



# Presbytids - September 2025

An Outreach of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

## Transitional Pastor

Rev. Eric Koenig-Reinke  
[standrewpastoreric@gmail.com](mailto:standrewpastoreric@gmail.com)  
Office Hours by Appointment

## Administrative Asst.

Birgitta Gustafson  
[adm.standrewabq@gmail.com](mailto:adm.standrewabq@gmail.com)

## Church Office Hours

Tuesday – Thursday  
8:00 am – 2:00 pm

**Sunday Worship** 9:30 am

## Phone/Fax

Phone 505-881-9626  
Fax 505-884-9636

## New and Events

From your Transitional Pastor

Adult Christian Education

Earth Care Team

Peace & Global Witness  
Offering

Session Report

PW News

Birthdays/ Lectionary

Calendar

## Practicing Stewardship as a Spiritual Discipline

“Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy” (1 Corinthians 4:2, NRSVue).

Each fall, as we prepare for our annual stewardship pledge drive, we are reminded that stewardship is about more than church budgets—it is a spiritual discipline that shapes who we are as followers of Christ. Stewardship is not just what we give, but how we live in response to God’s abundant grace.

This season invites us to reflect on our calling as caretakers—of our resources, our time, our relationships, and God’s creation. As the psalmist proclaims, “The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it” (Psalm 24:1, NRSVue). Earth care, volunteering, planned giving, and yearly pledges are all ways we live out our gratitude and trust in God.

- **Earth Care:** We honor God’s creation by making choices that sustain the world entrusted to us.
- **Volunteering:** We give our time and gifts to strengthen our ministries and serve our neighbors.
- **Planned Giving:** We leave a lasting legacy by supporting the ongoing witness of the church.
- **Yearly Pledges:** Through our commitments, we enable the church to plan faithfully and live boldly into God’s mission.

This fall, you will receive information about this year’s pledge drive. As you prayerfully consider your response, we invite you to see stewardship as an act of worship—an opportunity to align your heart, your resources, and your daily life with God’s purposes.

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21, NRSVue).

In peace, Pastor Eric

## ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian education resumes at 11:00 in the adult classroom. As before, on the first Sunday of each month (September 7) there will be an extended fellowship hour in the activity room.

Here is the schedule for the rest of September:

- Sept. 14      Heroes Don't Change the World – We Do**  
Elmer Jackson (based on the work of David Lamotte)
- Sept. 21      When God Became White:  
Dismantling Whiteness for a More Just Christianity**  
Rev. Grace Ji-Sun Kim
- Sept. 28      The Future of Water in New Mexico**  
Norm Gaume, President, New Mexico Water Advocates

### URGENT APPEAL FROM THE EARTHCARE TEAM

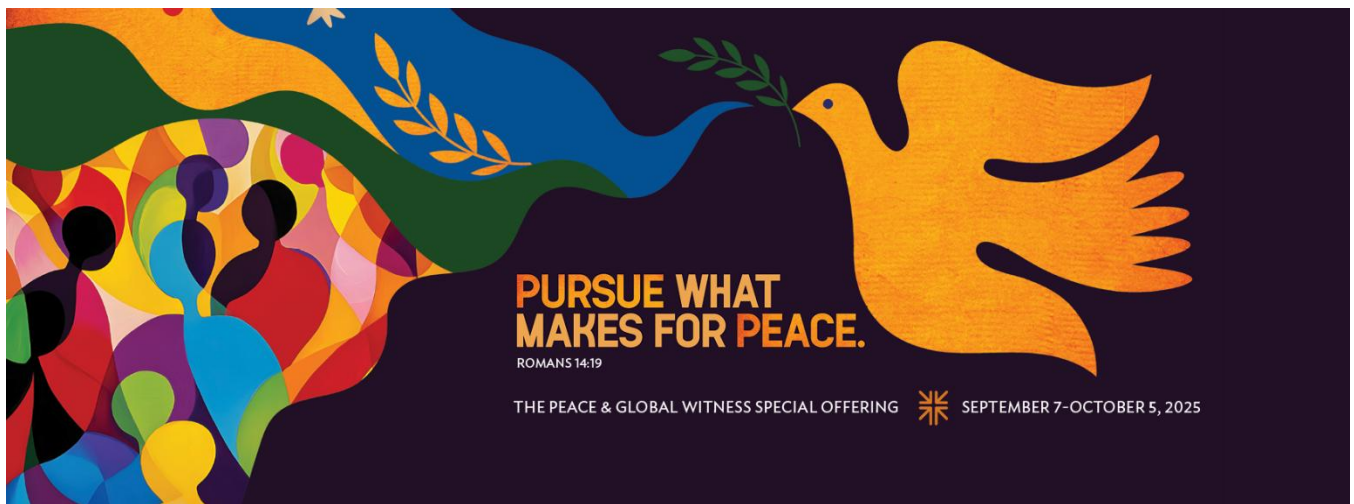
Dear Members of Santa Fe Presbytery,

As many of you are aware, there is a rapid dismantling of regulations and agencies aimed at protecting our environment. This greatly increases the risk of climate catastrophe, especially for our most vulnerable populations and for future generations.

Presbytery's Earth Care Team is reaching out to other Presbyterians in our Presbytery asking you to consider joining our efforts to care for God's creation.

If you're interested in joining us, or for more information, please contact Marlin Johnson ([majohnson1941@gmail.com](mailto:majohnson1941@gmail.com)) or San Williams ([sansomwilliams@gmail.com](mailto:sansomwilliams@gmail.com)).





## **PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS SPECIAL OFFERING**

On World Communion Sunday, October 5, we celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. Whenever the church gathers for worship, we are assured of Christ's peace. We celebrate that we are connected, we are loved and we are not alone. Through participation in the Peace & Global Witness Offering, our church is extending Christ's peace throughout our community and our world. We begin at the communion table, with our siblings in every time and place, and we celebrate the peace we find there and commit to building a more just and peaceful world. God is with us ... and God in Christ is with us through the Sacrament of Communion celebrated on World Communion Sunday. Peace begins with each of us.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering will be collected on World Communion Sunday, October 5.

25% of this offering stays with our congregation to support peacemaking and reconciliation in our own community.

25% of this offering goes to our mid-council to join with other congregations to support peacemaking work in our region.

50% of this offering supports the work of Presbyterians across the globe.

**PLEASE GIVE WHAT YOU CAN.  
IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT.**

## Session Summary

Tuesday, July 22, 2025

Clerk's report: Membership as of June 30, 2025: 121, Average Attendance in June: 86. Average Attendance in July: 98.

Here are our approved items:

- Tree New Mexico will donate two trees to St. Andrew, a pine tree and a New Mexico olive. Planting is planned for August 23.
- We approved becoming an Earth Care member congregation, which is a denominational initiative. We are already doing much of what is requested of member congregations. Moved seconded approved.
- The nominating committee is having difficulty identifying an adult education elder for the coming year. We are hoping to find an Elder for this position, but will form an Ad Hoc Committee to continue our Adult Education activities.
- We are working towards our committees meeting together to discuss their complementary functions to provide better communication and open possibilities for St. Andrew
- There was no Session meeting in August. Thanks to Bill Miller for taking the minutes for the July meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** The June report reflects an anticipated summer decrease in income, but overall, we remain with a positive balance for the year.

| April 2025     | Current Month | Year-to-Date | Budget  |
|----------------|---------------|--------------|---------|
| Total Income   | 21,535        | 211,350      | 342,425 |
| Total Expenses | 29,294        | 168,144      | 342,308 |
| Difference     | -7,759        | 43,206       | 117     |

## **AN ARTICLE OF NOTE: by Diana Butler Bass (THE COTTAGE)**

Here is an article concerning a letter from the UCC General Council entitled “**Religion is Next.**” **An excerpt from the letter and article is in the link below.** Also at the end are some inspiration poems, including one written by Walter Bruegemann, recently deceased.

Below is a portion of the excerpt of the letter concerning the new terms and conditions for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program now required of the recipients and subrecipients of the funding. I would like to point out that recipients are not to engage in DEI, DEIA, or ‘discriminatory equity ideology’ within the meaning of the Executive Order.

First: the A in DEIA stands for Accessibility! Does that mean the church recipients must get rid of their ramps?

Second: “discriminatory equity” is an oxymoron at best and is rendered meaningless by the words attempting to describe a nonexistent concept. (My Opinion).

Any church seeking funding from the Nonprofit Security Grant Program needs to read the terms and conditions carefully!

*The terms and conditions for the Nonprofit Security Grant Program now require recipients and subrecipients of the funding, among other things:*

- *to cooperate with immigration officials,*
- *not engage in or promote programs that engage in DEI, DEIA, or ‘discriminatory equity ideology’ within the meaning of the Executive Order, in violation of anti-discrimination laws, and*
- *not participate in discriminatory prohibited boycotts relating to Israel.*

*HHS is also requiring certification of compliance with not engaging in DEI activity.*

[https://dianabutlerbass.substack.com/p/religion-is-next?utm\\_medium=ios](https://dianabutlerbass.substack.com/p/religion-is-next?utm_medium=ios)

Submitted by Bill Renfro

### **ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**

David Crowley will start a 4-week series on religious flowering in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century with UNM Continuing education (OLLI) on September 16<sup>th</sup>, 1-3 pm.

He will present on the 200th anniversary of the Erie Canal completion for Oasis on October 8 at 10 -11 am.

### **FROM MAX BARTLETT:**

Dear Sisters and Brothers at St. Andrew's,

Thank you very much for your tremendous support and help during the past many months as I have slowly fought a leg injury and infections. Sadly, I am still bedridden. You have been such a blessing to me, with food, transportation, deliveries, and visits. And visits and calls are always welcome. Thanks.

### **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN**

Please plan on joining Presbyterian Women for their new bible study entitled: Finding Resilience, Joy and Our Identity in Jesus Christ. Our first meeting will be *September 9*, at 10:00 am in the church adult CE room. Rev. Catherine Robinson will continue to facilitate our discussions of the first lesson. Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you there!

### **MEMORIAL SERVICE**

#### **Joanne Cisneros West**

JoAnne Cisneros West, a former member, died on July 12 in Arizona. Her memorial service will be at St. Andrew on Saturday, September 6th at 2 pm. Family and friends will gather to celebrate JoAnne's life. A reception will be held following the service.



## Lectionary Schedule

### Sunday – September 7

#### 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalms 139:1-6, 13-18

Second Reading

Philemon 1:1-21

Gospel Luke 14:25-33

### Sunday – September 14

#### 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Psalms 14

Second Reading

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Gospel Luke 15:1-10

### Sunday – September 21

#### 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading Jeremiah 8:19-9:1

Psalms 79:1-9

Second Reading

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Gospel Luke 16:1-13

### Sunday – September 28

#### 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading Jeremiah 32:1-3, 6-15

Psalms 91:1-6, 14-16

Second Reading

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Gospel Luke 16:19-31

## CHOIR NEWS

Choir rehearsals resume on Thursday, Sept. 4! We are always looking for singers. If you are interested or want more information, see Julie Taylor on Sunday mornings or call her: 505-803-0908.



## September Birthdays

|    |                  |
|----|------------------|
| 4  | Lawson Maze      |
| 5  | Julian Lopez     |
| 6  | Ruth Starr       |
| 8  | Jennifer Carley  |
| 9  | Bruce Green      |
| 14 | Janet McEwen     |
| 17 | Mickey DePriest  |
|    | Karen Ulack      |
| 18 | Rick Hanna       |
| 24 | Bob Busch        |
|    | Sierra Lopez     |
| 26 | Caroyne Gonzales |
|    | Ed Mills         |
| 29 | Mary Lynn Gross  |
| 30 | Debbie Prada     |



**It's not too early to start  
saving items for the  
Alternative Christmas  
Fair!**

**Save the date:  
Sunday, November 23**





# SEPTEMBER 2025



| Sunday                                                                            | Monday                                      | Tuesday                                    | Wednesday                                             | Thursday                                                                                                                    | Friday                                             | Saturday                                                                              |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  | 1<br><br><b>LABOR DAY</b>                   | 2<br>5:15 Mission<br>Social Justice<br>Com | 3                                                     | 4<br>10 am Stroke Club<br>10 am Spiritual<br>Formation<br>4 pm Worship<br>Com on ZOOM<br>6:30 pm Choir<br>rehearsals resume | 5<br><br>5:30 Girl Scouts                          | 6<br><br>2 pm Joanne<br>Cisneros-West<br>Memorial service                             |
| 7<br><br>9:30 Worship &<br>Communion<br>10:30 Fellowship<br>3 pm Encantada        | 8<br><br>4:30 PNC<br>7 pm APO<br>rehearsal  | 9<br>10 am<br>Presbyterian<br>Women        | 10<br><br>4 pm Deacons                                | 11<br>8 am Finance Com<br>on ZOOM<br>10 am Stroke Club<br>10 am Historical<br>Jesus<br>6:30 pm Choir<br>rehearsal           | 12<br><br>7:30 Sci Fi Society                      | 13<br><br>12 pm Ethiopian<br>Church Fundraiser                                        |
| 14<br><br>9:30 Worship<br>10:30 Fellowship<br>11 Adult CE<br>3 pm Encantada       | 15<br><br>4:30 PNC<br>7 pm APO<br>rehearsal | 16<br>6 pm Session                         | 17<br><br>6:30 pm Peace<br>Choir rehearsals<br>resume | 18<br>10 am Stoke Club<br>10 am Spiritual<br>Formation<br>6:30 pm Choir<br>rehearsal                                        | 19<br><br>2 pm Outreach<br>Com<br>5:30 Girl Scouts | 12                                                                                    |
| 21<br><br>9:30 Worship<br>10:30 Fellowship<br>11 Adult CE<br>3 pm Encantada       | 22<br><br>4:30 PNC<br>7 pm APO<br>rehearsal | 23                                         | 24<br><br>6:30 pm Peace<br>Choir                      | 25<br>10 am Stroke Club<br>10 am Historical<br>Jesus<br>6:30 pm Choir<br>rehearsal                                          | 26                                                 | 27                                                                                    |
| 28<br><br>9:30 Worship<br>10:30 Fellowship<br>11 Adult CE<br>3 pm Encantada       | 29<br><br>4:30 PNC<br>7 pm APO<br>rehearsal | 30                                         |                                                       |                                                                                                                             |                                                    |  |