

# ¡La Luz!

Westminster Presbyterian Church, Santa Fe



## Westminster at Pride

Westminster had a wonderful turnout for the 30th Annual Santa Fe Pride Parade! We wore red t-shirts and lots of rainbow ribbon and stickers, blew bubbles, handed out cards, and generally had a blast displaying our support of LGBTQI+ Santa Feans. Several other Santa Fe faith communities were in the parade, including Christ Lutheran Church, who we shared Holy Week worship with earlier this year!

You'll find more photos from Pride scattered throughout this edition of *La Luz!*



## Prayers for Our Congregation

Mimi Rhodes  
Bill Robinson  
Elizabeth and Jim Roghair  
James Rotunno  
Gabe Rotunno  
Lidiette Salazar  
Naomi Salazar

*Over the course of the year, all members and friends of Westminster will appear on this list. Please hold them in prayer, knowing they will hold you in prayer.*

## Birthdays!

7/1: Louise Singleton  
7/9: Maria Naranjo  
7/11: Michael Brinegar  
7/19: Arianne Burnett  
7/21: Allan Guzman  
7/23: Orlando Garcia  
7/23: Donna Ormerod

## QUERIDO WESTMINSTER:

Thank you all for your well wishes as I took some time off at the end of last month! I had a wonderful trip to Maine: a dear friend got married, I enjoyed some rain, and explored the coastal peninsula I was on - including (of course) eating lobster rolls and cinnamon 'snails' (aka cinnamon buns). I took a very chilly dip in the Atlantic as well! It was a wonderful trip and I am glad to be back feeling refreshed.

This July is full of exciting events! We welcomed Elizabeth Roghair, Jill McCormick, and Joy Ice as they offered an anthem on July 9, and we will welcome Todd and Linda O'Neal on July 23rd as they lead us in rousing gospel music on their way to Ghost Ranch. I hope you will all join us for worship on the 23rd and invite your friends for what promises to be a very lively worship service! Because the O'Neals are missing a portion of their choir this year, you are invited to come early, around 10am, to learn some new music and join in the singing. Then on July 30, we will welcome Rev. Lynne West to our pulpit, as I will be in Oregon for a family reunion. She will lead us in worship, and we will also have our 5th Sunday Guest Musicians: Emma and Isabel Treu-Chavez, on the fiddle and vocals, with Grace Nadell accompanying. It will be a more folksy, bluegrass feel - I am sorry to miss it!



We are also saying a fond farewell to the Ibrahim family as they move to Baltimore to be nearer to their extended family. We will send them off with a picnic at Fort Marcy Park Sunday July 23 at 5pm. If you would like to join us, please reach out to Jenny Lasley no later than July 20. A huge thank you to the whole co-sponsor team who have so ably and adeptly supported the family!

The summer fun really began with the Pride Parade - you can find photos throughout this edition of *La Luz*, and will continue with the Albuquerque Isotopes game we are attending in early August. What an amazing thing, that we are able to come together as a community for all of these events - though we know COVID-19 is not really 'over,' this summer marks a clear shift into our new normal, with lots of gatherings and in-person community. I am so grateful for the ways you all supported each other - and me - during the worst phases of the pandemic, and I am delighted that we can now come back together in person, building community through fun worship, picnics, baseball games, parades, and more!

Bendiciones,  
Rev. Madeline

P.S. Please join me this summer as we read *Jesus and John Wayne* together!

### MADELINE'S SCHEDULE:

Vacation: July 24-August 2

Office hours: Tuesday - Thursday, 9:30-1:30; Fridays by appointment. Saturday and Monday are my days off! If you have an emergency on my days off, please call my cell phone or send me a text.

## Is Quiet Space on your monthly calendar?

**Join us on the second Saturday at 10am for this once-a-month chance to take a deep breath and enjoy some creativity and contemplation!**

Since our start last year, we've gathered on Saturday mornings for a number of creative, contemplative practices. We worshipped in the Taizé style during Lent; we created Bible Blackout poem-prayers in January and in May; and during Advent, we created new banners to hang in the sanctuary.

This summer, we'll lean into our creativity with art! Join us at 10am on June 10 and August 12 for explorations of the Trinity in art – both that created by others and art we create ourselves. This is a great low-key entry for friends you want to introduce to Westminster!

**Please note: no Quiet Space this month!**

I look forward to seeing you there!

## Taizé moves to summer schedule

Beginning June 1, Taizé is moving to the Summer schedule. In June and August, we'll meet just once a month, on the first Thursday of the month. We'll gather in-person in our sanctuary, but we'll also live-stream our Taizé service – look for it on our YouTube channel!

## Contemplative Worship

**Taizé:** A brief prayer service in the style of the Taizé Brothers in France is held the first Thursday of June and August during the summer, meeting at Westminster at 5:30pm. It is a time of scripture, prayer, chants and silence. If you'd like the link for the livestream, or to be added to the Taizé email list, please contact the church office at [wpcsantafe@gmail.com](mailto:wpcsantafe@gmail.com).

**Second Saturday Quiet Space:** On the second Saturday of the month, we gather at 10am for a creative, contemplative gathering. We will read Scripture, pray together, and hold a time of silence. Within that structure, Quiet Space is a time for creativity and contemplation; every month will be a different experience.



## Afghan 225 Initiative Update

WPC continues to wire transfer approximately \$300 into Kabul each month to help Afghan families experiencing food and living insecurity. The funds go directly to the family of WPC friends living in Kabul; they, in turn, distribute the funds to individuals and families in dire need. This month, there were two recipients:

- A widow, unable to work, and trying to support and feed five children
- A father of three children, also unable to work because he is battling Leukemia

Your donations into this special WPC fund bypass the Taliban government and go directly to those in need. If you would like to contribute to the fund, you may write a check to WPC, with "Afghan 225 Initiative" on the memo line.

### HAVE YOU WONDERED WHY WE CALL IT AFGHAN 225?

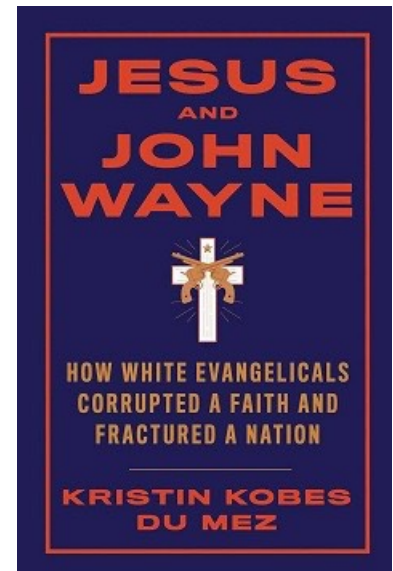
When we first began to wire funds into Afghanistan in 2021, \$225 was the dollar limit of what could be sent into the country in a wire transaction. Although the current limit of monthly fund transfers has increased to \$300, we retain the fund name of 'Afghan 225'.



Jackie and Mac Kenley stay out of the sun while waiting for the parade to start! We're so glad to have Jackie and Mac back with us for the summer!

## Summer All Church Book Read:

*JESUS AND JOHN WAYNE: HOW WHITE EVANGELICALS CORRUPTED A FAITH AND FRACTURED A NATION*



This summer, all members and friends of Westminster are invited to join in reading *Jesus and John Wayne: How White Evangelicals Corrupted a Faith and Fractured a Nation*, by Kristin Kobes Du Mez. Published in 2020, *Jesus and John Wayne* “presents a seventy-five-year history of evangelicalism that identifies the forces that have turned Donald Trump into a hero of the Religious Right.”

You can find a copy of *Jesus and John Wayne* at the Santa Fe Public Library, in any number of local bookstores, as an e-book, or as an audio book. We’ll gather twice a month beginning in June (on the second and fourth Sundays) before worship for conversation and discussion about what we are reading. There’s no particular reading schedule, though a suggested schedule would be one-third of the book each month, June through August.

I look forward to exploring this topic more with you!

## Per Capita and Westminster

It has been an amazing year for our Afghan family, with over a dozen people from four congregations coming together to help in small and large ways. But for many, the most amazing part was being part of a team. That’s what being Presbyterian means and where per capita comes from. Each ‘head’, each one, does a small part so that huge projects can be accomplished and wonderful things can happen for all.

Yes, our budget line has a per capita listing and we, as WPC, pay our portion to the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. In that way we are assured that the larger bodies have enough resources to provide the necessary support, ideas, and oversight to share our faith with the wider world, wider country, wider area of our state, and to each individual congregation as needed. The good old saying that it takes a village is so true. With each contributing in the way we feel most able, we are creating connections – that’s what Presbyterians strive to do in all our layers of being church – TOGETHER.

For 2023, each individual portion is **\$37**. If you are able to contribute this along with your pledge one week, it will go a long way to easing the total budget line of thousands of dollars that WPC will pay to the Presbytery – allowing us to stay connected and continue to do great things. \$37 is a small price to pay for such great benefits.

Thank you.

## Updates from the May Session Meeting

### WPC Committee Meetings

Building and Grounds:  
6:30pm; 1st Thursday

Money Cares: 6:30pm; 1st  
Wednesday

Missio Dei: 9:45am; 2nd  
Sunday

Worship: 12pm; 2nd Sunday

Evangelism and Outreach:  
6:30pm; 2nd Tuesday

Creation Care: 7pm; 3rd  
Wednesday

Session: 6:30pm; 4th  
Thursdays

Personnel: as needed

Deacons: as needed

Nominating: as needed,  
beginning in summer

Westminster's Session meets on the fourth Thursday of each month - usually. We met May 25 at 6:30pm. While the Session did not have a quorum for this meeting, we did hear reports from those gathered. Because there was no quorum, no actions were taken.

- Potential 2024 Stewardship theme: Hospitality
- Potential capital campaign for xeriscaping, stucco repair, kitchen counter repair, and other maintenance needs
- Three guest musician Sundays in July - July 9, July 23, and July 30!

(For full minutes, check the church library!)

## Gospel Group to Return to Westminster!

On July 23rd, Todd and Linda O'Neal will be our worship musicians! We are delighted to welcome them back to Westminster and to New Mexico, as they will continue on to Ghost Ranch to lead a week-long music seminar. Based on years past, this will be a lively, music filled worship service - come prepared to sing! The O'Neals' choir is smaller than usual this year, and you are invited to help fill the ranks! Anyone who would like to rehearse with the O'Neals before worship should arrive at the church no later than 10am to go over music.

The O'Neals began coming to Ghost Ranch (and Westminster!) thanks to long-time Westminster friend, Rev. Dick Avery, who began the music seminar, invited Todd to take it over, and then invited him to come lead worship music since he was going to be in New Mexico anyway. We are so glad to continue this connection and relationship!

Following worship on July 23rd, the Evangelism and Outreach Committee will hold a reception. Details to follow in *El Semanario*!



Isabel and Emma Treu-Chavez were a bright addition to our parade this year, with Emma leading WPC folks and the crowd on the route in a cheery "Whoo!" every time we saw a good cowboy hat.

## COVID-19 PROCEDURES SUSPENDED!!

At our June meeting, the Session voted unanimously to suspend our COVID-19 procedures, until such time as we need them again. (We all hope we don't need them again!) Of course, anyone who feels most comfortable and safe wearing a mask is certainly welcome to do so, and we do still encourage anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 and has been in worship or at a church event to let the office know so we can be in communication with others who were present.

The Session and I would like to extend our deep gratitude to all of you for taking such care of one another during this season of pandemic. The lifting of the public health emergency and our own WPC procedures marks a turning point in this season of pandemic. We know COVID-19 is not 'over' or gone and some of you may feel deeply uneasy with this shift. Please know that you are always welcome to mask and maintain social distance if that is what makes you feel safe! We know we all deeply yearn for a return to 'normal' even as we recognize that there is no going back; our lives have been forever changed. You have all weathered this season with grace and kindness. You have abided by our protocols, you have masked, you have stayed at home when unwell, you have been vaccinated and boosted and boosted again. This season has been a testament to Westminster's commitment to each other and to the community! Thank you, thank you, thank you.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to Madeline or to any members of Session - Keri, Kent, Jackie T., Margi, Consuelo, or Jenny. We'll be happy to hear from you!

Keri and Michael Brinegar beat the sun in the PERA parking lot, waiting for the parade to start. Thank you to the Brinegars for lending WPC your pick-up to drive in the parade - and for making the truck bed so comfy for those wanting to ride!







## WESTMINSTER'S STAFF AND LEADERS

Pastor: Rev. Madeline Hart-Andersen: [rev.madeline.wpcsantafe@gmail.com](mailto:rev.madeline.wpcsantafe@gmail.com)

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Clerk of Session: Keri Brinegar: [clerk.wpcsantafe@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.wpcsantafe@gmail.com)

Moderator of Deacons: Sylvia Graft: [sylviadgraft@gmail.com](mailto:sylviadgraft@gmail.com)

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Chair, Building & Grounds: Michael Brinegar: [mkbrinegar@netzero.net](mailto:mkbrinegar@netzero.net)

Chair, Money Cares: Jackie Tway: [moneycares.wpcsantafe@gmail.com](mailto:moneycares.wpcsantafe@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Elizabeth Roghair: [churchtreas.wpcsantafe@gmail.com](mailto:churchtreas.wpcsantafe@gmail.com)

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