

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

# PRAYERS FOR OCTOBER

## St. Francis Sunday (Oct. 2)

Lord, make me a channel of your peace,  
where there is hatred, let me bring your love,  
where there is injury, your pardon,  
and where there is doubt, true faith in you.  
Where there is despair in life, let me bring hope,  
where there is darkness, only light,  
and where there is sadness, ever joy.  
O Divine Master, grant that I may never seek  
so much to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood as to understand,  
to be loved as to love with all my soul.  
For it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
in giving that we receive,  
and in dying, we are born to eternal life. Amen.

## For the Changing of the Seasons

O our Mother Earth, O our Father Sky,  
Your children are we:  
with tired backs we bring you gifts that you love.

Then, weave for us a garment of brightness.  
May the warp be the white light of morning,  
May the weft be the red light of evening.  
May the fringes be the falling rain.  
May the border be the standing rainbow.  
Weave for us a garment of brightness,  
that we may walk fittingly where birds sing,  
where grass is green.

O our Mother Earth, O our Father Sky, weave for us!

Tewa prayer

## Reformation Sunday (Oct. 30)

Take my soul into your hands.

Martin Luther

## All Hallows' Eve (aka Halloween) (Oct. 31)

From ghosties and ghoulies,  
and long-legged beasties,  
and things that go bump in the night,  
good Lord, deliver us!

### Inside this issue:

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**UNITED CHURCH  
OF SANTA FE**

**A UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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*Children's Assistant*

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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

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Dear Friends,

*Wild Woman: A Footnote, the Desert, and My Quest for an Elusive Saint* is the story of St. Mary of Egypt, a little known "Desert Mother," who left the big cities of Alexandria and Jerusalem to live as a hermit in the eastern desert of modern-day Jordan. It is also the story of the book's author, Amy Frykholm, as she seeks to understand Mary's quest—and her own.

Finally, it is the story of the desert and of the lessons we can learn when we let the desert become our home.

On Sunday, October 2, in the 11:15 Forum, we welcome Ms. Frykholm, who is also a senior editor with *The Christian Century* for a reading and book signing. She is also very interested in how United has sought to be a "Desert Faith Church" throughout our history. A panel of United members and friends (Linda Churchill, Landscape Chair; Juanito Jimenez, santero; Albert Natonabah, artist and member of the Diné/Navajo Nation; and Larry Rasmussen, environmental ethicist) will share their perspectives on living *with* the desert (not just in it, nor just as a traveler or pilgrim through it).

It promises to be a very rich conversation and I hope you'll plan to join in, especially as we seek to listen for what God is calling United to be and do in the coming years.

Developing a "desert faith" can be a challenge, particularly for those of us who come to the high desert of northern New Mexico from different and lush landscapes. I invite you to consider what you have learned by living here. What lessons has this land of much sky, hard soil, and little rain taught you? . . .

- How has living with the desert helped shape your faith—or reshaped it, if you moved from elsewhere?
- When you think about how desert plants and animals survive this harsh environment, what can that tell us about how we might live through harsh times?
- When did the desert finally feel like home to you (or has it ever)?

To prime the pump, here's a poem by creative writing professor Pat Mora, titled "Lesson 1."

### Lesson 1

The desert is powerless  
when thunder shakes the hot air  
and unfamiliar raindrops slide  
on rocks, sand, *mesquite*,  
when unfamiliar raindrops overwhelm  
her, distort her face.  
But after the storm, she breathes deeply,  
caressed by a fresh sweet calm.  
My Mother smiles rainbows.

When I feel shaken, powerless  
to stop my bruising sadness,  
I hear My Mother whisper:

*Mi'ja*

Don't fear your hot tears  
cry away the storm, then listen, listen.

Thanks be to the Creator of Heaven and Earth for creating the desert –  
and for all the lessons of life and faith it can teach us.

Blessings,



# Worship in October

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8:30 Outdoor Contemplative Communion  
10:00 Sanctuary Service with Choir and special music  
Online services continue, too!

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## October Worship: “Living in Hope”

After the St. Francis Day “Blessing of the Animals,” we engage the Prophets of Israel, who lived in tumultuous times and who gave their people hope by telling them the truth. Join in—and invite a friend!

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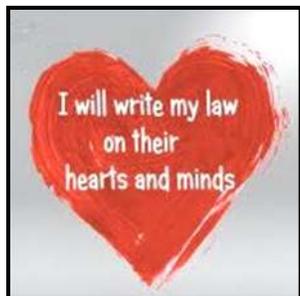
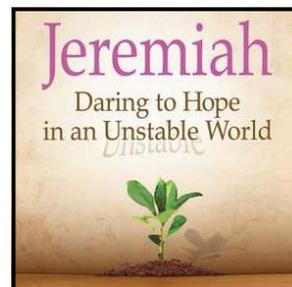


### ***St. Francis Sunday, Pet Blessing, Outdoor Worship (Oct. 2)***

“All praise be Yours through Brother Sun, Sister Moon,” proclaimed Francis of Assisi. He echoed the long-ago Psalmist who praised the Creator for creating everything from rocks and mountains to the rock badgers to live there. (Psalm 104) We too join that chorus of praise with all Creation—“Howl-lelujah!” Bring your pets (on a leash or in a carrier) for a blessing at the end of the service.

### ***Building in Hope (Oct. 9)***

The scripture for Oct. 9 and 16 is from the Prophet Jeremiah when he is tasked with helping the Israelites live in exile and also return from the exile. The texts speak to this third year of the pandemic when we’re no longer in the crisis mode, but life won’t be going back to the way it was. In Jeremiah 20: 2-4; the Prophet tells the people “to build their houses, marry, and plant their gardens,” even in exile. In a word, don’t wait until life gets better or things settle down—because they probably won’t. So build, love, and plant where you are.



### ***New Covenants and Second Chances (Oct. 16)***

To prepare the Israelites for their new life after exile, Jeremiah told them that God was also starting over with them, writing a new covenant on their hearts and not on stone, which they could and did break. When has someone or something “written a new covenant” on your heart? As we rebuild our church and its ministries, how might we “update” our covenant with God, with one another, and with this world?

### ***A Place of Springs, A Place of Hope (Oct. 23)***

“How lovely is thy dwelling place,” sings Psalm 84. Whether in a beautiful temple adorned in silver and gold or a swallow’s nest, God offers refuge and shelter to us and all creatures. Where do we find such refuge in our lives? How can our church be a place of refuge for others?



### ***A Place (and a People) that “Writes the Vision” Reformation Sunday (Oct. 30)***

The day’s text is from the Prophet Habakkuk, when things had completely fallen apart for the Israelites. God has summoned him to tell the people to “write the vision, make it plain.” A good text for Reformation Day 2022, when the pandemic, racial reckoning, and all the other issues of the past 3 years require us to see with new and open eyes. We’re also guided in worship with the Choir’s offering of Franz Schubert’s *Mass in G*.

### ***From Fear to Courage All Saints Day (Nov. 6)***

## Music Notes

The Sanctuary Choir kicked off its new season with 26 at our opening rehearsal. All together we have 35 on our roster ... but we always have room for more!

This fall one of our special projects will be to present Schubert's lovely *Mass in G* as a part of the 10:00 worship service on Reformation Sunday, October 30. This will be sung by what we call a "Festival Choir," which means folks who don't normally sing with the Sanctuary Choir are welcome to join us for a limited number of rehearsals and sing with the festival group.

Rehearsals for the *Mass in G* will take place during normal Wednesday evening (7:00 pm) rehearsals. At first rehearsing the Schubert will use just a portion of our Wednesday evening rehearsal time. Then, as we get closer to October 30, nearly all our rehearsal time will be devoted to the *Mass*.

Rehearsals for the *Mass in G* start Wednesday, September 28. If you'd like to join the Festival Choir, or even if you wish to know more details, please email me at [unitedchurch.brad@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurch.brad@gmail.com). And mark your calendars for a special Sunday of music on October 30!

Brad Ellingboe  
Director of Music



### **"FebFest" IS COMING! (Saturday/Sunday—Feb. 4/5)**

This February, United Church again joins with Albuquerque's *Coro Lux* to offer a midwinter choral festival that includes a Saturday workshop of choral technique, lectures, and rehearsals, culminating in a Sunday concert with a free-will offering for Habitat for Humanity. This year our special guest is André Thomas, an internationally recognized composer, conductor, former professor of music at Florida State University, and current Associate Artist of the London Symphony Orchestra. He is also the author of *Way Over in Beulah Land: Understanding and Performing the Negro Spiritual*.

The event is open to all on first-come/first-served basis. For info, contact Director of Music Bradley Ellingboe or Pastor Talitha Arnold or go to [abqcorolux.org](http://abqcorolux.org).

## Children & Youth Ministry

### **United's Children**

#### ***Love God by Loving Neighbor and Creation!* Sunday Mornings during 10:00 Worship**

Supper for our neighbors who are unhoused. Hygiene and Baby Kits for our neighbors in Ukraine and Puerto Rico. Cards for our neighbors at the Mexico/U.S. border. Bringing our family's food waste to compost.

Each Sunday, United's children (through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) learn new ways to "love God, Neighbor, and Creation." They start worship with the adults and older youth and then go to Children's Ministry for different hands-on projects to care for others. They learn about Jesus by doing what Jesus did—care for the sick, reach out to the lonely, welcome the stranger, and love this earth. All welcome—and bring friends!

### **Three (3) New Youth Groups**

(Youth Minister Kate Murphy:  
[unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurch.kate@gmail.com))

#### ***Wondering and Shaping Young Adventurers (6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>)***

Sunday mornings during 10:00 worship to explore faith and help others and once a month for just plain fun (movie night, bowling, hikes, etc.).

#### ***Seeking and Questioning Youth Initiates (8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>)***

The Initiates share in 10:00 worship and then meet at 11:15 to build a community through trust, truth, respect, and kindness. They'll learn that it's safe to ask questions, express doubt, and begin to define beliefs about faith as it relates to the world. And have fun in a host of ways!

#### ***Purpose and Integrity JAS Youth (Juniors and Seniors)***

Creating community. Created in God's image. Created with courage and compassion. United's Juniors and Seniors gather Sunday evenings (6:30 to 8:00) and for monthly service projects, fun nights, etc. etc. etc.

**All welcome—and bring friends!**

### **Friday Family Supper Bags – October 21**

Let us know if you like one!  
(Or if you'd like to cook lasagna for some!)

### **Drop-by Halloween Trick or Treat Outdoors at the Church**

**Sat., Oct. 29 (4:00-6:00 pm)**

Before your kids go trick or treating in your neighborhood, bring them to the church so we can take their pictures and they can get some treats! If you can let us know you're coming, that helps us plan. Thanks!



# CARE AND CONCERN

## PRAYERS FOR OUR CHURCH AND OUR WORLD



### Prayers of Thanks for:

- > **The Choir and their leaders, Bradley Ellingboe and Jessie Lo**, as they started again in September, blessing each Sunday with their music;
- > Coro Lux and their director Bradley Ellingboe for the powerful “Ellingboe Requiem” concert;
- > All who work behind the scenes to make Sunday mornings and special events possible and to help us stay connected, sane, faithful, healthy, and hopeful!

### Prayers of New Life for:

- > **Our five new Initiates**, as they begin their journey to adulthood (**Derek Darby, Bailey Gordon, Weston Puglisi, Luke Rand, Sasha Smucker**);
- > **Luke Griffin** (Lauren Smith’s son) following his release from prison.

### Prayers of Healing and Hope for:

- > **Sherry Kelsey and George Duncan**, following the death of Sherry’s mother, Mary Fouke, at age 100; **Lydia Lair**, whose sister Diana Coberly died earlier this summer; **Caroline Burnett**, whose cousin Julia died in early September; **Desirée Mays**, following the death of her husband Pieter Hull (whose parents were Harmon and Cornelia);
- > The family and friends of **Terra Pressler** as they gather for her memorial service Saturday, Oct. 1 at 1:30 at Fort Marcy Park.
- > **Aleisha Natonabah and her family** (Albert, Tina, Donovan) as she recovers from major back surgery;
- > **Larry Lindsey (David Lindsey’s brother, Justin and Leah’s father)** as he recovers from a bike accident; **Ophelia Lindsey** recovering from a broken foot; **Kathy Flynn**, recovering from hip replacement; **Cynde Christie**, dealing with chronic pain from a fall;
- > **All living with Covid**, and their family members and the nurses, doctors, and others who care for them;
- > **Betty and Ken Bordner**, as Betty deals with several health issues;
- > Persons living with cancer and those who love and care for them (David Smith, Anna Spalding, and others);
- > **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 (**Vi Varble; Helen Natonabah McCabe, 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: **Linda Eccard, Dave Feldt, DiAna Gutierrez, Sam and Molly Elkind, Lauren Smith, Gloria and Terry Griffin, Sam Gerberding**, and others;
- > **Jessie Lo and her extended family in Taiwan**, as tensions with mainland China increase;
- > Other United members and friends with extended families in other countries **Blanca Surgeon and Zulema Zambrano** (Honduras), **Maria Navarette** (El Salvador, Mexico), **Jan and Kitty Jansen** (Netherlands), **Joohee and Lee Rand** (Korea), **Eva and Lenz Neuhauser** (Austria), **John Walker** (Scotland), **Avril and Jim Ekstrand** (Ireland), and others;
- > The families and communities 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.

### Congregational Care for October



**On Call: Dave Wilkison (505) 400-0504**  
**Food: June Yoder (505) 503-0555**

### 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](mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com))



# Outreach

## LOVE GOD, NEIGHBOR, CREATION

*Outreach Opportunities – Thank you!*

Go online to [unitedchurchofsantafe.org](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org) or send a check to  
1804 Arroyo Chamiso, Santa Fe, NM 87505.

### LOVE NEIGHBOR

#### Summer Drive for the Food Depot Raises over \$2000!

Thank you to all who contributed to this summer's drive for the Food Depot! Your generosity helps feed hungry children and adults throughout northern New Mexico.

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

14,395 burritos, 8,729 sandwich suppers. Since March 2020, that's how many meals United has supplied from Felipe's Tacos and Mucho Gourmet to help feed the guests of Santa Fe's shelters. Your donations make it possible! (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, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, in Fort Defiance, AZ.



#### Immigration & Refugee Task Force

**Did you know?** There are over 20,000 immigrants in detention as of July 2022 (source: [trac.syr.edu/immigration/quickfacts/](http://trac.syr.edu/immigration/quickfacts/)). Kesley, aged 23 from Brazil, died by suicide at Torrance Detention Center last month after being detained for five months. **You can help!** Sign up to write to a detainee. It's easy and helps bring hope and comfort to asylum seekers isolated in ICE Detention. Sign up here [abqvida.org](http://abqvida.org). Questions? Email Jackie Neel: [jlneel1949@gmail.com](mailto:jlneel1949@gmail.com).

#### UKRAINE REFUGEE RELIEF

As the war continues, the need continues. Your monetary donations help Church World Service buy supplies (food, diapers, etc.) for persons uprooted by war. Please spread the word to friends, co-workers, neighbors, and family. Thank you!



#### Interfaith Shelter Donations

The Interfaith Shelter needs the following donations. Please bring them to the church (boxes in Community Room) and Pat Roach will take them to the shelter. Thank you!

- Men's clothing (pants, jackets, shirts)
- Socks and underwear for both men and women
- Hats, lotion, sunscreen, toothpaste/toothbrushes, razors (new)

### LOVE CREATION

#### 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 compost bins means less in landfills. Thanks!

#### 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](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org/post/unitedscarbonoffsetprogram).

# Adult Faith Formation

## SUNDAY FORUMS (11:15 am)

THE UNITED CHURCH OF SANTA FE PRESENTS

### Desert Church Spirituality

Sunday, October 2 | 11:15 AM | 1804 Arroyo Chamiso

A panel discussion with Linda Churchill, Amy Frykholm, Albert Natonabah, Juanito Jimenez, and Larry Rasmussen, hosted by Rev. Talitha Arnold.

For many, the desert is a destination for pilgrimage, or even a place of temptation, but to us the desert is *home*. Together, we'll consider how we live *with* the desert we dwell in.



### Desert Church Spirituality (Oct. 2)



A panel of United members share their reflections and experiences how learning to live with the desert impacts their faith. We also welcome nationally known author Amy Frykholm, introducing her new book—*Wild Woman: A Footnote, the Desert, and My Quest for an Elusive Saint*—on the Desert Mother, St. Mary of Egypt.

At press time, later October Forums are still in the works. Watch your emails and church bulletins for more information.

### Drop-by Halloween Trick or Treat Outdoors at the Church Sat., Oct. 29 (4:00-6:00 pm)

Before your kids go trick or treating in your neighborhood, bring them to the church so we can take their pictures and they can get some treats! If you can let us know you're coming, that helps us plan. Thanks!



## Midweek Offerings

### Women's Study Group

#### Wednesdays, October 5 and 19 (10:00 am)

Join in a lively discussion of Choctaw Elder and Episcopal Bishop Steven Charleston's *The Four Vision Quests of Jesus* (Oct. 5) and start *How the Word Is Passed: A Reckoning with the History of Slavery* by Clint Smith. For more information, please contact Barbara MacPhee ([macphee.b@gmail.com](mailto:macphee.b@gmail.com), 504-232-6670). To order a book, please contact Talitha Arnold.

### Pretty Good Guys

#### Wednesdays, Oct. 12 and 26 (10:30 am)

All men invited to join in this twice-monthly meeting. We gather outside (as weather allows) for fellowship and discuss a variety of topics based on the group's interests. (Greg Gaertner, [greg.gaertner@comcast.net](mailto:greg.gaertner@comcast.net), 505-428-8910)

### Resiliency and Hope: Strengthening Our Souls Thursday Mornings at 8:00 (MDT) on Zoom

Exercise your mind and your soul by exploring the scripture stories for the upcoming Sunday. Join in to deepen your faith and share the journey. All welcome! Sign up at [unitedchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com).



### Eco-Anxiety: What Is It? How to Deal with It? Wednesdays (Oct. 19 & 26/Nov. 2 & 9) 7:00 to 8:00 pm

Climate change and the resulting fires, hurricanes and flooding have become leading causes of anxiety for many people, particularly younger adults and youth. Psychiatrists Joe Neidhardt and Mary Hasbah Roessel share information and resources (meditation techniques, relaxation training, etc.) in a multiweek series. Please register at [unitedchurchsf@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com).

### What Should Your Legacy Be? Letters to Our Grandchildren

Larry Rasmussen's Wednesday Class  
Postponed to early 2023

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*Mailing Date — September 22, 2022*

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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! We 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](http://unitedchurchofsantafe.org)). We also offer an **8:30 am outdoor contemplative Communion service** (weather permitting). For the indoor service, 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](mailto:unitedchurchsf@gmail.com).