



THE CHIMES

The United Church of Los Alamos

United in our Faith Journeys



www.unitedchurchla.org

May 2019 - Vol. 56 No. 5



A heartfelt THANK YOU to each
and every one of you that
contributed your valuable time and
talents towards our successful Easter
Season here at the United Church!



Weekly Word

Weekly Word email: If you would like to receive the email David sends out each week about the upcoming Sunday, please email or call the church office and tell us to add you to the “Weekly Word” list.

Contacting the Church

If you have any questions or concerns, you may call the Church Office at **662-2971**, email us at ucoffice@unitedchurchla.org, or send us a message on Facebook.

Office hours are Monday-Friday
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

You may also reach the pastors at the office number, email, or phone numbers below:

David Elton
979-219-8640 cell
david@unitedchurchla.org

Keith Lewis
505-412-9954 cell
gohorns_99@yahoo.com

Kara Windler
719-930-6563 cell
DCE@unitedchurchla.org



Upcoming Events

- 5th Sangre de Cristo Choral Concert
- 12th Mother's Day
- 15th Aspen Ridge Gathering
- 16th Sombrillo Worship
- 19th LA Choral Society Concert
- 27th Memorial Day
Church Office Closed

The smiling Black New Orleans driver told friends and I about his Mama's good cookin' and his beloved city. It is good we currently could freely enjoy this black man's humor and caring ways in the Deep South. We asked for his services several times because we liked him so much.

Our bus tour of the close-by WHITNEY PLANTATION opened our eyes. A kind white guide sought hard to help the multiple race tour appreciate the horror of slavery *and* honor those who had worked there. She is making her life work the sharing of the slave's neglected story. Much of the beauty of the "French Quarter" is due to them. She told us history is written by the victors so it is important to learn of others' stories. **LEST WE FORGET** and **LEARN FROM YOUR PAST** were such good messages that we left with. (see photos)

As recent as 1975, workers still lived in the horrible slave shacks. When our mixed race group filed into the slave built church on the property, there were sad beautifully made statues of some of the slave children. I felt so touched by our mixed-racial gathering sitting *with* each other and couldn't resist a photo of this young couple near some of the statues, symbolizing Hope for our nation today...



Later we shared a bit of our experience with our driver. He said, "Oh that is in the past." Yet our nation has a long way to go for equal treatment for all races, sexes and orientations. On the way back to the airport our black driver was sincerely sad we were leaving and had moist eyes. My guess is we touched his heart because we treated him as an equal. Southern Poverty Law Center reports *hate crimes* are up. May **WE be part of LOVE ACTS** to counter this.

Peoples have treated others as inferiors throughout history. I recently read PACHINKO, a novel dealing with the hardships of Koreans in Japan close to WWII and the Korean War. One of the second generation comes to peace with it and knows there are good and bad people from both sides. The recent, THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD big screen WWI documentary had footage of defeated German soldiers helping to carry *our* wounded and *our* trench soldiers stating they were of similar backgrounds all caught up in war.

Even in nature unlike species can care for each other. UTUBE has shared two *male* eagles, *bonded for life*, fostering young orphaned birds, as well as unlikely animals raising other species.

God gave his Son –for ALL. We just celebrated Easter, the joy of the resurrection, yet it is important to remember the tragic beginning of "Good Friday" in order to appreciate happy triumphant Easter. **As God's representatives may we learn and remember the past, strive to undo any harmful legacy that is left and seek to do unto others as we would have them do to us.**

May we be LOVE to the world! On behalf of all imperfect good relationships, Betty Smith



CONGRATULATIONS, 2019 SENIORS!

Senior Recognition on Mother's Day

On Sunday, May 12th during the 9:30am worship service we will take time to recognize our four graduating High School Seniors. Alicia Gonzales is the daughter of Joseph and Yvonne Gonzales. She will be attending New Mexico Highlands University in the fall and playing softball for The Cowgirls. Antonio Gonzales is the son of Joseph and Yvonne Gonzales and brother to Alicia. He will be attending University of Colorado Colorado Springs (UCCS) and playing baseball for the Mountain Lions. Derek Kober is the son of Ed Kober and Laura Worl Kober. He is still exploring his college options at the moment and narrowing his choice down to a favorite. Aaron Lauritzen is the son of Chad and Bernadette Lauritzen. He will be attending New Mexico State University in the fall. Our young people represent the very best and brightest in our community. Each of these young people have been an important part of The United Church by participating in youth and children's programming, trekking to Mexico to build homes and attending worship. In a world that can be chaotic and at times unpleasant, these four students remind us that the future is in good hands. Join us on Mother's Day as we take a moment to tell them how proud we are of them and wish them the very best for the next exciting step in their lives.



2019 Monday Night at the Pit

United Church is again sponsoring local and summer college students (dominated by LANL interns) with a Monday evening venue to meet, greet, eat a (usually home-cooked) meal, and play volleyball. Little did we imagine in 2006, that the number of students would swell from 2 – 6 per session to in excess of 60 last year! This *kitchen ministry* launches on June 3 and continues for ten or eleven Monday sessions.

Watching these intelligent and grateful young people relax and enjoy the camaraderie and the bountiful meal provided by United Church volunteers helps make the hard work worthwhile. But, that's not the point. After a few weeks, you know they understand the value of this gift when they begin working in kind – helping out around the site, lending a helping hand, and stashing gear away 'for next week'. As one of our volunteers reflected last year, we may never know how this passing of the torch has touched these young people, but there will be a harvest.

As this program has grown, we need more volunteers than before. The students are made to know that they are welcome to consider the United Church their home for the summer, are welcome at our services, and that our pastors are available to them. It could be an investment in United Church's future. Some of the interns will be hired by LANL. Some of the last year's class have already accepted employment in Los Alamos. Here's the model:

Act 2:46: And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they partook of food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

The M&E Board is cognizant of the challenges of feeding 80 people. Soon, in Fellowship Hall, sign-up sheets will be available to volunteer to provide the Monday-night dinners. In the past, a couple of families have taken turns each Monday to furnish the meals. Because of the increased numbers expected since the advent of social media, we need four or more helpers per week. Teamwork is an essential element of making this succeed. The menu is 'your team's choice'. It may be anything from grilled burgers and wieners, chicken salad, or assorted burritos to casseroles, pizza, whatever. There is a lot of stuff *you will not have to bring*. This will be detailed on the sign-up sheet.

No doubt, there are some who believe in the mission but are not able to provide hands-on help. If you are in this category, we encourage you to consider a donation to help with expenses. Additionally, food providers may file a check request from M&E for reimbursement of expenses. It is not unusual for food to cost \$100/week.

This is a church family affair. Often, the five to ten volunteers bring their folding chairs and enjoy the festivities. Schmoozing with the students is a lovely way to spend an evening. Our members are always welcome. Watch for the sign-up sheet in May in Fellowship Hall.



Mission & Service Board

LAND OF THE LIVING

The Missions and Service Board would like the congregation to be aware of a “new” mission that we are now supporting, **LAND OF THE LIVING**, located in East London, Eastern Cape, South Africa. It was brought to our attention by Chris Worley, who is the brother of its director, Scott Worley. Basically, it is a grassroots community developmental ministry, serving severely impoverished townships of this area, by helping (in a variety of ways) local, community-based organizations focusing on overcoming serious daily challenges. Examples of a few such problems are: staggering unemployment, destitute poverty, orphans and broken families, HIV/AIDS and chronic sickness, hunger, crime, teenage pregnancy, prostitution and substance abuse. The list goes on.

Land of the Living’s mission is “to holistically support the local organizations in creatively using their gifts and local resources for transformative change in each respective community. This overwhelming responsibility is focused on:

1. Enriching their relationship with God,
2. Envisioning transformation for their communities,
3. Engaging in community service through a network of supportive relationships, and
4. Enhancing (ultimately) the wide-scale impact of their local work.

They strive to bring these local groups into what is termed the “HOPE network”, a city-wide supportive relational network (currently more than 50 members representing approximately 20 different communities in the region), for purposes of mutual programs awareness, essential skills development, resource mobilization, spiritual encouragement, and collaboration of efforts between different communities. An example of one recently launched effort, which Scott shared with us, involves an extensive self-sustaining recycling program, previously non-existent in the communities. It gives immediate opportunities for work and revenue generation among the unemployed, assists those training in creating their own business, and positively impacts the environment in neglected townships through residential involvement in litter clean-up and recycling of used materials.

The organization includes opportunities for entrepreneurial training, mentorship, and participation in a resource center program that targets the unemployed in the East London

area. Its hope is to help motivate and equip youth to create their own work and livelihood based on what God has already given them. This involves practical support offered to help make this happen, partnering with local churches to assist in ownership and administration.

Land of the Living is in partnership with **International Teams**, a 501(c)(3) organization headquartered in Elgin, Illinois. In addition to helping support the work in South Africa, it serves administratively as the US-based recipient organization for donations. The web-site is: www.iteams.us.

In summary, Land of Living, is part of “**One Collective**”, which works in communities around the world oppressed by poverty, injustice, and spiritual darkness--including Latin America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Muslim world. Following Jesus’ example, they bring people together to help the oppressed through a holistic blend of mission and compassion. Their firm belief includes the following: “None should be invisible and all should have access to **Food** (physical needs), **Freedom** (mental, emotional, life opportunity needs), and **Forgiveness** (spiritual needs). This process is termed “**integrated community transformation**” (ICT).

We receive regular newsletters from Scott Worley (Land of the Living), if anyone is interested in more information regarding this mission. Also, our obvious contact is Chris Worley, who can be reached at: (505) 412-8569.



PRAYERS



Please continue to hold these persons in your prayers during the month of May.

Jeanne Butler ~ Lesley Olsher ~ Carol Brown ~ Carol Sierk

Roger Smith ~ Kim Brasher ~ Ron Strong ~ John Rebstock



Do you have a musical talent you would like to share with our congregation this summer? If you would like to provide a solo, duet, or be part of an ensemble (vocal or instrumental) providing special music for Sunday worship, please call the Director of Music Ministries, Suzanne Johnson at 662-2971 or at home 662-7987.

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Monday Morning Women's Book Study

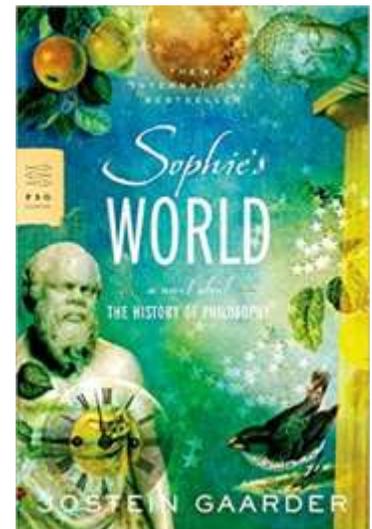
All women of the church and their friends are welcome to attend this group. The books for discussion are selected by the group.

The group is currently reading "Sophie's World: The History of Philosophy" by Jostein Gaarder.

Monday Mornings:

11:00 am – 12:30 pm

In the CE Lounge



Friday Morning Women's Bible Study

@White Rock Presbyterian Church, Fridays 10am – Noon
We are largely comprised of women of the United Church
and are all welcome.

We spend time each week in study and, equally as important, in
fellowship and prayer.



For more information, please contact:

Kara Winder at the Church Office



Men's Koffee Klatch

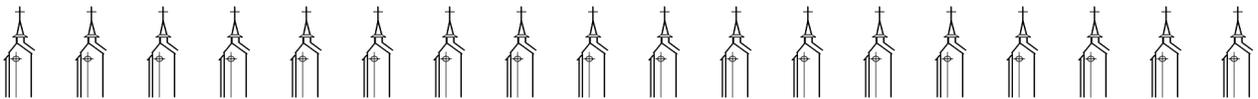
All men of The United Church are invited to coffee, refreshments, and fellowship! There are no lesson plans, no required or suggested topics, no devotions, no leaders, but there is a lot of fun! Hosting duties are passed around within the group. The wit and wisdom shared cover all sorts of topics and the discussions have proven extremely interesting, informative, and supportive. We laugh a lot! See you there!



Thursdays: 9:30 – 11:30 am in the CE Building Lounge.



Lisa Moore	01	Beth Dermer	12	Charlie Bowman	23
Barbara de Nevers	02	Charlie Nunnelley	15	Adda Moldt	24
Joe Gonzales	02	Chris Sierk	18	Bobby Hockaday	26
Art Guthrie	07	Bob Hockaday	19	Aaron Jerkatis	29
Laura Erickson	08	Don Hanson	20	Ashley Reader	30
Claudia Hilko	08	Adrian Figg	22	Lindsay Reader	30
Phyllis Foley	10	Jan Mercer-Smith	22	Charlie Windler	30
Mary Van Eeckhout	10	Deb Worley	22	Wendy Huff	31



Lunch Bunch Callers for May:

Jan Sander, Mary Venable,
Irene Powell, Marilyn Doolen,
Janet Tallman, Doris Ford,
& Lisa Reader



May 2019

Subject to Change

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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The United Church of Los Alamos
2525 Canyon Road
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