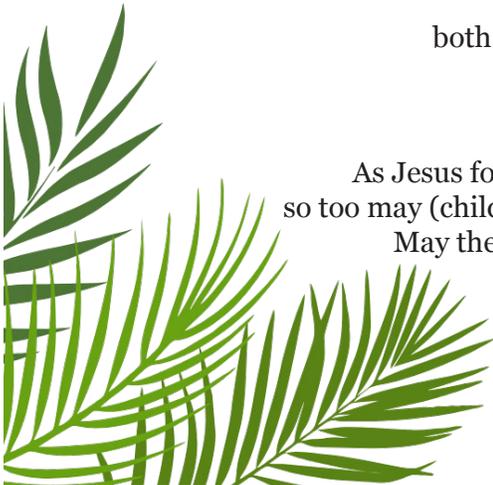
Lord, make this world to last as long as possible.
(Prayer of an 11-year-old child on hearing of war at a nearby border.)

To Lead Us into the World

(Sr. Joan Chittister, O.S.B.)
Loving God,
Lead us beyond ourselves
to care and protect, to nourish and shape,
to challenge and energize
both the life and the world you have given us.

A Prayer for Children in Lent

As Jesus found angels even in the wilderness of his life,
so too may (child's name) know your presence even in hard times.
May their journey of Lent lead them and all of us
to your new life of Easter. Amen.



UNITED CHURCH
OF SANTA FE
A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1804 Arroyo Chamiso
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Phone: 505-988-3295
E-mail: unitedchurchsf@gmail.com
www.unitedchurchofsantafe.org

The Rev. Talitha Arnold
Senior Pastor

Sam Elkind
Moderator of the Congregation

Dana Bender
Director, Family Ministry

Michelle Schumann
Director of Music/Pianist

André Garcia-Nuthmann
Choir Director

Elijah Marquez
Videographer/
Media Coordinator

Lin Raymond
Office Administrator

Maria Navarette
Children's Ministry Assistant

Destiny Muñoz
Children's Ministry Assistant

**Covenant of
The United Church of Santa Fe**

In the Lord's name we gather together
here in Santa Fe
to worship and grow in the Christian
tradition,
to minister in love to all persons,
to strive for justice and peace,
to respond to God's word.

We celebrate the heritage of Santa Fe
and give ourselves to its challenges
and opportunities.

We endeavor to live in harmony with all
creation as stewards of the earth.

We share in the life and mission of the
United Church of Christ and of
Christians everywhere.

To these purposes we unite and
covenant with God and one another,
watchful for the guidance
of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor's Message

Dear Friends,

"Earth teach us stillness," begins a Ute prayer we often use at United, "as the grasses are stilled with light." It continues,

*Earth teach us suffering,
As old stones suffer with memory.
Earth teach us humility,
As blossoms are humble with beginning.
Earth teach us caring,
As the mother secures her young.
Earth teach us courage,
As the tree which stands all alone.*

As we go deeper into Lent's journey, I invite us to engage this Indigenous prayer as one of our guides, turning to the book of Creation as we also turn to the book(s) of scripture to show us the way through the wilderness ahead.

I think Jesus would have approved, especially since most of his ministry occurred outdoors. From his baptism in the Jordan River to the rock-hewn tomb where his body was laid, Jesus lived, walked, healed, taught, prayed, and died in the midst of creation. No wonder so many of his parables, from the farmer planting his field to the power of a mustard seed are rooted in the natural world.

Moreover, when he needed strength and courage for the journey, he not only gathered in the homes of friends like Martha, Mary, and Lazarus or with his disciples and the women followers. He also went to "lonely places," there to let the mountains, deserts and olive groves of his homeland restore his soul.

Through the ages, people of faith in many traditions have known such earth-wisdom. Environmentalist and author Rachel Carson, whose research and writings led to the formation of the Environmental Protection Agency, was raised in the Presbyterian Church and definitely knew the Bible. She also knew what God's creation had to teach. "Those who dwell among the beauties and mysteries of the earth," she wrote, "are never alone or weary of life. Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts." I think Jesus found those same reserves throughout his earthly life, too.

When Stewart Udall, Secretary of the Interior in the 1960's, spoke at United Church several years ago, he recalled how the embroidered Biblical "samplers" on the walls of his childhood home offered daily reminders that "the earth was the Lord's and the fullness thereof." He credited both those Bible verses and his deep love for the outdoors for the strength and commitment he needed to keep pushing legislators and presidents to pass the Wilderness Act and other major environmental legislation.

This Lent, may we find the courage and hope we need in the stories of our faith and of Jesus' journey. And like Jesus—and Carson, Udall, and generations of Indigenous peoples—may we also be open to the wisdom and guidance of this beloved planet.

*Earth teach us resignation, . . . as the leaves which die in the fall.
Earth teach us regeneration, . . . as the seed which rises in the spring.*

Blessings,



Worship in March

Called to a New Journey Lent, 2026

Each Gospel tells of Jesus' life and ministry in different ways. Our guide this Lent is the Gospel of John, composed toward the end of the 1st century. The Roman Empire still ruled with an iron fist, the eyewitnesses to Jesus were long dead, and the Resurrection wasn't even a distant memory. Whoever wrote John had to make Jesus come alive solely through stories and teachings. Most all, the author had to make good on Jesus' promise of new life.

Two millennia later, we face the same challenge. Let's rise to that challenge together in worship this Lent.



***Called to New Birth* | March 1 – Second Sunday of Lent**

Nicodemus was a spiritual leader whose spirit had run dry. He came to Jesus under the cover of darkness to find out who this new prophet was and what he was about. (John 3:11-7) Instead Nicodemus finds out who he is – i.e., someone who needs to be born anew in God's love.

***Called by a New Thirst* | March 8 – 3rd Lent**

(Daylight Savings starts!)

Walking from Galilee to Jerusalem, Jesus ends up at a well in Samaria (hostile territory), thirsty and with no bucket. He asks a woman for a drink. (John 4:5-42) Their encounter crosses multiple boundaries – gender roles, religion, ethnicity, etc. It also mixes up actual H₂O, and the living water God offers. What do we thirst for?



***Called to New Vision* | March 15 – Joyous Lent**

One Sabbath, Jesus heals a man born blind and gets crossways with the religious leaders. They cross-examine the man about Jesus' sin in breaking the Sabbath law. The man responds, "I don't know if this man (Jesus) is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." End of story—sort of. (John 9:1-41)

***Called to New Understanding* | March 22 – 5th Lent**

The 11th Chapter of John's gospel is traditionally known as "Lazarus Raised from the Dead." It could also be titled "Jesus Raised to New Life." Lazarus' sister Martha affirms that Jesus is the Messiah, but she also tells him her brother wouldn't have died if Jesus had come sooner. Even Jesus had to face his own failings. It comes with being human.



***Called to a New Decision* | March 29 – Palm Sunday**

The service moves from the triumphant entry into Jerusalem into the beginning of the Passion story. The turning point is when the religious leaders, terrified by the crowd following Jesus, admit "What can we do? The world has gone after him." (John 12:9-19.) Their only answer is to kill not only Jesus, but also Lazarus. What would it have taken to make a different decision? What would we have chosen faced with the same fear?

Midweek Communion in Lent | Wednesdays (12:15 pm to 12:45 pm)

Do you yearn for silence or an opportunity to breathe, pray, replenish? Starting Wednesday, Feb. 25, United offers a **Lenten Noontime Communion (12:15- 12:45)**. All welcome to recharge and renew. (Through Holy Week: April 1)

Children & Youth

Dana Bender, Director of Family Ministry

Commissioning of the Prayer Child Ministry Sunday, March 8!

Thank you to those who are including a United child in your daily prayers. We'll commission children and their 'pray-ers' on Sunday, March 8, in the 10:00 service. This is an easy way to connect families and their 'pray-ers' and get acquainted.

A quick personal interaction makes this program all the more meaningful and intentional. As events for families arise in the coming months. Pray-er ministry folks will be encouraged to either attend (only if they are able) the event OR simply reach out around that time to say 'hi.'



Mark your calendars and invite friends – 'Love in Action Arts Camp' is happening June 15-19!

Love in Action Summer Camp is a week-long, creative day camp for elementary-aged children entering 1st grade through 6th grade offered by the United Church of Santa Fe. Rooted in our core values—*Love God, Love Neighbor, Love Creation*—this camp offers a joyful, welcoming space where kids can learn, play, make friends, and explore big ideas in age-appropriate, hands-on ways. **The Camp is from 9 - 3, and the cost to all is \$125, including lunch and snacks** (scholarships available).

Each day, campers will explore a different theme through art, music, cooking, photography, nature exploration, and collaborative play. Children will be encouraged to ask questions, express themselves creatively, and practice kindness and care for one another and the world around them.

The week concludes with a joyful celebration where families and the United community are invited to see and experience what the children have been creating and learning together.

All families are welcome, however spaces are limited. This camp is open to the wider community and reflects our church's commitment to inclusion, justice, and care for the Earth. Thank you to the many volunteers who are making this possible! For further information, please contact Dana Bender at unitedchurch.dana@gmail.com or visit United's website: unitedchurchofsantafe.org.



Sunday Mornings with *Kids United*, Youth, and Parents

From our beginning, United's ministry with children, youth and families has been a central commitment. We offer age-specific programs and also integrate children and youth into United's overall worship and ministries. Here's how that happens on Sunday mornings:

10:00 Worship begins with **everyone** in the Sanctuary for singing, breathing in God's gifts, welcoming one another, and praying.

Nursery care for infants and toddlers is also offered throughout the morning in the Nurture Center by Children's Aides Maria Navarette and Destiny Muñoz.

Most of the time, after the invocation and song of praise, children through the 5th grade are invited to ***Kids United*** with Family Minister Dana Bender, volunteer Tracy Church, Maria, and Destiny.

- For children who want (or need) to stay with their parents, the "Pray-Ground" in the back of Sanctuary has kid-size chairs and tables, books, stuffed animals, etc. and allows parents to engage the full service.
- We also have "**intergenerational worship**" for all ages throughout the year (e.g., Fiesta, Mardi Gras, Easter, Thanks-Singing, etc.) so all generations learn from one another.

Youth (6th graders through high school students) share in the full worship service to experience with the adults (who are also learning) the prayers, sacred songs, and stories of our faith.

The Youth Confirmation/Initiation program meets after worship most Sundays.

Youth and children also help lead worship almost every Sunday, serving as liturgists and readers, and sometimes helping lead the congregation in song or blessing us with their music.

Children & Youth (Continued)



Kids United in Lent

In February, we began exploring the seasons of the church year. Why green for “ordinary time?” Why purple for Advent and Lent? What does it mean to ‘prepare’ for Christmas or Easter? In March, we’ll engage the same stories the adults and youth explore in Sunday Lenten worship, and also look at Lenten traditions (ashes, fasting, prayer) and how to incorporate them into our own lives. (Many thanks to Tracy Church for volunteering to help with our youngest children!).



Youth Confirmation/Initiation

Our Confirmation/Initiates launch into Lent after their Feb. 28 retreat and discussions among themselves and their leaders about God, Holy Spirit, Jesus, and the role of the church as they prepare to write their own statements of faith. They’ll share their statements with the rest of the congregation before the May 19th “Rite of Confirmation and Initiation.” Stay tuned!

Music

Michelle Schumann, Director of Music / Pianist



Music continues to play a profound role at United during the month of March as we experience Lent together and look forward with anticipation to Easter. The choir will feature beloved choral arrangements by John Rutter (*I Will Lift Up My Eyes*), Felix Mendelssohn (*O Come, Every One that Thirsteth*), Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (*Ave Verum Corpus*) and Moses Hogan (*I Want Jesus to Walk with Me*). We also welcome trumpeter Alexander Hardin for our Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday services.

After many years as a Choral Scholar, Rebecca Brunette is stepping down. We will miss her and wish her Godspeed for the next stage of her journey of life and faith.

As always André, the choir, and I present music to inspire and set the stage for the many emotional opportunities that scripture provides. This season we also celebrate some new members of the choir and wonder if there might be some of you in the congregation who are also considering joining? If so, let me or André know!

Musically yours,
Michelle



Holy Week With United

Angels in the Wilderness

The journey from Palm Sunday to the Last Supper and Calvary and finally to Easter morning is peopled with human beings making human decisions. Many of those decisions were cruel beyond imagining, made from desperate fear. But there were other choices, too, rooted in love and faith. Jesus kneeling before his disciples (all of them) to wash their feet. The women choosing to follow him all the way to the cross. Joseph of Aramathea risking his life and leadership to give Jesus a proper burial.

All of them were “angels in the wilderness.” Holy Week invites us to remember them—and to let their commitment give us the love and courage we need to be angels for others in this wilderness time of our own world.



Palm Sunday | “What Can We Do?” | March 29

We begin worship as the Palm Sunday crowd, singing “Hosanna” and waving branches. But in the crowd were those who feared this new leader and his way of love. “What can we do?” they said. “The world has gone after him.” Their fear turned to anger and hate. By the end of the week, that seemed to get the last word. But it didn’t. Not then. Not now.



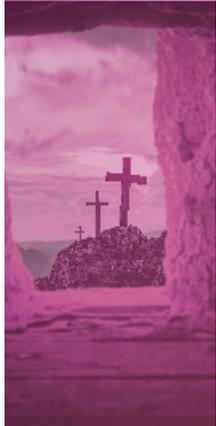
Maundy Thursday | April 2 (7:00 pm)

We share the story of Jesus washing his disciples feet, even Judas’ and Peter’s. We share the Last Supper and then United youth and adults lead us deeper through Jesus’ Passion, gradually extinguishing seven candles, until the service ends with no benediction and we, like the disciples, scatter into the darkness.



Good Friday | April 3 | Creation Care – 9:00 to 11:30 | Worship – 12:00 pm

As we gather to engage this hard story, we pray for ourselves, our loved ones, and all God’s people living under the shadow of violence and injustice. We pray, too, for God’s crucified creation and for the strength to love this world as God so loved—and still loves. The Sanctuary will also be open until 3:00 pm for private prayer.



Easter Sunday | “The Angel Rolled the Stone Away!”

6:30 am Outdoor Sunrise Communion

10:00 am All Age Celebration

King Herod, Pilate, and the whole Roman Empire thought Jesus’ story ended on the treeless hill called Calvary. The Empire’s soldiers rolled a stone in front of the tomb so no one could “steal” the body. But no empire and no rock could keep God’s new life from bursting forth. In the words of a Negro spiritual, “the angel rolled the stone away!” Who have been those angels in our lives? And what do we need to be “stone-rollers” in our time?

From start to finish, Easter Sunday is filled with Hallelujahs. We sing Alleluia to the sunrise at 6:30 and conclude the 10:00 service with the “Hallelujah Chorus.” All welcome all the time!

Easter Flower Remembrances

Honor or remember a loved one with the donation of Easter flowers. Complete this form and leave it with your donation (suggested \$20/lily) in Community Room envelope or offering plate by Sunday, March 22. Names will be in the Easter Sunday bulletins.

DONOR: _____ **Phone:** _____

Names to be remembered/honored (please circle one): *In memory of* or *In honor of*

Holy Week Events for Children & Youth

Palm Sunday | March 29

Join in the Palm Sunday Processional
We need your voices to sing God's praise!

Maundy Thursday | April 2 (7:00 pm)

It's school vacation, but United Youth who are in town help lead the Tenebrae. (Childcare provided.)

Good Friday | April 3 | Creation Care for All Ages – 9:00 to 11:30 am

Children, youth, adults all invited to help trim, prune, rake, plant flowers—all in preparation for Easter Sunday! Good Friday Worship – 12:00 Noon. Childcare provided.

Easter Sunday | April 5



6:30 am Outdoor Sunrise Service for all Ages (Dress warm!)

9:15 am Children's Easter Egg Hunt

10:00 am Easter Celebration for All Ages!
Lots of singing and a special Easter gift for all children and youth.



Announcements

New Members Welcomed

Joyous Sunday of Lent – March 15

We'll receive new members into the United Church community on the Joyous Sunday of Lent (March 15). If you're interested in joining, please speak with Talitha Arnold (505-988-3295). Thanks! (If the date doesn't work for you, please let her know that, too. Thanks.)

Extend United's Welcome as Ministers of Hospitality

Come at 9:30 for the 10:00 service and be the first in line to welcome people to United. It's simple—and it's central to who we want to be as a church community. Sign up on Sunday morning or contact Discipleship Development Chair Diane Darby (816-260-0127). Thanks!

Office Administrator Lin Raymond Away March 1 – March 23

Lin Raymond will be in Italy the first three weeks of March. We are in the process of hiring a temp to cover some of the office responsibilities, and we appreciate your understanding in this time.

Nuclear "Downwinders" at Santa Maria Maria de la Paz Monday, March 30 – 6:00 pm

During World War II, the U.S. government tested the atomic bomb in southern New Mexico. The literal fallout from the blast continues to impact families, animals, the land, and water. For 80 years, none of the "downwinders" have received any compensation for the deaths, cancers, and other illnesses stemming from the test. That may change under recent Congressional legislation. Hear their story from the Tularosa Basin Downwinders leader Tina Cordova at Santa Maria, Monday, March 30.

Donations for Kids' Education

The new Santa Fe Faith Coalition for Immigration invites donations for two organizations that support children's education. Please use Community Room bins for Santa Fe Public Schools' **Adelante Program** (19-inch backpacks, 1-inch 3-ring binders, and watercolor sets) and for **Reading Quest** (new or clean and gently-used stuffed animals, toys, and games). Thank you!

CARE AND CONCERN

Prayers of Thanks for:

- **All who made the FebFest 2026 weekend** such a great success, from the Saturday workshop to Sunday worship to the concert at the Cathedral. Almost \$4,000 was raised for the Santa Fe Coalition for Immigration and Albuquerque's Roadrunner Food Bank!
- The life of **Jerry Elliott**, long time United member who died at age 95 in Palm Springs, and prayers of comfort and healing for his good friends **Deb McElroy and Kathy Pitre**.
- Rebecca Brunette as she steps down from being a Choral Scholar.

Healing and Hope for:

- The families and loved ones of **Alex Pretti, Renne Good, and others killed by ICE or have died in ICE custody**.
- **Donna Clark**, recovering from knee replacement; **Tom Himrod**, continuing to recover from a broken neck; **Melanie Ranney**, following hip replacement; **Avril Ekstrand**, recovering from double pneumonia; **Anne Siems**, recovering from foot surgery in November; and others.
- Persons dealing with cancer and those who love and care for them: **Susan Shaffer, Greg Gaertner, Diane Bethune's brother Jeffery**, and others.
- Those in assisted living centers: **Sylvia Ortega and Jim Mills** (Kingston); **Ray and Nancy Lutz** (Legacy); **Ann Noss** (El Castillo); **Rev. Christine Vogel, Linda and Rev. Roger Knapp** (Montecito); **JoAnn Bolleter's mother** (Spanish Trails, Albuquerque); and others.
- Persons with ongoing health issues and those who love and care for them: **Leonard Stovall, Janice Arlen, Mary Deane Lynn, Helen Natonabah McCabe, Eli Jimenez, Carol Ingells**, and others.
- Persons living with Parkinson's or other neurological conditions (**Msgr. Jerome Martinez**, and others); those with chronic illness (**Brooke Roberts, Cynde Christie, Jan McGough**, and others).
- Individuals and families dealing with mental health, suicidal issues, and/or addiction issues. (If you or someone you love is struggling emotionally, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (988) provides 24/7, free, confidential support and crisis resources for people in distress.)
- Persons with families in other countries: **Blanca Surgeon** (Honduras), **Maria Navarette and Destiny Muñoz** (El Salvador), **Joohee Rand** (Korea), **John Walker** (Scotland), **Avril Ekstrand** (Ireland), **Kim Zeilik** (son in Spain); **Leslie Fagre and Eric Poppele** (Jasper and family in England); **the Darby Family** (Makayla in Prague).
- The people—especially immigrants and persons of color—of **Minneapolis, New Orleans, Chicago, Portland (both Maine and Oregon), New Orleans, NYC, LA**, and many other cities dealing with ICE invasions and occupations.
- Continued prayers for the people of **Gaza, Venezuela, Israel, Nigeria, Sudan, Ukraine, Central America**, and other places impacted by war; people seeking asylum from violence; **policymakers** who determine their fate.
- Military people and law enforcement officers, including those in our congregation.
- Prayers of care and commitment for those facing huge **increases in health care costs and/or reduction of support from SNAP, USAID, Medicaid or Medicare**, or who are unhoused or are persons of color, LGBTQI+ or female.

Prayer Chain Keeps Others in Prayer

United has an email prayer chain of people who have offered to hold others in prayer, particularly in difficult times. If you'd like to be part of it, please let us know. (unitedchurchsf@gmail.com)

Outgrow – 2026 Lenten Daily Devotional Booklets in Community Room

Take a copy of the Lenten Daily Devotional Booklet, published by the United Church of Christ, featuring national UCC leaders (including Talitha Arnold). Join with others in Lent's journey to Easter's new life.

Congregational Care for March

On Call: Dana Hollifield (303) 242-9681 | **Food:** Cheryl Haskin (503) 351-6561

OUTREACH

LOVE GOD, NEIGHBOR, CREATION

Outreach Opportunities – Thank you!

Go online to unitedchurchofsantafe.org or send a check to 1804 Arroyo Chamiso, Santa Fe NM 87505.

Our Love Offering to the World

One Great Hour of Sharing

Through Palm Sunday (March 29), United invites your support of One Great Hour of Sharing, the national United Church of Christ offering to support refugee resettlement, disaster relief, food and small farm programs globally and in the U.S. Gifts can also be designated for particular emergencies (e.g., refugee relief; immigrant support, food or other emergency needs). To donate online, go to unitedchurchofsantafe.org, memo: OGHS. Thank you!

2025 Financial Support for United's Outreach Partners

In 2025, thanks to the generosity of the United Church community, near and far, United gave \$99,618 to partner organizations that offer hope and tangible support to thousands of people. Thank you!

Regional, National, and Global Relief & Development:

One Great Hour of Sharing; Church World Service (hygiene kits, blankets, financial support for Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan); Changing Lens, Changing Lives (Kenya); Diné/Navajo Emergency Relief; New Mexico and Texas Flood and Fire Relief

Housing and Hunger:

Interfaith Shelter; St. Elizabeth Shelter; Casa Familia; Food Depot

Immigration and Refugees:

Santa Fe Coalition for Immigration; NM Immigrant Law Center; Support for immigrant families

Education:

Communities in Schools; BookKids

Health and Welfare:

Individuals facing severe health issues

Environment:

Lensic Concert "A Place Called Home," SF Watershed Association; Tree New Mexico; NM Interfaith Power and Light; Reunity Resources

United Church of Christ:

Southwest Conference; Christmas Fund

Other:

Jewish Communities following Australian Hanukkah attack; NM Performing Arts Society; NMPBS; SF Pride Parade

LOVE GOD, LOVE NEIGHBOR

United's Shelter Supper Ministries

Provide supper for guests of St. Elizabeth and Casa Familia Family Shelter. Volunteer or donate financially (memo: shelter meals). Coordinators: Cathy Garrett and Sheree Whitney. Thank you!

- **Fri., Mar. 20 – Chop & Grate (9:30 am)** at United.
- **Fri., Mar. 20** – Deliver food to shelters (1:00 pm).
- Make meatloaf at home (12 loaves needed).



Supporting Our Diné/Navajo Brothers and Sisters

Your financial support for United's partner, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, in Fort Defiance, AZ underwrites basic supplies for families, Youth Traditional Garden, and Food Bank.

LOVE GOD, LOVE CREATION

Compost Collection – It's a Miracle!

Reunity Resources turns compostable products (food waste, meat scraps, etc.) into rich, life-giving compost. Pick up compostable bags at church (**NO** standard plastic bags, please), fill at home, bring back and put in green bin outside at back of the church. Thanks!

Care for Creation and Offset Your Carbon Use

United's "Carbon Offset Program" helps plant trees and change policies to address climate change. Just track your car mileage and/or plane flight hours and donate through United to our partners SF Watershed Assoc. and NM Interfaith Power and Light.
Info: unitedchurchofsantafe.org/creation-care.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

ADULT FORUMS — Sundays at 11:15 am

March 1

“Love in Action”

Children’s Summer Arts Camp

Family Minister Dana Bender and others share the plans for a summer “Love In Action” Arts Camp (June 15-19).

Prayers for Healing

After the 10:00 service, there will be an opportunity in the Sanctuary for persons to have individual prayers and anointing for healing, be it for themselves or others.

March 8

Prayer Children and Adult Pray-ers

“Meet and Greet”

In both services, we’ll commission the adult “prayers” in United’s revived Prayer Child program. After the 10:00 service is a chance for the Pray-ers and their Prayer Child to get acquainted.

New to United?

Like to learn more about the United Church of Santa Fe? Interested in learning what “membership” means? Come to the Newcomers Gathering this Sunday (March 8) after the 10:00 service. Attending an Orientation isn’t a commitment to join, but an opportunity to learn more about the church. Please RSVP in the Community Room or call the church office (988-3295).

March 15 - TBR

March 22

Where’s My Passport?

(Don’t Leave Home without It)

For many of us in the United community, the only time we need our passport is when we travel out of the country. But many other United members and friends have their passport with them at all times—not because they aren’t citizens, but because a) their skin is a particular color or b) because their last name isn’t in English or c) because they are naturalized citizens. The impact of the current government’s actions and policies, especially toward persons of color, impacts our friends and neighbors in our own congregation. They share their stories today.

March 29 - TBR

STUDY GROUP OPPORTUNITIES IN LENT

For Such a Time as This:

An Emergency Devotional

Wednesdays in Lent – 5:30 - 6:45 pm
(Feb. 25 through March 25)

Last fall, we began this powerful little gem of a book, filled with scripture meditations, reflections, and portraits of people of courage and integrity. This Lent, we return to its wisdom and call to faith, hope, and action. It can help guide our Christian response to this evermore challenging time. All welcome, even if you didn’t participate last fall. Signup sheet and copies of the book in Community Room.

Christianity’s American Fate:

**How Religion Became More Conservative
and Society More Secular**

Wednesday Women’s Study Group

March 4 and 18 – 10:00 to 11:30 am

David Hollinger is Professor of History at the University of California Berkeley. He provides the religious and secular background for what’s happening in our country now. Later in the month, *Healer of the Water Monster*, a young adult novel by Diné/Navajo author Brian Young, is the focus. All women welcome! (Cheryl Morton, mommorton@gmail.com; Jenn Wynne, home@wynnes.us).

What Are Biblical Values?

Wednesday Men’s Study Group

March 11 and 25 – 10:30 am to 12:00 noon

Through spring, the Pretty Good Guys invites all men to join in a study of “What Are Biblical Values?” by Yale professor John Collins. Books available for purchase in the Community Room. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month.

Resiliency and Hope:

Unpacking the Gospel of John

Thursdays at 8:00 am – Zoom

(please register at

unitedchurchsf@gmail.com)

John’s Gospel begins in the cosmos and ends with breakfast on the beach. In between is beautiful, confusing, challenging, troubling, head-scratching scripture. All welcome to join in this in-depth study (via Zoom).

THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE
A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1804 Arroyo Chamiso - Santa Fe NM 87505

Phone: 505-988-3295 | Fax: 505-988-2353
Email: unitedchurchsf@gmail.com
www.unitedchurchofsantafe.org

Mailing Date - February 20, 2026

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 198
Santa Fe NM 87501

WELCOME TO THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE

The United Church of Santa Fe invites you to join us as we grow in faith and hope. We are a part of the United Church of Christ, a progressive and inclusive Christian tradition that emphasizes freedom of thought and belief as well as a commitment to “Love God, Neighbor, and Creation.” As Christians, we are many individual members, each with different gifts to offer and contributions to make. We are also one body in Christ, members of one another.

As an expression of the practice and conviction of this congregation, we declare ourselves to be an “open and affirming church,” welcoming people who share a faith journey with Christ and who share with us the covenant that binds us together regardless of age, gender, race and ethnic background, mental or physical disability, or sexual orientation. We welcome you!

IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAM WORSHIP SERVICES OFFERED

United Church is also United (in-person and online) Church! We offer the **10:00 am Sunday service in-person and also livestreamed online** (access it on United’s website: unitedchurchofsantafe.org).

We also offer an 8:30 am Contemplative Communion Service. For indoor events, N95 masks are recommended. For more information about United’s programs, please call 505-988-3295, send an email to unitedchurchsf@gmail.com, go to our website. Thank you!