



COURIER

First Presbyterian Church

August, 2018

Pastor's Letter

During one of my June sermons, I posed what I hoped was a thought-provoking question: To what is God calling the First Presbyterian Church of Socorro?"

The transitional period between pastors is a time for congregations to strengthen the ministries that are working well for them and to explore some new ones. It is a time to talk about possible changes in how things are done in preparation for a new pastor. Interim Pastors can be helpful in the process as they may be able to see things the congregation no longer sees. The Session, as the elected leaders of the congregation, lead the way in this effort.

I have deliberately spent the first five months of my time with you simply getting acquainted with you and observing how the Church functions. The Session and I worked on updating the Church records. We are now ready to identify some things we can do before our new pastor arrives.

One of the areas that we want to continue to strengthen is our ministry to our families. We have a tremendous resource in the children and their families who attend regularly. What can we do to nurture the faith of these children and to support our young families? There has already been talk of forming a children's choir. Let's do it! What else can we do?

I have heard a desire to restore periodic church potlucks for the purpose of fellowship. That sounds like a great idea. We have had church members who have made some fascinating trips in recent months. Why not schedule them to share what they learned with the rest of us? Marsha and Barry Sabol went on safaris in South Africa, Norma and Bill Lorang went to Spain and Portugal studying architecture. Wouldn't it be fun to hear from them?

It appears to me that one of our greatest community missions is the hosting of the Socorro Cooperative Nursery School in our building. Don Plank has done a phenomenal job in serving generations of families in Socorro. I want to sit down with Don and see what we can do to help.

I had a conversation the other day about the long-term benefits and the short-term improvement to the curb-appeal of our building of refurbishing the gravel areas that front on McCutcheon.

(continued next page)

First Presbyterian Church
304 McCutcheon Ave.
PO Box 1155
Socorro, NM87801
Office Phone
575-835-0942

Office Hours
T-W-Th 8:30-11:30

Interim-Pastor
Rev. Ted Mattie

Church Email
1stpresbyterian @qwestoffice.net

Church Website
1stpresbyterian.
qwestoffice.net

Church Mobile
1stpresbyterian.
qwestoffice.net/mobile

*Editor
Kurt Winton*

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Pastor's Letter continued

You no doubt have other thoughts and suggestions. Let's talk about them together. I invite you to join me for a conversation about the things we can do to prepare for our next pastor. You can certainly talk to me privately if you wish, but let's chat after worship on Sunday, August 5th. We will take a few minutes to greet each other before I convene the "conversation." Let's see how creative we can be and set some goals for the immediate future.

I am here to serve you and to help you get ready for the next exciting chapter in this Church's life.

Ted Mattie

Seen-And-Heard

Seen-and-Heard includes tidbits of news heard around the congregation to help us get to know each other better. In the interest of privacy and safety for our members, Seen-and-Heard is not posted online.

NEW

**First Presbyterian Church Directories
are in the Vestibule
Please feel free to pick one up.**

**Presbyterian Church Rummage Sale
Drop off and Mark
September 3-6 8:00 am-2:00pm
SALE September 7-8
8:00am-1:00pm**



Worship and Potluck at Water Canyon July 29, at 11:00 am

Join us on Sunday, July 29, for one of the favorite events of the year at the Water Canyon Campground west of Socorro! Starting at 11:00 am, we will worship with our brothers and sisters from the Presbyterian congregations in Magdalena and Datil. The worship service will include the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. It is a great time of celebration as the Body of Christ!

Randy Pence will bring the message and Marsha Thornton some of the music.

Worship will be followed by a Potluck Picnic. Bring something to share with others. There are picnic tables in the shelter, but you can bring your own lawn chair if you wish to have the comfort of home! It is a great time of worship, fellowship and

great fun! Parking is limited so try to car pool and share a ride.

To get to Water Canyon, take Highway 60 west toward Magdalena. After 15 miles, be watching for the sign and turnoff to Water Canyon. Turn left from Highway 60 and travel south for 4 ½ miles to the campground.

Vacation Bible School 2018 by Audrey Luhmann

ECUMENICAL VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL A ROUSING SUCCESS

For the first time in recent years, our Church joined with St. Paul's United Methodist Church for this year's Vacation Bible School, held on the evenings of July 5-7 at St. Paul's. Enthusiastic responses from the children in our congregation used words such as "awesome" and "amazing." Many thanks to all who helped, including Barbara Oates, Beth Cadol, Denise Gilson, Jane Apps, Nancy Dotson, Ruth Baca, Marilyn Mattie, and Ted Mattie.

Despite an upcoming cross-country move for her and her family, Director Audrey Luhmann did a phenomenal job

in organizing and leading the program. Audrey wrote the following email to all of the helpers:

Dear Everyone,

Thank you for all that you did this past week to bring a really fun Vacation Bible School to our children. I may have missed one or two, but I believe there were 25 children on Saturday evening. Let's continue to pray that each carried away a new understanding of their Father God and His love for them!

I especially want to thank all of you from First Presbyterian for joining in so wholeheartedly. Having that many volunteers made

each evening go so smoothly. It may have been lost to the children, but I was filled with so much joy getting to watch (and be a part of!) two churches working shoulder-to-shoulder. Pastors Ted and Kelly, you might want to put your heads together for the next big outreach or project that comes along. :-)

May God continue to let His presence be known to each of us as we journey forward, remembering all that He's done through Christ and all that He continues to do within us!

Blessings and love,
Audrey



Vacation Bible School 2018





Vacation Bible School 2018





TREASURER'S REPORT May 2018

By Geraldine Schwab

General Fund Checking Account

05/01/2018 Balance on hand	\$ 2,555.56
Receipts	4,718.33
Disbursements	5,057.14
05/31//2018 Balance on hand	2,216.75

Receipts include:

Socorro Cooperative Nursery School	\$ 625.00
Local Mission Offering	150.00
Donations for Easter tulips	43.00
AA donation for use of building	30.00

Disbursements include:

Annual payroll subscription for QuickBooks book-keeping program	704.34
Pulpit supply	156.24
Start swamp coolers & shut down furnaces	124.19
Presbyterian planning calendars	72.00

We spent \$488.81 more for budgeted items in May than we received for budgeted expenses.

We received \$4,568.33 for budgeted expenses in May and spent \$5,057.14 for budgeted items.

Rental Property Checking Account

05/01/2018 Balance on hand	\$11,514.84
Receipts	1,000.00
Disbursement	112.42
05/31/2018 Balance on hand	12,402.42

Receipts were:

Rent, 308 McCutcheon	600.00
Rent, 306 McCutcheon	400.00

Disbursement was:

306 McCutcheon, repair faucets	112.42
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Memorial Fund Checking Account

05/30/2018 Balance on hand	12,997.35
Receipts	0.78
05/31/2018	Balance on hand
	12,998.13

Receipts were interest.

John Browne Memorial Fund

05/31/2018 Balance on hand	778.48
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This account is set aside specifically for education.

New Covenant Funds Investment Accounts

Building Fund

04/01/2018	Our value	27,491.53
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Capital Equipment Fund

04/01/2018	Our value	12,490.38
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John Browne Memorial Fund

04/01/2018	Our value	29,068.86
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This account is dedicated to education uses.



TREASURER'S REPORT June 2018
By Geraldine Schwab

John Browne Memorial Fund

General Fund Checking Account

06/01/2018 Balance on hand	\$ 2,216.75
Receipts	6,259.56
Disbursements	2,324.51
06/30//2018 Balance on hand	6,151.80

Receipts include:

AA donation for use of building	30.00
Sunday school	5.00

Disbursements were all for our usual expenses.

We spent \$3,930.05 less for budgeted items in June than we received for budgeted expenses.

We received \$6,254.56 for budgeted expenses in June and spent \$2,324.51 for budgeted items.

Rental Property Checking Account

06/01/2018 Balance on hand	\$12,402.42
Receipts	1,000.00
Disbursement	54.36
06/30/2018 Balance on hand	13,348.06

Receipts were:

Rent, 308 McCutcheon	600.00
Rent, 306 McCutcheon	400.00

Disbursement was:

306 McCutcheon, roof repairs	54.36
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Memorial Fund Chec4king Account

06/01/2018 Balance on hand	\$12,998.13
Receipts	0.74
06/30/2018 Balance on hand	12,998.87

Receipts were interest.

06/01/2018 Balance on hand	778.48
Receipts	0.16
06/30/2018 Balance on hand	778.64

Receipts were interest.

This account is set aside specifically for education.

New Covenant Funds Investment Accounts

Building Fund

04/01/2018	Our value	27,491.53
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Capital Equipment Fund

04/01/2018	Our value	12,490.38
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John Browne Memorial Fund

04/01/2018	Our value	29,068.86
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A BRIEF HISTORY

The First Presbyterian Church of Socorro, New Mexico, was organized on October 13, 1880, with fourteen people as charter members. The newly-established Church met in the United Methodist Church until moving into their own building east of the Socorro County Court House around December of 1880.

The congregation voted to build a new Church building in February of 1933. The present building at 304 McCutcheon Avenue was dedicated on February 9, 1936. The Education Wing was added in 1955.

Meanwhile, the denomination underwent changes at the national level. The Presbyterian Church in the United States of America (PCUSA), of which Socorro was a member, merged with the United Presbyterian Church in North America (UPNA) to form the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America (UPCUSA). A historic merger took place on June 11, 1983, the UPCUSA (commonly known as the “northern” Church) merged with the Presbyterian Church in the United States (PCUS; the “southern Church”). The merger took place after 146 years of separation due to the Civil War. The new denomina-

tion was called the Presbyterian Church, United States of America, PC(USA). The First Presbyterian Church of Socorro is a member of the Presbytery of Santa Fe, the Synod of the Southwest, and the PC(USA).

The congregation has hosted the Socorro Cooperative Nursery School in its building for many years, serving several generations of families from the Church and the community. Support for other causes is provided throughout the community, not just financially but with active participation. The Church is proud to be an active part of the Socorro community.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Dear Partners in God’s Mission,

May 24, 2018

Thank you for your support of Presbyterian Mission! Your faithful and generous giving allows all of us who work together in God’s mission to bring the gospel of Christ to all corners of the world it provides the funds to help bear the burdens of those in times of crisis, those in poverty, those who are in need. Thank you for partnering with us in the call.

The generosity of your congregation has provided the following support: On May 17, 2018, we received \$276.00 for One Great Hour of Sharing.

As we approach the day of Pentecost and the birth of the church, we pause to give thanks for your support of God’s mission. You are helping to spread the fire of the Spirit and the love of Christ to God’s people across the globe. Together, we engage with our sisters and brothers in Christ to bring wholeness of life.

Thank you again for your support, dedication and partnership in furthering God’s mission around the world. You are a valued partner. Please let me know how I can support your efforts.

Together in Christ’s Mission
Rene’ Myers
Mission Engagement Advisor
rene.myers@pcusa.org

August 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Session 10:00	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Coffee	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	Presbyterian Church Rummage Sale Sept. 7-8

First Presbyterian Church

304 McCutcheon Ave.
PO BOX 1155
Socorro, NM 87801

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP DURING AUGUST

Sunday, August 5, 2018 – Communion; 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Preacher: Ted Mattie
Scriptures: Ephesians 4:1-16; John 6:24-35
Sermon Title: “Bread That Sustains”/ Jesus uses figurative language to identify himself as the bread of life.

Sunday, August 12, 2018 – 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Preacher: Ted Mattie
Scriptures: Ephesians 4:25-5:2; John 6:35, 41-51
Sermon Title: “Life-Giving Bread”/ Jesus identifies himself as the bread that satisfies, even better than the manna in the wilderness.

Sunday, August 19, 2018 – 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Preacher: Ted Mattie
Scriptures: Ephesians 5:15-20; John 6:51-58
Sermon Title: “Tasting the Bread of Life”/ Jesus speaks of how people can avail themselves of him as life-giving bread.

Sunday, August 26, 2018 – 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Preacher: Ted Mattie
Scriptures: Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69
Sermon Title: “Understanding Without Committing”/ Deciding to follow Jesus is a huge, life-changing decision if you understand what Jesus asks of you.