



Presbytidings September 2020

An outreach of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Words from Your Pastor

As promised, in August the Worship & Music Committee discussed the current status of the coronavirus pandemic and what it means for our congregation's worship life this fall. While the number of COVID-19 cases in New Mexico has been declining in recent weeks, the incidence of infections is still high enough that public health remains at risk. The risk is serious enough that the Albuquerque School Board recently decided that all classes will be held online this fall. Students will be learning from home rather than gathering in physical classrooms in school buildings for the entire semester. In September the governor may try again to relax restrictions. But it is anyone's guess how long it will be before our state is able to fully reopen.

Given the ongoing pandemic, the Worship & Music Committee recommended to Session that in-person worship services at St. Andrew should remain suspended at least through the end of 2020, and that the congregation should be encouraged to continue worshiping from home via our live-streamed service. The Session agreed unanimously with the committee's recommendation. It did so out of an abundance of caution and concern for the health of our congregation. As far as we know, no one in our congregation has tested positive for COVID-19. And we'd like to keep it that way!

Of course, all of us had hoped that the coronavirus would have petered out by now. After five months of social distancing, we had hoped that we would be able to gather once again as a congregation to worship God together, side by side, in our sanctuary. Alas, we cannot yet do so safely.

That said, small groups who would like to meet in the church building may do so as long as they are willing to wear masks and stay six feet apart from each other. Presbyterian Women plan to try this for their monthly Bible Study beginning September 8.

In spite of the pandemic, our St. Andrew church family has remained strong. Church members and friends have stayed engaged in the life of the congregation – worshipping from home on Sundays, sharing with one another during Zoom Fellowship, connecting with one another by phone, participating in online church committee meetings, and learning and growing together through the Spiritual Formation Group, the Historical Jesus Group, and the Conversations on Racial Justice Group.

St. Andrew's reputation as a generous congregation also endures. All through the months of this pandemic, you have continued to give faithfully to the work of Christ's Church. Sending in your tithes and offerings has enabled us to hang on to our gifted church staff and to keep our building and grounds well maintained. Thanks to your faithful giving, you have helped to sustain the mission and ministry of our congregation, our denomination, and the many community service organizations we support locally.

Earlier this summer, when the Session sent out a letter asking you to consider donating part of your federal stimulus check to St. Andrew for the benefit of the ABQ FaithWorks Collaborative, many of you responded. We received \$3,947 for FaithWorks' ministry to people who are homeless and living on the margins.

This summer, St. Andrew also received a generous bequest of \$16,666.66 from the estate of Robert Hugh Craig. In accordance with the church's Endowment Policy (which Rob had a major hand in establishing), half of this bequest has been invested in St. Andrew's Endowment Fund to help support the ministries of our congregation in perpetuity. The session will determine what to do with the remaining half later this year. Rob had an enormous impact on St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, both as its third pastor and in retirement. We give thanks and

Pastor

Rev. Roger Scott Powers

Email

pastor.standrewabq@aol.com

Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
By appointment

Administrative Asst.

Marie StClaire

Email

adm.standrewabq@aol.com

Office Hours

Wednesday-Friday
9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday Worship - 9:30 am

Phone/Fax

505-881-9626 505-
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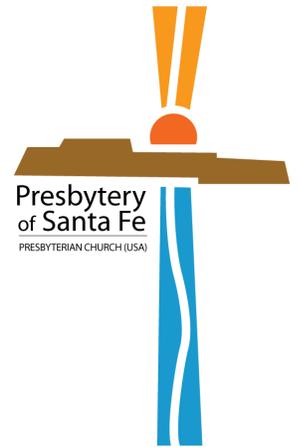
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Logo Selected for the Presbytery of Santa Fe

We are delighted to present the new logo of the Presbytery of Santa Fe. The Presbytery voted on the new logo at the July Presbytery meeting. It is designed by Mary Reed, member of St. Andrew Presbyterian in Albuquerque.



Mary shares, "I didn't realize when I submitted my logo for consideration that there was an option to also send an artist's statement about the design. However, as an artist, I'm so pleased that my design was selected without that written component. I feel strongly that art has a power all its own, apart from explanation, so I hesitate even now to make a statement. Sometimes adding words to a visual can actually take away from its power to be something different to each viewer. But I will provide a very brief statement about what I considered in approaching this task. I began with what the Presbytery shared about why a new logo was needed: the old had incorporated the Zia symbol without the express permission of the Zia Pueblo. Along with that, I thought of what Pastor Roger says now at the start of each worship service. I don't have his exact words, but he acknowledges that we worship here on this land that belonged to Native People long before we were here. He acknowledges the sacredness of that land. I hope that my image



I am pretty sure that August gave me whip lash, it went so fast. I am definitely a bit in over my head with the virtual learning that has been required as a teacher. It is a great lesson for me! As a teacher I always tell my kids that they have to be ok being in a space where they do not know things. It is ok to feel some disequilibrium. Growth happens in these moments where we are unsure. In these moments I have prayed for God's peace to be over me. It amazes me, but shouldn't, how graciously God grants me this peace. I know that I have been teaching for a very long time and this is just one year out of almost 20 for

me. In Sunday School we will be looking at prayer. I always come back to prayer with my Sunday School groups. In APS, there is a big push to teach using a social/emotional approach. This makes sense since many of our kids are frightened or frustrated with all that is going on around them. As I have listened to many hours of professional development I have come to the conclusion that I am, naturally, a social/emotional teacher. Connection is important to me. I believe kids can only learn when they feel safe. They feel safe when they have made a connection and know the person will be there for them. I also realized that this is why I always come back to prayer. Prayer is my lifeline to God. I can cry and rant to God. I can laugh and rejoice with God. All day long I talk with God. I am so blessed to have this. This year, I ask you to join our Sunday School group and practice praying in color. It is a different way to pray that is very engaging. I will be posting information about it on our Facebook page, but if you would like more information and you do not connect on the Facebook page, please email me and I would be glad to make some copies of pages for you or even chat with you about it. My email is mslauramail@gmail.com.



Zoom Comes to Adult Christian Education



With the Church continuing to offer only live-streaming worship services, we will be making a major change in our Adult Continuing Education (CE) program. As is normal, we will be starting our weekly Adult Continuing Education program on the first Sunday after Labor Day, September 13th. We will not be meeting in the Adult Education Room after coffee fellowship. Rather, we will be meeting for one hour on Zoom each week at 4:00 p.m. on Sundays. We are meeting later in the day so that we do not interfere with the Zoom fellowship after worship that often lasts until 1130 a.m.

We are also offering several Zoom alternatives during the week, in addition to the regular Sunday series of classes. Two programs that used to meet face-to-face on Thursdays have been continuing on Zoom for several weeks. They meet on Thursdays from 10:00 am until 11:30 am. Spiritual Formation meets on the first and third Thursdays, while the Historical Jesus group meets on the second and fourth Thursdays.

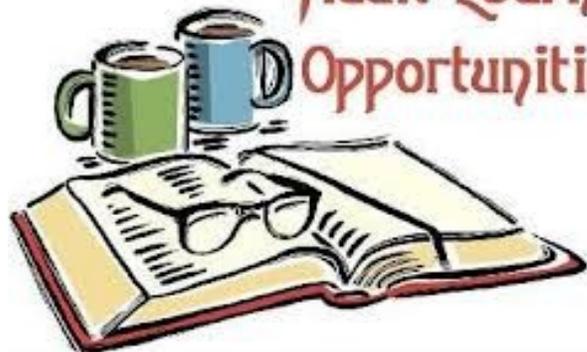
A few weeks ago, we started up a weekly conversation on Racial Justice and Dismantling Racism, led by Rev. Roger Scott Powers. We have just changed the meeting time for this group. It now meets at 4:00 pm on Tuesday afternoons for an hour-long session. This conversation is a part of the Church's Matthew 25 Project. We still have plenty of room in the group, so please consider dialing in and learn more about how each of us and the Church at large could contribute positively to the vital effort to dismantle racism in the United States.

We will start the Sunday afternoon Zoom CE classes with a few single-session, special topics. Then we will pick back up the class on Dismantling Racism that we had begun in the spring. We are attempting to keep a focus on our status as a Matthew 25 church.

A large range of other topics are still under consideration: climate change and the environment, world affairs and cyber security, study for Advent led the Please let Max Bartlett, you have any suggestions,

Adult Learning
Opportunities

and a special four-week Rev. Catherine Robinson. elder for Adult CE, know if questions, complaints, etc.



Thank you!
--Max

Congregational Musings for September

I am wondering what you are all doing to pass the time during this Covid-19 isolation. I have read about 30 books, made over 2 dozen prayer shawls and been through 1 dozen crossword puzzle booklets. I only have a swamp cooler in my home, (What in the world were those builders thinking in the 50s?) which just blows hot air around in this heat. I used to go to the movies to cool off but that is out of the question this year. A few times, when I have delivered prayer shawls to their collection box at the church, I stepped into our beautiful sanctuary for a few minutes. It was lovely, and quiet and cool and a great place to gather my thoughts and prayers of hope for the future, concern for the present and thanksgiving for the blessings of the past. I may go to pray in this atmosphere more often!

I have only heard from one of our military people lately and that was to give me his new state-side address but all are still receiving a letter from me and the Presbytids each month. I have cut back on calling most people but family and close friends because the conversations all go about the same...How are you? Fine; What's new? Nothing; Where have you been? Nowhere. I hope someday soon we won't have enough time to discuss all that is going on in our lives.

While scanning the internet looking for something interesting for this article I ran across the following:

Cumberland Presbyterians had already ordained women as early as 1889 but the Presbyterian Church in America, the early forerunner of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America (PCUSA), remained tentative about female leadership. In 1922, the PCUSA General Assembly allowed women to become deaconesses, but the role was limited for they could not preach as elders.

In 1928, prominent women in the church presented a paper in Chicago that expressed their frustration with the role of the church. This led to a resolution to allow female elders in 1929, which was finally approved in 1930.

Although Cumberland Presbyterians had begun ordaining women as ministers in the 19th century, PCUSA remained resistant. That changed in 1956 with the ordination of Margaret Towner. She had earned a graduate certificate at Union Theological Seminary and possessed the seminary credentials necessary for ministerial ordination. Her home Presbytery encouraged her to pursue ordination, which she did. She then became the first woman pastor, to be followed by many. By 2001 women made up nearly half of those holding ordained offices in the PCUSA.

Edith Waugh-Feliciano



Asperger's Syndrome



History

Asperger's syndrome (also known as Asperger's Disorder) was first described in the 1940s by Viennese pediatrician Hans Asperger, who observed autism-like behaviors and difficulties with social and communication skills in boys who had normal intelligence and language development. Many professionals felt Asperger's syndrome was simply a milder form of autism and used the term "high-functioning autism" to describe these individuals. Uta Frith, a professor at the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience of University College London and editor of *Autism and Asperger Syndrome*, describes individuals with Asperger's as "having a dash of autism."

Asperger's Disorder was added to the American Psychiatric Association's *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-IV)* in 1994 as a separate disorder from autism. However, there are still many professionals who consider Asperger's Disorder a less severe form of autism. In 2013, the *DSM-5* replaced Autistic Disorder, Asperger's Disorder and other pervasive developmental disorders with the umbrella diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder.

Characteristics

What distinguishes Asperger's Disorder from classic autism are its less severe symptoms and the absence of language delays. Children with Asperger's Disorder may be only mildly affected, and they frequently have good language and cognitive skills. To the untrained observer, a child with Asperger's Disorder may just seem like a neurotypical child behaving differently.



Children with autism are frequently viewed as aloof and uninterested in others. This is not the case with Asperger's Disorder. Individuals with Asperger's Disorder usually want to fit in and have interaction with others, but often they don't know how to do it. They may be socially awkward, not understand conventional social rules or show a lack of empathy. They may have limited eye contact, seem unengaged in a conversation and not understand the use of gestures or sarcasm.

Their interests in a particular subject may border on the obsessive. Children with Asperger's Disorder often like to collect categories of things, such as rocks or bottle caps. They may be proficient in knowledge categories of information, such as baseball statistics or Latin names of flowers. They may have good rote memory skills but struggle with abstract concepts.

One of the major differences between Asperger's Disorder and autism is that, by definition, there is no speech delay in Asperger's. In fact, children with Asperger's Disorder frequently have good language skills; they simply use language in different ways. Speech patterns may be unusual, lack inflection or have a rhythmic nature, or may be formal, but too loud or high-pitched. Children with Asperger's Disorder may not understand the subtleties of language, such as irony and humor, or they may not understand the give-and-take

...Continued from page 5

Another distinction between Asperger’s Disorder and autism concerns cognitive ability. While some individuals with autism have intellectual disabilities, by definition, a person with Asperger’s Disorder cannot have a “clinically significant” cognitive delay, and most possess average to above-average intelligence.

While motor difficulties are not a specific criterion for Asperger’s, children with Asperger’s Disorder frequently have motor skill delays and may appear clumsy or awkward.

Diagnosis

Diagnosis of Asperger’s Disorder has increased in recent years, although it is unclear whether it is more prevalent or more professionals are detecting it. When Asperger’s and autism were considered separate disorders under the *DSM-IV*, the symptoms for Asperger’s Disorder were the same as those listed for autism; however, children with Asperger’s do not have delays in the area of communication and language. In fact, to be diagnosed with Asperger’s, a child must have normal language development as well as normal intelligence. The *DSM-IV* criteria for Asperger’s specified that the individual must have “severe and sustained impairment in social interaction, and the development of restricted, repetitive patterns of behavior, interests and activities that must cause clinically significant impairment in social, occupational or other important areas of functioning.”

The first step to diagnosis is an assessment, including a developmental history and observation. This should be done by medical professionals experienced with autism and other PDDs. Early diagnosis is



also important as children with Asperger’s Disorder who are diagnosed and treated early in life have an increased chance of being successful in school and eventually living independently.

Contact us for information on Asperger’s resources, including support groups and websites.
Autism-society.org

Download from Dreamstime.com

Be a Faith Climate Voter!



The link to the New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light **pledge to be a Faith Climate Voter** is: <https://www.nm-ipl.org/pledge-to-be-a-climate-voter/> Click on the link, cursor down to the words in bold: “Sign the Pledge Here.” Click on the words, and sign the pledge. *You won’t need to go by the Church to pick up a card to sign.*

WE NEED AS MANY ST. ANDREW MEMBERS AND FRIENDS AS POSSIBLE TO SIGN THE PLEDGE!

Session Summary from Suzanne

- We approved online-only services be continued at least through the end of 2020. We're so glad folks are enjoying the streaming services and are participating in the Zoom fellowship time.
- Made a \$1200 payment from General Mission Reserve account to the Native American Relief Project of the Synod of the Southwest.
- Release funds collected for FaithWorks Fundraiser - \$3,947.
- We'll have a Zoom congregational meeting on November 8, 2020 to elect the Nomination Committee slate of church officers for the class of 2022.
- We're sad Liz McMaster has requested to be removed from our membership, but are happy she will remain a friend.
- Average streaming worship attendance in June – 79, July - 75.
- Membership as of August 18, 2020 is 169.



Treasurers Report:

June 2020	Current Month	Year-to-Date	Budget
Total Income	23,108	195,834	329,300
Total Expenses	27,599	161,502	336,766
Difference	-4,491	34,332	-7,466

July 2020	Current Month	Year-to-Date	Budget
Total Income	28,621	224,455	329,300
Total Expenses	25,451	186,954	336,766
Difference	3,170	37,501	-7,466

Until the Lions have their own historians, tales of hunting will always glorify the hunter.

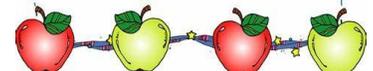
--African Proverb



Didn't Receive the August Issue?

We have become aware of some delivery issues with the August issue of Presbytidings. If you did not receive your copy in the mail and would still like one, please call or email Marie in the church office. (505-881-9626 or adm.standrewabq@aol.com) She will send you a copy by return mail.

Monthly Newsletters



Small Groups at St. Andrew

Our congregation has a number of small groups: the Choir, Presbyterian Women, the Women's Book Group, the Historical Jesus Group, the Spiritual Formation Group, and Comfort My People. Most of these groups have stopped meeting during the pandemic, but two -- the Historical Jesus Group and the Spiritual Formation Group -- have moved their gatherings online via Zoom. If you are part of a small group that would like to move your meetings online, please be in touch with Pastor Roger and he will set it up for you.



Under the coronavirus pandemic, with most of us staying at home most of the time, many are feeling isolated and lonely more than ever before. We miss social contact with others. This could be an opportune time to start some more small groups at St. Andrew. Would you like to be part of a group of 8-10 people who would meet regularly around a special interest, or for Bible study, spiritual reflection, prayer, or simply mutual support? New groups could begin meeting online via Zoom, and when risks of virus transmission are reduced they could eventually meet in person at church (outdoors perhaps, with proper social distancing and wearing masks). If you would like to be part of a new small group, please let Pastor Roger know (pastor.standrewabq@aol.com or

Sunday Mornings at St. Andrew

Live-Streamed Worship

We encourage you to worship from home via our live-streamed Sunday services at 9:30 a.m. on our church's website (www.standrewabq.org), which will continue through the summer. (Please do not come to the church building unless you are directly involved in the live-streamed worship service.)

Can't join us online at 9:30 a.m.? No problem. Our worship services are recorded, so you can experience them any time. At the top of our church website, place your cursor over the "Live Stream" button, and just below it a "Past Streams" button will appear. Click on the "Past Streams" button and you will see a list of past worship services. Click on the link for the worship service you want to watch.

If you have **Joys and Concerns** to share during our **Prayers of the People**, please email them to Pastor Roger by the end of the day on Saturday (pastor.standrewabq@aol.com).

We encourage you to mail your **Tithes and Offerings** to the church office (5301 Ponderosa Avenue NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110) or contribute online at the church's website: www.standrewabw.org To contribute online, click on the "donations" button at the top of the website's home page and follow the simple instructions.

Fellowship Time After Worship

Following worship you are invited to join us for Fellowship Time online via Zoom. You may join with your computer using the link <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82993453933> OR you can join the conversation by phone simply by calling the following number 1-346-248-7799 and entering the Meeting ID (829 9345 3933) when prompted.

Faith & Fellowship

Deacon's Doin's

The current pandemic has changed the way the deacons relate to their parishes. The lunches, potlucks, and picnics have been replaced by phone calls, "Parades", and an occasional short one-on-one visit while delivering meals or groceries. We all miss our group; our cherished time together. We will try to keep you informed as to the current goings on with a monthly article. This month we review the work being done in Los Altos Parish, Alex and Paula DeLap-Padilla Report on activity March 2020- August 2020.

Alex developed a contact form that we have utilized to highlight our contact with our parishioners. During this time, Elders Mary Reed and Jan McEwen have helped with contacting members. We divided the parish so that we can contact the members on a weekly basis. Our special thanks to Mary and Jan as without them we cannot maintain the level of contact during this challenging time.

The following is a summary of our activity:

1. Helped parishioners who were feeling forgotten.
2. Helped parishioners who were feeling isolated.
3. Helped parishioners deal with the covid-19 virus.
4. Helped parishioners who were dealing with deaths.
5. Helped parishioners who were going through poor health.
6. Helped parishioners who were having/had surgery.
7. Called members who were celebrating birthdays.
8. Helped parishioners dealing with family problems.
9. Helped parishioners who were feeling depressed.
10. Delivered Easter lilies to parishioners needing support.
11. Helped parishioners who called needing our assistance.
12. Informed parishioners of members passing, celebrations and other needed information.

PEACE,
Alex and Paula

'Til next month, same time,



REPLACING THE SAN JUAN COAL- FIRED PLANT

On July 29, 2020, the NM Public Regulation Commission voted 5-0 to replace the San Juan coal-fired power plant with **100% renewable energy and storage!**

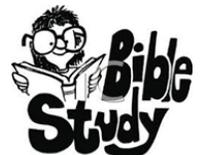


Presbyterian Women will resume their monthly Bible Study on Tuesday, September 8 (date change due to Pastor Roger's vacation.) Bible study starts at 10:00 and a short business meeting precedes it at 9:30.

We will meet in the large Christian Education Room, wearing masks and spacing appropriately. Our new Bible study is "Into the light, finding hope through prayers of lament."

The study guide is available at church and is \$11.

Please mark your calendars and watch for more information in our weekly announce-





Lectionary Schedule

Sunday, September 6 (Proper 18)

Exodus 12:1-14
Psalm 149
Romans 13:8-14
Matthew 18:15-20

Sunday, September 13 (Proper 19)

Exodus 14:19-31
Psalm 114 *or* Exodus
15:1b-11, 20-21
Romans 14:1-12
Matthew 18:21-35

Sunday, September 20 (Proper 20)

Exodus 16:2-15
Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16

Sunday, September 27 (Proper 21)

Exodus 17:1-7
Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16
Philippians 2:1-13
Matthew 21:23-32



September

- 4 Lawson Maze
- 5 Kurt Nolte
Julian Lopez
- 6 Kymn Gauderman
Ruth Starr
- 8 Jennifer Carley
- 9 Jack Castle
Bruce Green
- 14 Janet McEwen
- 17 Mickey DePriest
Karen Ulack
- 18 Rick Hanna
- 23 Bronwyn Wilson
- 24 Doris Harrison
Bob Busch
Averill Nolte
Sierra Lopez
- 26 Norma Bartholdi
Carolyn Gonzales
Ed Mills
- 28 Sharon Yates

Conversation on Racial Justice Moves to New Time

Over the summer several of us have been having a weekly Conversation on Racial Justice. We started by discussing what we were learning from the [PC\(USA\) 21-day Racial Justice Challenge](#). Since then, we have discussed articles and videos that participants have brought to the group. And we have shared from our own personal experiences.

We invite you to join the conversation at our new time! Beginning on August 25, we will be meeting (via Zoom) on Tuesday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. You can join the group on your computer using this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83573680666> OR on the phone by calling +1 346 248 7799 (Meeting ID: 835 7368 0666).



Our Community Banner

The banner project is turning out to be beautiful! Thank you to all who have returned their pieces. They are beautiful, meaningful and artistic. Quite the creative community! Everyone is so different...drawings, painting, stitching, iron on, and all so thoughtfully and beautifully created. Now, for those of you who still have their pieces out, please feel free to drop off your finished creation in the church office and I will pick it up. I am anxious to put it all together...the story of us in this time apart, but together. What have I learned? We are a strong connected family, even in this time of uncertainty. We are family.



Thank You!

September 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <i>World Day Of Prayer for the Care of the Earth</i>  4:00 pm Conversation on Racial Justice Announcements Due	2 5:30 pm Social Justice Mission Zoom Mtg.	3 10:00 am Spiritual Formation Zoom Mtg.	4	5
6 9:30 am Live-Stream Worship Service with Zoom Fellowship following	7  LABOR DAY	8 9:30 Presbyterian Women's Bible Study Adult CE Room 8:30 am Finance Zoom Mtg. 4:00 pm Conversation on Racial Justice Announcements Due	9 6:00 pm Deacon's Mtg.	10 10:00 am Historical Jesus Zoom Mtg. 5:00 pm Worship and Music Zoom Mtg.	11	12
13 9:30 am Live-Stream Worship Service with Zoom Fellowship following	14	15 4:00 pm Conversation on Racial Justice 6:00 pm Session Zoom Mtg. Announcements and Presbytidings Articles Due	16	17 10:00 am Spiritual Formation Zoom Mtg.	18	19 
20 9:30 am Live-Stream Worship Service with Zoom Fellowship following	21  World Peace Day	22 4:00 pm Conversation on Racial Justice  Happy EMANCIPATION Day!	23	24 10:00 am Historical Jesus Zoom Mtg.	25	26
27 9:30 am Live-Stream Worship Service with Zoom Fellowship following	28	29 4:00 pm Zoom Conversation on Racial Justice Announcements Due	30			

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church
5301 Ponderosa Avenue NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110-1216

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St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

Building a community of faith unleashed into the world by the love of God.

Our Mission:

Proclaiming and living the Good News of Jesus Christ by:

- Listening to a loving God
- Celebrating our faith together
- Nurturing each other in Christian love and spiritual growth
- Working for social justice and peace
- Reaching out in compassionate service
- Being stewards of all God's gifts

Please contact us at:

Phone: (505) 881-9626

Fax: (505) 884-9636

E-mail: adm.standrewabq@aol.com

www.standrewabq.org

We are located at 5301 Ponderosa Ave. NE, one block east of San Mateo and across from Montgomery Park.

Worship Services: Every Sunday at 9:30 am