

June 14 WPC Session Meeting

A summary of session actions and concerns:

- Pastor Lorelei has a busy summer planned including some vacation, possibly a study leave trip, as well as civic involvements.
- Financially the budget is on track with spending and income. The treasurer is now using the Quick Books computer program. Anna, our financial consultant, is helping with teaching, Valdine and others on the finance team how to use the Quick Books program.
- Session voted to upgrade and update the church's security system. More sensors will be placed around the church including in the basement. Each person who has access to the church will have their own personal access code to turn off and reset the alarm. Access and rearming will be monitored on a designated cell phone so the system will be connected to the internet. This may provide a back up system for when people forget to rearm the alarm system when they leave the church.

August 16 WPC Session Meeting

It was a dark and rainy night when the WPC session, seated around the plastic tables heard a splat, splat coming from the darkened church. A tiny roof crevice was dripping the refreshing rain onto one of the old, wooden, upholstered chairs. Oh boy, a new problem. But, dear reader, let us get back to a summary of that night's meeting.

Treasurer's Report: (Valdine Brower)

- Use of the QuickBooks program is progressing. All expenditures are now being accounted through the program, and most of the 'bugs' have been worked out of income accounting. The Session approved the order of checks and deposit slips so our weekly bank deposit slip can be done by the computer. This was the final step in moving from Albert Jordan's faithful work of many years in accounting and recording our weekly offering. We would like to thank Albert, Harrison Underwood, and all those who have given their time and dedication to keep our church finances organized. We have committed to going completely to the computer as of September 1. QuickBooks will help us provide timely and accurate reports to our donors, keep our finances in order, and access financial information quickly and easily. We are excited about this new process and its usefulness!
- After discussion, a motion was passed that people contemplating a fund raising project at WPC will be asked to submit a brief written

proposal to the finance team including what the raised money will be used for. This, as it turns out, this has been a bit fuzzy in the past. The finance team will then coordinate scheduling of the events. The idea is that by planning the fund raisers, money solicitations can be spread out more than it is now.

- Another discussion followed to clarify questions about the church budget. The budget voted on by the congregation covers operational, day to day expenses including salaries, utilities, and routine expenses. Capital improvement funds, and sometimes emergency funds, are requested outside of the budget. While the budget for 2018 has already been approved by the session, we will be seeking the input of the congregation for 2019 special projects priorities through the consensus process of our new Congregational Council meetings (first one to be held Sunday, September 16 after worship).
- **A Note from Pastor Lorelei:** A number of our church members participated in a trial-run of the Congregational Council process last year. As we continue to listen for and discern God's guidance for a new way of 'being church' we will be asking how we might live into our Mission statement, looking for ways of reorganizing, talking about our priorities, and determining how we are to move forward. You are meant to be part of this dialogue. We are moving from a structure that encourages advocating for a particular position to one that is meant to stimulate the development of a new understanding as we share our hopes, our thoughts and our knowledge with one another. The consensus model we will use during our Congregational Council meeting is meant to help us work with one another in relationship; it has the potential to make us a much stronger body as we get to know each other. At the core of the process is a deepening of respect - each one brings something unique and important to the table, and together we are more than the sum of the individuals. Together, we remain open to God's creative Spirit and all that we might become in Jesus. While it may feel awkward while we are learning, I am very excited about what will come! If you have any questions, please contact me.

Pastor's Report: (Rev. Lorelei Kay)

- Betty Chapman's memorial service is scheduled for 7:00 PM Sept 1 at the church.
- Communion and Potluck for September has been switched to September 9, which has been called "**Home-coming Sunday!**" Both communion and the monthly potluck have been rescheduled to September 9 (from September 2).

On this Sunday, Children's Church will begin for the year - we would love to have all of our children here on that day, and it would be great to "fill the house" - so please put this Sunday on your schedule and make sure to attend!

- Our Confirmation Class begins with a kick-off on Saturday, September 15 at Pastor Lorelei's house (509 Cactus Road) at 5:30 p.m. While Confirmation is usually offered to youth, this year we would like to invite all interested parties 13 and older - including those who might wonder "what does it mean to be Presbyterian?" To complete the class, dates are: Sept. 15 & 30 (regular classes Sundays after worship), Oct. 14 & 28, Nov. 11 & 25; Dec. 9 - with confirmation being held on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24. Call Pastor Lorelei with any questions or to sign up - 505.290.5357.
- Rev. Kay's presbytery committees are Mission Networking, Revitalization & Development, and Stewardship
- Administration: Final completion of downstairs door installation, and insurance refund paperwork completed, refund received. Completion of update process with Advanced Technology for church alarm system; currently monitoring all entry/exit events. Continue to work on getting our tax-exempt status restored, then will be able to file for refunds from Costco. Organized and labeled extra keys, they are in our fireproof box. Purchased and have begun to use a church calendar on whiteboard. (located in the back of the church)
- Continuing education. Rev. Kay continues her McKinley Leadership course at the Gallup Chamber of Commerce, and her graduation is slated for September 6.

Vision Team: Pam Burgess

- Discussion about budgeting and special projects, how it is currently done and possible changes.

Worship Committee: Kathy Mezzoff

- Name tags will be updated
- Recommended to record the sermons through the sound system instead of hand held cell phones
- Recommended hiring a nursery child care provider for the summer months and use a volunteer for the second person
- The high tea, "Golden Harvest High Tea" preparations are underway. The event will be on November 3 and tickets will go on sale Oct 1 for \$20, or 4 for \$70.

Building and Grounds: Sharna Sutherin

- The vandalized exit door in the church basement has been replaced and the job is complete.
- Patrice Olson has held two garage sales at her home to benefit the church. Big thanks!
- The playground project is completed - thanks to all who participated.
- Mike Faz replaced a bathroom light
- Marilyn Johnson's family made a \$750 gift to the church for a bench with a memorial plaque for the playground.

Communications: Mariah Howard is updating and improving the WPC website

Personnel: Pam Burgess

- The committee met to discuss hiring the webmaster and accepting Pastor Lorelei's health care package.

So there you have it, dear reader, a moderately detailed report on what is going on around the church. Kathy and I were unable to attend the recent House Concert arranged by Tom Funk, but I have been told that the music was excellent. Thanks to Tom for arranging this through his connections.

John Mezzoff, editor, session class of 2018.

A Big Thank You to ALL from the Deacons!!

The New Teacher Orientation bags were a great success. The bags were assembled after the service on July 29th. Our church volunteers handed out about 140 bags filled with teacher supplies and treats at the New Teacher Orientation on August 3rd. We once again had great feedback and the bags and cookies were very much appreciated. Thank you for all the donations, the wonderful cookies, and for helping-out at JFK. A special thank you to Heather Nasi for donating the new table banner displaying the church name.

Nicole Jones

Birthdays and Anniversaries

August

Jeff & Nicole Jones (7th, anniversary)
Betsy Windisch (18th, birthday)
Sue Weaver (19th, birthday)
David Conejo (21st, birthday)
Pam Burgess (31st, birthday)

September

Serenea Robare (2nd, birthday)
Tom Funk (20th, birthday)
Roger Jordan (20th, birthday)
Kathy Mezzoff (23rd, birthday)
Katie McGill-Peters (26th, birthday)

Thank you Eryn

Betty McMurry Chapman

Betty (Feb 14, 1925 - August 6, 2018) was 93 when she left this realm. She had remained active until only recently, serving WPC and the community in many ways. She moved to Gallup in 1967 when she and her husband, Jack, acquired the radio station KGAK. She and Jack raised three daughters, Cindy, Lisa, and Kelly, and a son John. She has eight grandchildren and four great - grand children and was preceded in death by her husband.

A letter of love about Betty Chapman

Dear John (Chapman),

I have known Betty since I began directing the choir here at Westminster Presbyterian Church in 1973. She was a faithful choir member with a beautiful soprano voice. She only took a break for the years it took to complete her Bachelor's in Business Administration degree from Arizona State. Even though our choir disbanded in 2003, she continued to sing solos as she had for years, not only in our church, but in the community.

She was also a faithful and loving sister in Chapter C, P.E.O. I remember how excited she was when I was invited to become a member. She personally delivered the invitation!!

Betty was my lifetime cheerleader! She was always encouraging me with her compliments and love.

I was one of the lucky ones to receive one of her homemade loaves of bread every Christmas. You know how great a pie maker she was! Mmmmmm!

She was a caring support during my husband, John's, illness and brought him Peppermint Stick Ice Cream, his favorite flavor, to mix in his Strawberry Ensures.

Betty and I attended many meetings over the years. She was so very proud of her family. She celebrated all of your successes with us and asked us to join her in prayer whenever you faced challenges.

She was our hero with her fantastic memory and sense of history. We have lost a brilliant mind and I have lost a faithful and loving friend! I am so thankful God blessed me with her friendship. I will miss her dearly!!!

With much love,

Heather Nasi



Betty Chapman and her son John Chapman

This photo was taken December 24, 2017, one of the last times Betty was in church.

A Personal Memory

Betty Chapman was a staunch member of WPC as long as I can remember. She was a loyal choir member, served on the session many times, and was the church treasurer for quite a few years. Her husband, Jack, joined her in raising her family in this church, and Betty took care of Jack in their home and nursed him until he died. I saw her as a tough, thinking, and courageous woman who loved God and this congregation. I always enjoyed discussing with her the books she was reading. She will be missed.

John Mezzoff

WPC Announcements

HOME COMING SUNDAY

September 9, 2018

Please join us Sunday, September 9 as we begin a new fall season at the church! Come worship, celebrate the beginning of Children's Church, enjoy our September Potluck, and reconnect with your WPC family after a summer of travel, rest and rejuvenation.

Check Out Our Website!

www.wpcgallup.org is undergoing renovations – Mariah Howard, our new website designer has begun cleaning out old material and putting in current information. You can: vote on which one of two logos you'd like us to use on the website; download our Media Release and return the signed document to the church office so that we can begin posting pictures (you can share your own pictures by emailing them to RevLoreleiKay@gmail.com); find out about upcoming programs and events; link to RevLoreleiKay@gmail.com); find out about upcoming programs and events; link to recorded sermons; and more. We're working on a 'forums' connection so we can make our study groups accessible (like when you're on vacation, but don't want to miss the group's discussion). We'll be posting more good stuff weekly, so keep checking in!

FALL CLEANUP

September 8, 2018 - 9:00-12:00 other times by appointment.

We will be working on the following projects: Installing Exit Signs, Walking the Fence Line and making repairs where necessary, Picking up Trash on the property line on Boardman, Cleaning out remaining items for disposal or recycling from the basement room, Carpet Cleaning in the Sanctuary and Children's Church room, Light Pruning of landscape near the church building, Inventory and Organization of Kitchen, Installation of Paper Towel Dispenser in the upstairs bathroom. If you are aware of other items that should be included please let me (Sharna Sutherin) know. Please come and pick your project. There is a sign-up sheet on the table under the calendar or on the WPC WEB page.

Congregational Council Meeting

Sunday, September 16

"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert." Isaiah 43:19

As we seek to be faithful to God's calling as the congregation of Westminster, and taking our Mission Statement to heart, we are working toward a more inclusive, empowering structure for decision making and participation. On September 16, we will hold our first official Congregational Council, asking the members of the church (traditional and covenant) to consider a number of changes in our organization. Your input is so important! Please be prepared to stay after worship on that Sunday (childcare will be provided) in order that we might work together as the Body of Christ).

Love music? We'd love for you to join us:

Sometimes Sunday Ringers – Bring our beautiful handbells out of storage! The group will come together, choose a couple of songs to learn, play for a worship service, and then decide when they would like to practice/play again. Let Pastor Lorelei know if this is something you'd like to do; email RevLoreleiKay@gmail.com!

Sometimes Sunday Singers – No long-term commitment – Get together, learn a few songs, sing at one of our worship services, then the group determines when they want to sing again. If you're interested, please contact Pastor Lorelei. So far, we have Clint Thompson with his washtub bass and John Chapman on guitar! Email RevLoreleiKay@gmail.com

Children's Church Leaders Needed

Looking for 8-10 people who would be interested in a leadership role with **Children's Church** one Sunday a month. Our goal is to have two adults help with Children's Church each Sunday. We will do a short training after church on Sunday August 27th and Children's Church will begin on **September 9th**. This is a great opportunity to get to know our children and share God's love with them. Please let Pam Burgess know if you are interested – call or text 505.870.2008.

Southwest Winds

September 2018

The date for submission to the editor for the October edition will be October 5, 2018
Southwest Winds is published on a monthly basis except during the summer to report on church activities and be another medium of communication between members and friends of WPC

Westminster Presbyterian Church (USA)

is located a mile south of the intersection of Historic Route 66 and Boardman (State Highway 564) on Boardman

Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:30 AM

The Church Telephone is (505) 905-3247

The Church Website is <www.wpcgallup.org>



Westminster Presbyterian Church

Our Values:

We, the community of Westminster Presbyterian Church, desire to live in harmony with Mother Earth and all of God's Creation. We are a community that cherishes and practices worship, healing, hospitality, justice, peacemaking, and spiritual growth.

Our Mission:

We are a family of believers in Jesus Christ, who imperfectly embody the love of God. As a community of faith, we are called to make visible to the world God's hope for humanity and all of creation. We proclaim Jesus in thought, word, and deed. We welcome and publicly affirm all peoples as created in the image of God and invite all to join us on this journey.

Our Vision:

Thought: We are intentional about faith, reading scriptures in community and discerning together God's character and God's guidance.

Word: We listen for God to speak through the person and teachings of Jesus. We have the courage to speak out in support of social justice.

Deed: Our faith is made alive in our actions.

All of these come together when we gather as the people of God - including people of all sexual orientations and gender identities; of varied cultures, classes and statuses; and with differing understandings of the Divine - seeking truth and lifting each other up with compassion and love.



Picture taken Sunday, August 12 the 150 year celebration of the Presbytery of Santa Fe.