



# Presbytidings – May/June 2024

An outreach of St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

## Words from Your Transitional Pastor The Rev. Eric Koenig-Reinke

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**Sunday Worship**  
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### St. Andrew News and Events

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from your  
Transitional  
Pastor

Meet Your  
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Spring is a time of newness, and growth. As May has arrived, Essie and I have found ourselves busy weeding some of that new growth out of our yard at home. When I came across a certain plant I found myself wondering ‘is this a weed? Or is this a plant?’ I will never claim to be a horticulturist or botanist; and deciphering a weed, from a desired plant does not fall within my area of expertise. We ultimately pulled the plant, and have many more to pull. This interaction of discernment made me think about the communal discernment that we have begun as a part of the transition. Throughout any transition, and in fact within all ministry, group discernment (congregational discernment if you will) is required to answer the questions of “Who are we as the people of God? Who are our neighbors? and what is God calling us to into the future?”

Group discernment takes effort and time, and while it may not feel like much has been accomplished yet, much of the groundwork and “entering the system” tasks have been completed. I have conducted interviews with members of the session, deacons, and others. I asked two questions:

1. What are your hopes/dreams for the future of St. Andrew?
2. And 2. What are your fears/concerns/anxieties for the future of St. Andrew?

If you would like to share your answers to those questions, I would welcome your feedback! You could send in answers in writing, or even better reach out and set up a time where we could have a conversation.

The session has begun reviewing our church policies, and is thinking about the ‘job descriptions’ for our committees. We have named a Transitional Team, and there will be an introduction of those individuals later in this issue of Presbytidings. The Transitional Team has been meeting, and will continue to work hard over the course of the summer, and you will begin hearing more and more about how to participate in the work of congregational discernment that is required as we move forward with this task of congregational discernment. The Transitional Team is in the process of designing small group sessions, as well as recruiting and training small group leaders, and I will do my best to keep you all updated on the progress.

I also would like to note that through the month of June I will be preaching a sermon series on transitional ministry. Transitional Ministry training teaches pastors to think through 5 different focus points: *Heritage, Mission, Connections, Leadership, and Future*. Each week will include some questions for you to ponder, and discuss, as a primer for this congregational discernment.

Peace, Pastor Eric

T R A N S I T I O N

## Meet your Transitional Team

Before one of our recent meetings with the Transitional Team, I asked them all to write a 2-3 sentence biography, and answer why they agreed to serve on the Transitional Team to be included in Presbytidings, and so here are brief introductions to the team:

### From Barb Sanders:

I am almost a lifetime member of St. Andrew, starting with attending Sunday School as a third grader. I have been a member of the Worship Committee for at least 25 years and I'm currently serving as Worship and Music Elder. I thought that our dedication to obtaining ideas, hopes, dreams and worries from the congregation during the transitional period of our last pastor search was very successful. I agreed to be on the Transitional Team because I wanted to make sure we talked with and listened to every member of St Andrew as we move forward in this pastor search process.

### From Cheryl Heller:

Cheryl Sams O'Halloran McLeod Heller, ALL that is my name! As a Seeker, Artist and Educator, my passions have centered around the questions "Why?" and "Why Not? Knowing that I have been "called" to return to New Mexico, I'm currently attempting to discover "Why?" Responding to the invitation to be involved with the Transition Team is part of this "Why" journey.

### From Eleanor Milroy:

I am a cradle to grave Scottish-Irish Presbyterian descending from generations of such, one ancestor of whom had his ear cut off for his faith and so immigrated to the U.S. The church has been a huge influence in my life both in shaping my values and faith but also in impacting my professional life as I became a faith-based organizer for several decades working with amazing people across a variety of faiths and backgrounds. I am looking forward to being a part of the transition team as I believe so strongly in the value of congregations, and especially this congregation, as a community of believers who can be in a deep enough relationship to learn from one another as we grow in our faith and all that that entails. Figuring out how best to do that in this time of transition is both challenging and exciting.

### From Michael Molony:

My name is Michael Molony, a long time radio josh dickie and now an employee at APS. I started my Christian journey in a small non-denominational church where I accepted Jesus Christ as my personal Lord and Savior when I was in second grade. I spent my formative years from 4th grade through high school in an American Baptist Church, was married in a United Methodist Church... became a charter member of a PC(USA) Church here in Albuquerque, and was later on their staff for one year, and now I'm here at good ole' St. Andrew. Last year I agreed to be on Session (*because no one can say "no!" to Jim Copeland*) because they needed someone to fill in as an "Elder-at-Large." And since as Elder-at-Large I have no committee or real responsibilities other than attending meetings and voting every month, I thought the least I could do was volunteer for the Transition Team. But seriously, I personally was at a crossroads, thinking that once my Session term was up at the end of this year, I might start looking for a new church home. But being on the transition Team will help give direct insight to the kind of church St. Andrew wants to be, and maybe I can help make it a place I want to stay around and be a part of.

From Patty Emord:

My name is Patty Emord, and I have been affiliated with St. Andrew for around years. Professionally, I work part-time with community and non-profit organizations, academic institutions, and the private sector on organizational development and design. Why did I agree to be on the Transitional Team? St. Andrew is an important part of my personal and family's history, providing love and support. Also, its commitment to social justice exemplifies faith in action. I am very invested in seeing St. Andrew rise to the new challenges and excited about its future.

From Jim Copeland:

I have spent almost 50 years working professionally in the field of intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) in 6 different states. I have had 2 family members with IDD and have been around people with IDD my entire life. My work has been and continues to be a large part of my ministry. Church and music have also been a large part of my life. That's what happens when you marry the daughter of Presbyterian missionaries whose bachelor's degree was in music therapy. Not having been a charter or long-term member of St. Andrew, I feel I have a different perspective On where St. Andrew could go. I am excited to be able to share and discuss that perspective in the ongoing review and development of St. Andrew's future.

**To the St Andrew Community**

May will mark 10 years since I retired from St. Andrew in 2014. Over the years our paths have crossed especially as a result of memorial services. Please know that I love you all, but I will no longer be available to participate in memorial services in the future. Eric is your pastor and I know he will provide the kind of pastoral care needed in time of loss. Should I come to a memorial service in the future, it will be as a worshipper. Sharon and I send out love and best wishes to all of you in this Easter season of hope. – **Frank Yates**

**A New Manager of our Website?**

After many years of doing an amazing job designing and maintaining our webpage, Jim Dillow would like to pass this to someone else. If you know anyone or any reputable company, that does webpage design/maintenance, please contact one of us on the Outreach committee? We would like to take this opportunity to thank Jim Dillow for his years of hard work on this!

– The Outreach Committee:  
Esther (Irish), Elmer, Isabel,  
Sam Sandoval, and Marie



**Presbyterian Women**

The PW Birthday Offering celebration and offering will be on Sunday, June 9. The theme is based on Genesis 50:21 "So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones". We will celebrate the 2024 grants to Bethel Hills Villa 5 Apartments and Recreation Area – \$123,500; and also Shawnee Presbyterian's Café Ginkgo – \$150,000. Offering envelopes will be distributed throughout the sanctuary, to place in the offering basket on June 9, and you are welcome to donate any time in June by making an on-line donation or mailing a check to the church office. Thank you for your continued generosity to the PW Birthday Offering. Kathy Jackson made arrangements for our PW group to visit the TenderLove Community Center on Tuesday, June 4 at 11 am. We plan to meet at the church in the back/north parking lot at 10:15 am to carpool. It is located at Indian School and Girard. Kathy suggested we could eat lunch afterwards at Padilla's (*which is next door*) if anyone would like to do so. Please join us.

## Outreach

### *Welcome to Our Four New Members!*

Please join the Outreach Committee in welcoming our four new Church Family Members who became members on Easter Sunday. Here's a little information about each of them so that you can start to get to know them better:

**Shirley Ham** grew up in Lubbock Texas, moved to Albuquerque in 1970 and has lived here since. She has one son, two daughters, nine grandchildren and seventeen grandchildren! Shirley lives at Manzano del Sol, where several other St. Andrew members also live. She has lived there nine years and really likes it. Shirley spent her working years running the busy family practice office of Drs. Feguson and Henderson here in Albuquerque. She kept things running smoothly there for over thirty years. In her spare time, she is an avid reader.

**Carley Maze** is a junior at Eldorado High School and is on the honor roll there. She has been dancing ballet since she was four and is now in the Ballet Repertory Theater where she has performed in many shows including the The Little Mermaid. Carley practices ballet six days a week as well as demanding exercises at home most days. She has begun to dance 'on pointe' (*dancing on her toes*) and is loving it. She had two of her art pieces accepted in the APS Metro Art Show: a self portrait, and a block print of dancer Alvin Ailey. Carley isn't sure yet what she'll pursue in college, but she does know that physics is one of her favorite subjects. Wherever she ends up, it's certain that it'll include ballet.

*welcome*

NEW MEMBERS



**Isabel Ozechowski** has been an Advisor Solutions Consultant for Thomburg Investment since 2019. She has a large area of responsibility covering the Great Lakes, Ohio Valley, Mid-Atlantic, New England and Upstate New York regions. Isabel has an MS degree in Clinical Psychology where she conducted research, saw patients, and taught undergraduate courses. Bill Miller was her faculty advisor! More recently, Isabel earned her MBA in finance from UNM's Anderson School of Management. She enjoys cooking, listening to music, attending concerts, running, and spending time with her husband, a son who lives at home, and two adult daughters. She is delighted to welcome her first granddaughter, Elena Villarreal who joined this world on February 24, weighing 6 lbs, 11 ounces.

**Jessica Ulack**, who is indeed Karen Ulack's daughter, has been in Albuquerque for sixteen years. Her husband is an orthopedic surgeon who is now practicing in Santa Fe and making the commute every day. Their family has moved frequently and has lived in Kentucky, Atlanta, North Carolina and Cincinnati. While in Durham North Carolina, Jessica was the Administrative Director for a secondary school for five years. Jessica is now a small business owner and owns and operates three beauty salons in Albuquerque. In addition to staying busy with her three companies, Jessica has a fourteen and a seventeen-year-old son, two dogs, two cats and chickens.

## Outreach - (page two)

We are so excited to welcome each of you! We hope your time with us proves to be spiritually enriching, personally gratifying and a whole lot of fun! Welcome! Please take the time to get to know our new members and let them know how excited we are to have them with us. Wearing your name tag is a great way to help them get to know all of us as well.



The main objective of the Outreach Committee is to attract new members, and help everyone who is part of our church family. feel welcome and connected. One approach is to connect with as many people as possible who use our building and tell them our story and listen to their story.

*(Please see the Outreach Notice that was emailed on April 3, 2024)*

We think that this is a network of people where we can share that we are indeed a community that is “serving God by serving others”.

We'll continue to try to share who St Andrew presbyterian Church is, and what we do, with as many people as possible. As we reach out to the larger community, we ask for your input, ideas, and honest feedback. Our church is a best kept secret in Albuquerque! We need your help to get the word out to as many people as we possibly can! – *The Outreach Committee*

### Session Summary – March 19, 2024 Clerk's Report / Suzanne Busch

Average worship attendance in March: 90 – Membership as of March 30, 2024: 151;

#### April Approvals

- Approve access to Vanguard account for Finance Elder, Rick Irish
- Building Use Request: Begay Baby Shower, Saturday, June 8 in the activity room.
- General approval to use the Bartholdi bequest for a Sanctuary makeover to benefit youth, choir, and worship and then get approval to proceed with the negotiations on the lighting part.

#### Treasurer's Report

<u>March 2024</u>	Current Month	Year-to-Date	Budget
Total Income	54,506	169,904	290,700
Total Expenses	27,459	90,760	346,436
Difference	29,047	79,144	-55,736



## 2024 Climate Crisis – Bill Renfro

New Mexico is still in a megadrought that has lasted more than two decades and continues to increase fire danger and lower soil moisture, and current forecasts don't hold much hope for relief.

Many of you signed a letter that was sent to President Biden, our New Mexico U.S. senators and representatives and the Governor along with my state representative and state senator. The letter, which was signed by more than 80 concerned individuals, members of St. Andrew, and personnel of the Santa Fe Presbytery, was concerned with the loss of protection of certain wetlands when the U.S. Supreme Court reduced regulatory authority of the EPA under the Clean Water Act.

I have received letters from President Biden, Senator Heinrich, Representative Stansbury and a phone call from Representative Leger Fernandez. A statement from Senator Heinrich summarizes the concerns of all four: "Water is critically important to our families, farmers, wildlife, and society. Especially as we take on climate change and a drought of historic proportions, we need to find innovative ways to meet demand while conserving this precious resource. Access to clean water is central to ensuring the health and economic prosperity of New Mexico's cities, towns, villages, and pueblos." Rep. Stansbury adds: "As a native New Mexican, I know how important our waters, lands, and natural resources are, and as a science professional, I know that climate change is the single greatest threat we face."

The United States Geological Survey describes wetlands as valuable in providing habitat for thousands of species of aquatic and terrestrial plants and animals, flood protection, water quality improvement, shoreline erosion control, natural products, recreation, and aesthetics. The ability of wetland flora to filter contaminants from the water is most essential in the improvement of the quality of the groundwater and downstream water within an expansive area surrounding a wetland. Albuquerque's present water situation is so crucial that we must rely on diverting water from the San Juan Basin which is part of the Colorado River watershed. The Colorado River flow has been diminished by the megadrought of the southwest and is a crucial source for areas of California including Los Angeles County.

John Muir says that "deep within the human soul is a primal love of the earth. We don't have to create or manufacture this love Our role is simply to awaken it again and release it in one another, so that together we may serve the earth with passion." We can reduce our carbon footprint many ways, but the most powerful is: *VOTE FOR THE EARTH* this November.



## Lectionary Schedule

**Sunday – May 5**

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter**

*First Reading* Acts 10:44-48

Psalm 98:1-9

*Second Reading* 1 John 5:1-6

*Gospel* John 15:9-17

**Sunday – May 12**

**The Seventh Sunday of Easter**

*First Reading* Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1:1-6

*Second Reading* 1 John 5:9-13

*Gospel* John 17: 6-19

**Sunday – May 19**

**The Day of Pentecost**

*First Reading* Acts 2:1-21

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

*Second Reading* Romans 8:22-27

*Gospel* John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15

**Sunday – May 26 The First Sunday  
after Pentecost – Trinity Sunday**

*First Reading* Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalm 29:1-11

*Second Reading* Romans 8:12-17

*Gospel* John 3: 1-17

**Sunday – June 2**

**The Second Sunday after Pentecost**

*First Reading*

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

*Second Reading* 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

*Gospel* Mark 2:23-3:6

**Sunday – June 9**

**The Third Sunday after Pentecost**

*First Reading* 1 Samuel 8:4-11 (12-15)  
16-20 (11:14-15)

Psalm 138:1-8

*Second Reading*

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

*Gospel* Mark 3:20-35

**Sunday – June 16**

**The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**

*First Reading*

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13

Psalm 20

*Second Reading*

2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (11-13) 14-17

*Gospel* Mark 4:26-34

**Sunday – June 23**

**The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

*First Reading*

1 Samuel 17:(1a, 4-11, 19-23) 32-49

Psalm 9:9-20

*Second Reading*

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

*Gospel* Mark 4:35-41

## May Birthdays

- 1 Roger Powers
- 3 Kami Wishart  
Chloe Encino
- 4 Kyle Vick
- 5 Anthony Montoya
- 6 James Ray
- 7 Frank Iske
- 8 Fletcher Hahn  
Barbara Sanders  
Hugh Wishart  
Steve Gross
- 11 Justin Zahl
- 12 Gwen Anlian
- 13 Robin Wallace-Jones
- 14 Richard Stoops  
Adrian Gonzales  
Tom Weeda
- 15 Briana Cuevas
- 16 Jeff Encino
- 18 Kevin Hughes  
Claire Hanna  
Andrew Stickler
- 19 Sharon Frey-Prewitt
- 20 Dianne Parker
- 23 Samuel Vick
- 24 Jake Soliz
- 27 Ima Stapleman
- 30 Marilyn Daley  
Max Bartlett



## June Birthdays

- 4 Linda Evans
- 9 Mary Reed
- 14 Joanna DeVries
- 15 Tamerin Allen  
Chris Fogel
- 19 Tobias Washington
- 23 Marilyn Stoops
- 24 Sara Carley
- 25 Fran Fosnaugh  
Andrea Cuevas  
Lilly Paul
- 26 Ray Benton
- 27 Linda Barnes  
Ginger DePalma  
Bill Miller
- 30 Leah Wesselman  
Donovan Gaylor  
Jim Copeland

## Habitat for Humanity

I have coordinated St. Andrew's work with Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity for several years. I am familiar with the Habitat staff, the process of recruiting and scheduling volunteer construction workers, the variety of ways to raise funds for a house, working with other denominations to see that a house is completed, etc.

If a person in the St. Andrew congregation is willing to work with me for the next year to get familiar with the tasks, or maybe two people who would like to share the tasks in the future, would you please contact me so we could have a conversation?

Connect with me, **Marilyn Stoops**, at worship,

or call me at (505) 265-8358 or email me at [mstoops@swcp.com](mailto:mstoops@swcp.com)



# May 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b>  N.M. Peace Choir rehearsal	<b>2</b> 10:00 am Spiritual Formation on Zoom  Worship and Music Committee 4:00 pm on Zoom  7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b>     5:30 pm Girl Scouts	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> <b>9:30 am Worship Service and Communion</b> 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult C.E. 3-5 pm Encantada Band Rehearsal	<b>6</b>  ABQ Philharmonic Rehearsal 7:00-10:00 pm	<b>7</b>  Weekly Announcements Due	<b>8</b>  4:00 pm Deacons Meeting  6:30 pm NM Peace Choir	<b>9</b> 10 am Stroke Club 10:00 am Historical Jesus Group on Zoom  7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>10</b>    7:30 pm ABQ Science Fiction Society	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <b>9:30 am Worship Service</b> 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult C.E. 3-5 pm Encantada Band Rehearsal	<b>13</b>  ABQ Philharmonic Rehearsal 7:00-10:00 pm	<b>14</b>  Weekly Announcements Due	<b>15</b>  6:30 pm NM Peace Choir	<b>16</b> 8:30 am Finance Committee on Zoom 10:00 am Spiritual Formation/Zoom 10 am Stroke Club 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 10:00 –11:00 am ChildCo School Rehearsal ( <i>sanctuary</i> )  5:30 pm Girl Scouts  6:00-8:30 pm ChildCo Graduation ( <i>sanctuary</i> )	<b>20</b>
<b>19</b> <b>9:30 am Worship Service</b> <b>Pentecost and Youth Sunday</b> 10:30 am Fellowship Time Congregational Brunch 3-5 pm Encantada Band Rehearsal	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  Weekly Announcements Due  <b>Session 6:00 pm</b>	<b>22</b>  6:30 pm NM Peace Choir	<b>23</b> 10 am Stroke Club 10:00 am Historical Jesus Group on Zoom 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> <b>9:30 am Worship Service</b> 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult C.E.	<b>27</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> <i>Office Closed</i> 	<b>28</b>  Weekly Announcements Due	<b>29</b>  6:30 pm NM Peace Choir	<b>30</b>  7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>31</b>  <b>Encantada Band (dress rehearsal)</b>  <b>Sanctuary in use 6:00 - 9:00 pm</b>	



# June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						<b>1</b> Encantada Band Concert  <b>Sanctuary in use 5:00-9:00 pm</b>
<b>June 2</b> <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship Service and Communion</b> 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult C.E.	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  Weekly Announcements Due	<b>5</b>  6:30 pm NM Peace Choir	<b>6</b>  10:00 am Stroke Club 10:00 am Spiritual Formation/Zoom	<b>7</b>  5:30 pm Girl Scouts	<b>8</b>  9:00 am - 4:00 pm Begay Baby Shower (activity room)
<b>June 9</b> <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship Service</b> 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult C.E. 3-5 pm Encantada Band Rehearsal	<b>10</b>  ABQ Philharmonic Rehearsal 7:00-10:00 pm	<b>11</b>  Weekly Announcements Due	<b>12</b>  4:00 pm Deacons Meeting 6:30 pm NM Peace Choir	<b>13</b>  8:30 am Finance Committee/Zoom 10:00 am Historical Jesus Group on Zoom 10:00 am Stroke Club	<b>14</b>  10:00 am Outreach Committee  7:30 pm ABQ Science Fiction Society	<b>15</b>
<b>June 16</b> <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship Service</b> 10:30 am Fellowship Time 3-5 pm Encantada Band Rehearsal	<b>17</b>  ABQ Philharmonic Rehearsal 7:00-10:00 pm	<b>18</b>  Weekly Announcements Due  <b>Session 6:00 pm</b>	<b>19</b>  Presbytidings Articles due for the <b>July/August</b> Issue 6:30 pm Peace Choir	<b>20</b>  10:00 am Stroke Club 10:00 am Spiritual Formation/Zoom	<b>21</b>  5:30 pm Girl Scouts	<b>22</b>
<b>June 23</b> <b>9:30 am</b> <b>Worship Service</b> 10:30 am Fellowship Time 11:00 am Adult C.E.	<b>24</b>  ABQ Philharmonic Rehearsal 7:00-10:00 pm	<b>25</b>  Weekly Announcements Due	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>  10:00 am Stroke Club 10:00 am Historical Jesus Group on Zoom	<b>28</b>  7:30 pm ABQ Science Fiction Society	<b>29</b>

**June 30**  
 9:30 am  
 Worship Service  
 10:30 am  
 Fellowship Time  
 11:00 am  
 Adult C.E.  
 3-5 pm  
 Encantada Band Rehearsal