

Monthly publication
 United Church of Santa Fe
 Santa Fe, New Mexico
 July 2022

Prayers for a Month of . . .

Sabbaths and Summer (from the Jewish tradition)

Lord of all creation, You have made us masters of Your world,
 to tend it, serve it, and enjoy it.

For six days we measure and we build,
 we count and carry the real and imagined burdens of our task,
 the success we earn and the price we pay.

On this the Sabbath Day, give us rest.

For six days, if we are weary or bruised by the world,
 if we think ourselves giants or cause others pain,
 there is never a moment to pause, and know what we should really be.

On this the Sabbath Day, give us time.

For six days, we are torn between our private greed
 and the urgent needs of others,
 between the foolish noises in our ears and the silent prayer of our soul.

On this the Sabbath Day, give us understanding and peace.

A National Holiday (from the Ojibway people)

Grandfather, Sacred One,
 Grandmother, Holy One,
 Teach us love, compassion, and honor
 that we may heal the earth
 and heal each other.

The International Folk Art Weekend (from the New Zealand Māori Anglican Church)

O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace.
 Let the design of your great love shine
 on the waste of our wraths and sorrows,
 and give peace to your people, peace among nations, peace in our hearts.

Spanish Market Weekend (from the Mozarabic (Spanish Christian) tradition, 700 A.D.)

You call us from our settled ways, O God,
 out of old habits and rutted traditions.
 You call us into the land of promise,
 to new life and new possibilities.
 Make us strong to travel the road ahead.
 Deliver us from false security and comfort,
 desire for ease and uninvolved days.
 Let your Word and Spirit dwell in us
 that your will may be fulfilled in us
 for the well-being and shalom of all. Amen.

A Summer Prayer for Children (and their parents)

Give time for rest, O God, to your child.
 Give time for wonder. Give time for life. Amen.

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**UNITED CHURCH
OF SANTA FE**

A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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**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,

*"Take time in life, my dear ones, take time in life,
Take time in life, for you've a long way to go."*

Liberian folk song

The story is told of a long-ago English scientific expedition in Africa that depended on African guides and a support crew of bushwhackers, baggage carriers, cooks, and other workers. The expedition's leader pushed the group to keep moving from dawn to dusk, which meant the support crew was up before daylight to pack and cook and stayed working long past sunset to set up camp.

One morning several days and many miles into the trek, the Englishman awoke to find no one was brewing coffee, taking down tents, packing baggage. Instead, the crew all sat on the ground in silence.

No amount of barking orders, threatening, or even cajoling by the scientists could get the crew to budge. In frustration, the Englishman turned to the lead African guide and demanded to know what was wrong with his men. "Nothing is wrong with the men," the guide replied. "They are simply letting their souls catch up with their bodies."

This summer, we would do well to heed the Africans' wisdom and take time to let our souls catch up with our bodies. The last two and half years have been a whirlwind of change, whether because of the pandemic, the political situation in the country, changes in the church, or transitions in our own lives. Each time we get back on track, the track changes direction.

In such a time, as the African guide told the English scientist, we need to let our souls catch up with our bodies. The same wisdom is expressed throughout our faith, from the Hebrew Bible through Christian scripture. When the Prophet Elijah flees for his life into the desert, an angel of the Lord appears to him. Offering him food and water, the angel says, "Arise, eat, lest the journey be too great." Then angel tells Elijah to go to a cave and wait for God. It's a long wait, one marked by earthquake, wind, and fire. But as the Prophet "takes time in life" to listen, God's word finally comes to him—not in the tumult but in the still, small voice.

Just as Elijah found renewal and rest in the desert, so too Jesus would take time—even in the midst of the world's demands—to go "to a lonely place" to pray. He often led his disciples to such places as well.

As the Prophet Isaiah proclaims—and we often sing—"They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." The Africans who waited "for their souls to catch up with their bodies" knew that, too. May we have their wisdom this summer and into the year ahead.

Blessings,



Worship in July

8:30 Outdoor Contemplative Communion Services Start June 26
10:00 in Sanctuary offers special music
Online services continue, too!

What Does the Bible Really Say About . . . ?

Summer Worship Series

“What Does the Bible Really Say?” That’s a frequent question these days, so we’re exploring it in summer worship. We’ll focus on theological questions like heaven and hell, sin and evil. We also explore pastoral issues like “family values” and cultural issues that are often framed in Biblical terms, like gay rights or immigration. It promises to be a challenging and engaging summer!

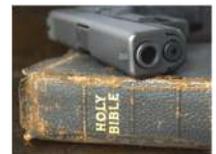


. . . About Freedom? (July 3) **Hymn Sing Sunday!**

On the Sunday before Independence Day, what better topic than freedom? An oft-quoted passage from Christian scripture is Paul’s letter to the Galatians (5:1, 13-15): “For freedom, Christ has set you free.” But Jesus also affirmed his Jewish commitment to restricting one’s freedom with the commandments—i.e., “Love God, Love Neighbor.” (Luke 10:25-29) In both scripture and song, we’ll explore the relationship between freedom and covenant. We share Communion in both services and also welcome guitarist Jesse Acker-Johnson (Jessie Lo’s husband) in the 10:00 service.

. . . About Guns? (July 10)

Technically the Bible doesn’t say anything about guns, since it was written a few (thousand) years before their invention. But it does make lots of references to weapons and the use of weapons. And the Bible has multiple stories about people using violent means for different purposes. How do we reconcile those passages with the Bible’s cry for peace or Jesus’ telling a disciple to put away his sword? This exploration won’t be easy, but it is crucial for our time.

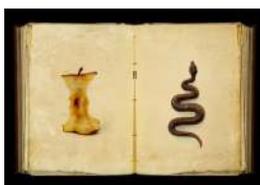


. . . About Mental Illness and Suicide? (July 17)

On July 16, a new national phone number for help in a mental health crisis goes into effect: 988. It’s a good Sunday to explore the Bible’s understanding of mental illness and suicide. It’s also a good Sunday to consider our commitment as a church and individuals to caring for persons afflicted with mental illness and for their loved ones.

. . . About Immigration and Refugees? (July 24)

“Don’t oppress an immigrant, because you were once immigrants.” (Exodus 32:21)
“Leave part of the harvest for the poor and the immigrant.” (Leviticus 19:9-10)
“Accept the immigrant as a citizen.” (Leviticus 19:33-34). The Bible has a lot to say about how we regard persons who have come after us into whatever land we’re in. How should such teachings inform our ministry as a church—or our policies as a nation. A challenging topic for Spanish Market Sunday, given the history of immigration into New Spain, New Mexico, the Southwest, El Norte.



. . . About Sin and Evil? (July 31)

Just a small topic to finish the month (but not the series). Parts of the Bible list unheavenly hosts of sins—from eating the wrong food to engaging in certain sexual activities to economic injustice. Other parts of the Bible see sin as how we see our neighbor or regard God. So what exactly is “sin?” What’s original about it? And what about evil? All within an hour of worship. (Not. But at least a start.)

We’ll continue the series in August with “What Does the Bible Really Say about. . . ”

Sex (August 7 and 14)

Family Values (August 21)

Love (August 28)

Music Notes

By the time you read this, Jacquie Helin will have been gone for about 10 weeks. Since that time, we've welcomed Dr. Jessie Lo as our new pianist, and she's fit in seamlessly.

Also, since then, the choir finished its "spring season" with a wonderful Pentecost service featuring Rev. Dr. Melanie Harris and the Andy Kingston trio. And now we're into the summer schedule of Drop-In Choirs. The next one takes place Sunday, July 17, and you're all welcome to join us as we sing one of our favorites, "Hear My Prayer" by Moses Hogan. Rehearsal is at 9:00 am in the sanctuary and we sing for the 10 o'clock service.

It was our intention this summer to invite Opera Apprentices to provide special music, as they have in the past. However, with Covid-19 still an ongoing issue, the Santa Fe Opera made the decision to limit the apprentices' outside contact. Thus, they're unavailable to join us this year.

However, the good news is we have a wealth of talent available to us! Not only our new pianist, Jessie, but also her husband Jesse (yes, that's right, Jessie is married to Jesse!) is a professional guitarist. Moreover, we have many fine musicians within our congregation, as well as our Choral Scholars. So this summer we are staying "in house" for our special music. It is truly remarkable—and I think you know this—that a congregation of this size has so many musical resources.

Years ago, a nationally respected church musician told me, "Music in the church will only ever be as good as the Senior Minister wants it to be." It's a pleasure to work at a place where the Senior Minister—and the congregation—wants fine music to be an integral part of weekly worship.

Brad Ellingboe
Music Director



	<p>Save the Date!</p> <p><i>Requiem</i> by Brad Ellingboe with Coro Lux Sunday, Sept. 11—2:00 pm United Church of Santa Fe</p>
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Adult Faith Formation

SUNDAY FORUMS—11:15 AM
Invite friends!

3rd of July All Church PICNIC!

Stay after the 10:00 outdoor service for a new way of doing an old-fashioned All Church Picnic. The church will provide drinks, individual packages of chips, and dessert (ice cream sandwiches or drumsticks). You bring your own sandwiches, salads, ribs, etc. We'll have tables and plenty of shade. All welcome! (And please let us know you're coming—otherwise the staff will have to eat all the leftover ice cream :-).

Preventing Gun Violence

July 10

Co-president of New Mexicans to Prevent Gun Violence Miranda Viscoli is our guest for a presentation on what we can do individually and as a church.



#988 – What Is It and How Does It Work?

July 17

In mid-July, a new 988 phone number starts for emergency mental health and suicide prevention situations. What is it, how and when to use, and how it came about. Join in this important information session.

ONGOING STUDY GROUPS

Pretty Good Guys

Wednesdays, July 13 and 27 (10:30 am)

All men invited to join in this twice-monthly meeting. We gather outside for discussion and fellowship. (Greg Gaertner: greg.gaertner@comcast.net, 505-428-8910)

Resiliency and Hope: What Does the Bible Really Say. . . About All Kinds of Things?

Thursdays at 8:00 am – Zoom

(please register at unitedchurchsf@gmail.com)

Join in the exploration of the scriptures for the upcoming Sundays and help inform the sermon :-). All welcome!

Congregational Care for July

On Call: John Shaffer: (505) 466-4372 (7/1-19)
Dave Wilkison: (505) 400-0504 (7/20-31)
Food: Debbie Maloney: (940) 867-2169

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 would like to be part of it, please let us know. (unitedchurchsf@gmail.com)





CARE AND CONCERN

PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR WORLD



Prayers of Thanks for:

- > **Youth Minister Kate Murphy and adult volunteers** for getting “Thursday Night Live” started.
- > The 12 volunteers who showed up for our **River Clean-up Morning!**
- > All who are helping us stay connected, sane, faithful, healthy, and hopeful!

Prayers of New Life for:

- > **Yvonne Fairchild** – celebrating the other side of 101 years!
- > **Karen Wilbanks**, inducted into the National Speech and Debate Association Hall of Fame.
- > Exchange students **Tijn van der Woude** and **Tommaso Frabotta** as they return to Holland and Italy and for Carlos Lee and Russell Stewart, their host dads for this past year.

Prayers of Thanks for the Lives of several long-time and beloved United members and friends:

- > **Dr. Ben Whitehill** (prayers of healing and hope for his wife **Carolyn** and their family) following Ben’s death June 6. His memorial service was held in Wisconsin on June 23.
- > **Ron Barks** (and prayers for his wife Ruth and family), who died in late May in New England.
- > **Bobbie Smith** (and prayers of hope for daughter Robin and their many friends), who died May 17. Her Memorial Service will be Friday, August 5 at 10:30 am.
- > **Eita Leach, Gail Ansheles’ mother**, who died in New Jersey.
- > **Julia Moore**, also a beloved member who died in December 2020, and whose memorial service was delayed to this summer (Saturday, July 16, 10:00 am).
- > **Mike Buttram’s mother Linda** (with prayers for Katie, Dawson, Sam), following her death in late May.
- > **Rebecca Griego’s mother** who passed away on Mother’s Day.
- > **Marian Leilani Young**, whose interment was June 17.

Prayers of Healing and Hope for:

- > All communities and creation devastated by the wildfires throughout New Mexico and the West, with prayers for firefighters and all who are trying to help; for those who’ve evacuated or are on alert;
- > **Kim Zeilik**, following the death of her ex-husband Michael;
- > **Helen Natonabah McCabe**, mother of Carrie McCabe, grandmother of Denton McCabe, Ella Jones’ sister, now at Casa Real Center, following a stroke;
- > Persons living with cancer and those who love and care for them (David Smith, Anna Spalding, and others);
- > **Gail Mattson**, recovering from knee surgery; **Theresa Kline**, recovering from a broken hip; **Jane Carson** (and partner Karen Kleeman) as she recovers from a bad fall; **Janet Harris**, recovering from a car accident;
- > **Kathy Flynn** and many others, dealing with Covid-19;
- > Those with memory loss and all who care for them;
- > **Cliff Beck, Sandy and Terry Vermillion, Eric Manske’s father, Monsignor Jerome Martinez**, and others living with neurological conditions; **Brooke Roberts, Jan McGough, Ed Barker**, and others living with chronic pain or chronic illness;
- > Individuals and families dealing with mental health issues, including severe depression (If you, a family member, friend, or co-worker is struggling emotionally or having a hard time, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-8255) provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones.);
- > Persons who are imprisoned and those who love them;
- > Persons at senior facilities (**Yvonne Fairchild, Natalie Wells, Margo Clark, Linda Dillman, Helen Wagner, Karl Ray, Merry and Al Converse, Jere Turner**, and others);
- > Persons caring for family members, near and far: **Dave Feldt, DiAna Gutierrez, Sam and Molly Elkind, Lauren Smith, Pam Homer, Sherry Kelsey, Gloria and Terry Griffin, Sam Gerberding**, and others;
- > Families with extended families in other countries **Blanca Surgeon and Zulema Zambrano** (Honduras), **Jan and Kitty Jansen** (Netherlands), **Joohee and Lee Rand** (Korea), **Eva and Lenz Neuhauser** (Austria), **John Walker** (Scotland), **Avril and Jim Ekstrand** (Ireland), **Maria Navarette** (El Salvador), and others;
- > The families and communities of Uvalde, Buffalo, and all others whose lives have been shattered by gun violence, and prayers for our legislators and others to have the courage to enact sane and safe gun restrictions;
- > The people of Ukraine, Yemen, Somalia, and other countries impacted by war and violence; immigrant children, teenagers, and adults fleeing violence and poverty, seeking refuge in our country (whether from Central America, Afghanistan, Yemen, or other countries); **policymakers** who determine their fate;
- > Military people and law enforcement officers, including those in our congregation;
- > Prayers for an end to the pandemic and an end to violence and war.

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.

42nd Birthday Raises \$5,296 for Fire Relief

Thanks to the generosity of United members and friends, near and far, over \$5,000 was raised to celebrate United's 42nd Birthday for Fire Relief (to be added to the \$3,000 already given from United's reserves). In addition, 20 bags of food, water, and hygiene supplies were donated to the Food Depot for those who lost homes and livelihoods. Thank you!



United's Shelter Dinners Feed Homeless Persons and Support Santa Fe Businesses

Early in the pandemic, United continued to support Santa Fe's homeless shelters *and* local businesses, while also keeping people safe from Covid. Since April 2020, we've provided 135 weekly meals from Felipe's Tacos and "Mucho Gourmet" for the Interfaith Shelter and 35 meals each month for both St. Elizabeth and Casa Familia—totaling 14,400 burritos and 3,600 sandwich suppers or \$95,150. As the pandemic eases, Interfaith only needs 50 burritos weekly from United. We also continue support for St. Elizabeth and Casa Familia. Your checks or online donations help this ministry continue. Please memo: "Shelter Dinners." Thank you!

Supporting Our Diné/Navajo Brothers and Sisters

Your financial support for Covid relief work (food and cleaning supplies) and masks continue to make a difference. Donations are sent to United's long-time partner, the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, in Fort Defiance, Arizona.

KITS FOR UKRAINE

Since February, United has raised over \$20,000 and assembled 450 Church World Service hygiene kits for Ukrainian refugees. As the war continues, the need continues. Here's how to help:

- **Monetary donations** help Church World Service buy supplies (food, diapers, etc.). You can donate online or with a check. (memo: Ukrainian people)
- **Spread the word to friends, co-workers, neighbors, and family.** We gladly receive financial support for the kits from the wider community. Thank you!

Welcome Our Afghan Neighbors with a Walk around Santa Fe

Saturday, July 9—2:00 pm at Cathedral Park (RSVP by Friday noon, July 8)

Join the Immigration Task Force in welcoming Afghan refugees to Santa Fe on Saturday, July 9 at 2:00 pm. Meet in the park beside the Cathedral downtown for a historical walking tour led by our own Victoria Ubben. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a chair or blanket. Afterward, we'll will have "snacks" in the park and time to chat and get to know our new friends. Everyone welcome, including children! **RSVP is required by Friday noon, July 8** by emailing Avril Ekstrand at avrilekstrand@yahoo.com or texting 505-490-8164.

Summer Drive for the Food Depot

The Food Depot supplies schools, shelters, and agencies throughout Northern New Mexico with healthy food year-round. To help, bring any (or all) of these items to the church and we'll do regular deliveries: jumbo-size containers of canned vegetables and fruit, pasta, and rice for group meals; family-size packages, especially high-protein foods (dried beans, canned meats, meat-containing foods such as chili con carne, soups, stews); baby foods (powdered formula, dry cereal, jars of baby food); and diapers. Monetary donations also welcome. The Food Depot stretches every dollar! Make checks to United Church or go online to unitedchurchofsantafe.org (memo: Food Depot). Thank you!

LOVE CREATION

Care for Creation and Offset Your Carbon Use

United's "Carbon Offset Program" helps plant trees and change policies to address climate change. It's simple to do: Track your car mileage and/or plane flight hours and donate through United to *Tree New Mexico* and *NM Interfaith Power and Light*. Info: unitedchurchofsantafe.org/post/unitedscarbonoffsetprogram.

Compost Collection – It's a Miracle!

United contracts with Reunity Resources to turn compostable products (e.g., food waste, meat scraps, etc.) into rich, life-giving compost. Pick up compostable garbage bags at the church (**NO** standard plastic bags, please), fill them at home, and bring back to put in the green bin by the Children's Garden. More things in the compost bin means less in the landfill. Info at reunityresources.com or call Melanie Lohmann (505-617-0700). Thanks!

THURSDAY NIGHT LIVE 2022 (5:30 to 7:00 pm)

Our weekly outdoor evening program includes a simple supper and a lot of fun:

- July 7 – Make a River!
- July 14 – Scavenger Hunt
- July 21 – Bubbles, Bubbles, Bubbles

Come every Thursday or just when you're in town. Grandchildren welcome, too! Spread the word—friends always welcome! Info: Kate Murphy (unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com).

Middle and High School Youth Thursdays at United (7:15 to 8:30)

Encourage your kids to join with other United Youth—and friends—for summer fun! Led by Kate Murphy and volunteers, they'll play some ice breaker games, then...

- July 7 – Movie Night with Popcorn & Popsicles
- July 14 – Scavenger Hunt (and the final clue is ice cream)

UNITED CHURCH YOUTH GO TO CAMP!

Thanks to our new Youth Minister Kate Murphy's connections to the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Church of Christ, United Youth have a chance to go to a camp this summer! Located at La Foret UCC near Colorado Springs, the camp uses "Music, Art, Dance, and Drama" to enable youth to strengthen their faith, use the gifts God has given them, and live in community. For High Schoolers, it's July 17–23; for Middlers, Voyager July 10–16. Scholarship aid available. Kate Murphy (unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com).



Lightning Boy Hoop Dancers At United – Friday, July 29—7:00 pm For All Ages!

Founded in memory of Valentino "Tzigiwhaeno" Rivera, an 8-year-old Tewa Pueblo boy "who couldn't stop dancing," the Lightning Boy Hoop Dancers offer a special presentation at United on Friday evening, July 29 at 7:00 pm. All welcome to the event that features tribal youth from all around northern New Mexico. The Hoop Dance continues to be known as a healing art form and is said to have its origins in the Pueblos of Northern New Mexico.

Bring a lawn chair, a friend, and enjoy this unique New Mexico offering! You can also pack a picnic supper and come early. It will help if you sign up, too :-). (unitedchurchofsantafe.org)

PRAYING IN THE DIRT

Children's Ministry Sunday Mornings

"Inch by inch, row by row, gonna make this garden grow!" United's children and youth are doing that this summer as they tend the Children's Garden on Sunday mornings during worship and learn about God and God's earth, water, air, and creatures all through the summer. All welcome!



**THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE
A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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 historically emphasized freedom of thought and belief as well as a commitment to the community. 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!

LIVESTREAM, OUTDOOR, AND INDOOR WORSHIP SERVICES OFFERED

United (even apart) Church is also United (outdoors and indoors) Church! This summer, we'll continue to offer both the **10:00 am Sunday service in-person indoors** and also the **livestream of the service online** (access it on United's website: unitedchurchofsantafe.org). We also offer an **8:30 am outdoor contemplative Communion service** (weather permitting). For the indoor service, please register by noon each Friday at unitedchurchofsantafe.org (click “RSVP for in-person services”). Proof of vaccination (except if unable to be vaccinated due to age or medical condition) and masks required. You can keep your vaccination confirmation on file at the church. For more information email unitedchurchsf@gmail.com.