

PRESBYTERY OF SANTA FE
2020 ANNUAL REPORTS TO PRESBYTERY OF SANTA FE

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MODERATOR'S REPORT

So...in last year's Moderator's report, I included the following: "... Isaiah 11:1-9 [our theme this year] is a scripture of great depth and breadth. It begins with a reminder of our roots "A shoot will come from the stump of Jesse..." and gives us a vision of the world turned upside down in the peaceable kingdom, "The wolf will live with the lamb...they won't harm or destroy anywhere on my holy mountain." These exciting words speak to us of the call that is renewed with each generation to serve the world as God's people, and that when we do, things end up looking very differently..."

So...yeah...let me start by apologizing for jinxing us. The world definitely got turned upside down this year, and not anything like what I was intending.

However, in the midst of what has been a chaotic year (to say the least), some amazing ministry has been done by this presbytery. We started off with a February Presbytery meeting where we turned worship upside down with an Improv service, and we began our process for a new logo design.

Then March happened...in a time that has been devastating to so many. The lives lost. The jobs lost. Our culture was turned upside down, and as I write this, there is no end in sight. This has been soul crushing on so many fronts.

And yet...Something incredible has also come out of all of this. We have been doing worship together as a presbytery every Sunday with the benefit of technology. That same technology we have been pushing for years, and always been told, there are too many people who can't adapt to doing all this "online stuff." Well sometimes a crisis teaches us a lot quickly. We have worshipped online. We have met regularly with leaders on Zoom to talk about best practices during this Covid time. We have had mission fairs, antiracism classes/challenges, and yes, even presbytery online. It is remarkable how we have grown into the technology. Beyond that, you also rose to the occasion to assist your community through the Family-to-Family Fund. To date we have raised close to \$50,000 and supported almost 50 families, and we still have much left over to continue doing good (please point people struggling to the application on the website!)

Even more remarkable has been the way that leaders across the presbytery have come together to plan worship for all of our churches, week in and week out. At one point we had as many as 20 churches tuning in, and even now, my understanding is that 14 continue to regularly participate. The deep camaraderie of the pastoral leadership has been so meaningful, and personally, I can say it is this deep bond with the leaders, and

our meeting every Tuesday morning that has helped me get through this time. Thank you to all of you for supporting one another through this!

Of course, this report would not be complete without mentioning the new logo, as well as the new design that we are set to vote on at the October Meeting as well. I am excited by the transformations I have seen, and certainly never thought we would see the likes of all of this transformation within such a short amount of time. I have been humbled to serve you for two years, and be surrounded by so many people who have stepped up to make exciting things happen. Thank you for all you have done. I look forward to what is next for Santa Fe Presbytery.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Seth Finch

STATED CLERK REPORT

This year was far from normal and usual.

No one can write an annual report late in 2020 without mentioning the COVID-19 worldwide pandemic, which struck and then stuck with us in this country over the last 7 months and will stay with us into the foreseeable future with millions affected and hundreds of thousands killed. COVID-19 is an insidious, arbitrary, unjust and puzzling virus without any totally effective treatment and no currently available vaccine. COVID-19 changed everything.

In February, 2020, we met at La Mesa PC for a regular, in-person stated presbytery meeting with little thought to that unusual virus appearing primarily overseas.

By March, everything about church and presbytery was thrown for a loop. The second half of our presbytery year would be anything but typical. The presbytery offices were closed as presbytery staff worked from home. In-person worship and church meetings were cancelled. General Assembly was changed to a virtual assembly. Our regular stated presbytery meeting in July was converted to a Zoom meeting. I cannot tell you when we will be able to meet again in-person.

BUT (that great word of God's hope – "but"), our pastors, educators, musicians, staff and members were lead to discern a different way. A common Presbytery worship service was live-streamed every Sunday morning with many different pastors, musicians and elders participating. Our pastors, musicians and staff changed professions and became video and audio producers, editors and arrangers. More churches began providing their own weekly worship services on-line. Other churches converted daily prayer, bible study and Christian Education classes to the internet. The proclamation of the Word and the spreading of the Gospel continued, just in a different form and space. It has been a marvelous revelation to see, even from a distance.

And the work of the Presbytery continued as well. Presbytery leadership continued to meet as a Leadership Team or Coordinating Team on Zoom. Presbytery stated meetings and team and committee meetings were moved to Zoom. Presbytery staff worked from home and communicated with each other by phone and email.

The Review of Presbytery Design Task Force continued their work to completion and final recommendations. The Presbytery adopted a new logo. Different congregations asked me how to conduct virtual congregational meetings. General Assembly was conducted as a virtual meeting.

I continue to enjoy my role as ex-officio staff member to the Leadership Team and Coordinating Team as well as advisor and friend to the churches, pastors and other teams, committees and commissions of the Presbytery, when needed.

I reach out to the national church by serving on the board of directors of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Investment and Loan Program and the board of trustees of Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary.

I also serve the larger church body by attending Synod of the Southwest meetings and New Mexico Conference of Churches board meetings.

I am very thankful for the critical assistance and support of our Administrator and Associate Stated Clerk, Tiffany Lo-Finch and Administrative Assistance, Marie Elena Miller to me and the functions of the office of Stated Clerk.

I continue to be extremely grateful for all of the different Clerks of Session of the various congregations of the presbytery that perform their roles and duties so diligently and enabling us in the Presbytery staff to provide the necessary information and data to the national church. Thank you, one and all.

It continues to be my honor to serve as Stated Clerk for the Presbytery of Santa Fe for another year – the 152nd year of a presbytery in New Mexico and Arizona. I continue to thoroughly enjoy the many varied aspects of my job and the opportunity to work with many of you in common ministry within the presbytery.

I look forward to working with each member congregation of this Presbytery and with each one of you, both clergy and lay.

Please continue to pray for me as we continue on this journey together with Jesus Christ as our guide and with our destination assured, with God's help (notwithstanding a virus pandemic).

Grace and peace,

Stephen Rhoades

Stated Clerk

Presbytery of Santa Fe

October 17, 2020

COMMISSION ON MINISTRY

The Commission on Ministry (COM) from October, 2019, to October, 2020, was comprised of Bryan Beck, Jim Brown, Judith Mead, Beth Miller, Linda Wilson, John Sitler, Kay Huggins, Susan Quass, Catherine Robinson, Kay Johnson, Bob Bos, Georgia Ortiz, and Frank Yates, with members Judy Belvin and David Elton serving as co-moderators. Susan Quass and Linda Wilson resigned mid-year to give attention to family needs, respectively, and Terry Buckman and Elizabeth Morgan were added mid-year. The work of COM was supported by Bill Humphreys, COM consultant, and Sharon Yates and Tiffany Lo-Finch in the Presbytery office. COM is grateful for their guidance, efforts and assistance in the work of the Commission.

COM sought to fulfill its diverse duties and tasks to support, nurture and supervise the Ministers of Word and Sacrament and Commissioned Pastors of this presbytery, whether they serve as parish pastors or in validated ministries, are honorably retired or members-at-large; to assist, educate and guide the congregations of this Presbytery, especially in times of pastoral transitions; and to oversee, encourage, mediate and sometimes intervene in the relationship between parish pastors and the congregations they seek to serve. These responsibilities are great, humbling and challenging as COM hopes to provide a balance of care and guidance to the churches and clergy of this Presbytery.

As a commission of the presbytery, we continued the practice of triennial visits with teams of COM members meeting in person with church sessions and their pastoral leadership in conversations about the work, vision, successes and questions facing each church. The commission has assigned a liaison to each church in the presbytery to keep in touch with the life of the congregation between triennial visits. This good process has been put on hold temporarily as the COVID-19 quarantine season has interrupted meeting in-place.

As a commission, COM took seriously its obligation to examine new Ministers of Word and Sacrament applying for membership within the Presbytery, releasing Ministers of Word and Sacrament to other presbyteries, supporting our Commissioned Pastors in their diverse roles and duties, and reviewing annual reports of the work of our Members-at-Large. COM rejoices especially in the recent decisions of two

congregations to extend calls to ministers: Placitas, Las Placitas, and Santa Fe, Westminster!

COM met monthly at the Presbytery office for the first part of 2019, and by teleconference beginning with the April meeting. COM met even in July, when usually we had not. The agenda for each meeting included reports from COM members with different areas of responsibility, increased discussion time for churches needing care, reports from COM liaisons supporting PNCs and Sessions of churches in leadership transition, prayers for churches, pastors and situations needing care, and lifting up joys and concerns of the clergy and ruling elders of the Presbytery.

One of the high points of our monthly meetings is reviewing the anniversaries of the formation of each church and the ordination of each Minister of Word and Sacrament for that month and signing post cards addressed to each one in honor of their ordination.

COM performed the necessary administrative tasks of reviewing and approving Mission Studies, MIFs, and terms of call, and appointing moderators to church sessions when needed.

As Co-Moderators, we thank the hard working, dedicated members of COM for volunteering their energy, intelligence, imagination and love through their labor in service to the work of this presbytery. It was a joy to observe the sacrificial service of the members of COM and to witness the inspired work of the various churches throughout the Presbytery as they continue to contribute to the mission of Jesus Christ and the proclaiming of God's spirited presence in this world.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Belvin, Co-Moderator

David Elton, Co-Moderator

Bill Humphreys, COM Consultant

COMMITTEE ON REPRESENTATION AND PARTICIPATION

CORP members: Ginna Bairby (MWS), Jeff Finch (HR), Lou Ann Johnson (RE), Tim Strongin (RE), Trey Hammond (MWS), and Stephanie Urban (MWS) (chair)

* Pam Burgess (RE), Bobbie McGarey (HR), and James Ro (RE) have resigned from the committee over the past year

I'd like to say a big thank you to the members of CORP for their hard work on bringing this slate of nominees together. And a special thanks to Tiffany in the Presbytery office for her above and beyond support for the work this committee does.

We went into this year with a goal of improving our communication with the wider Presbytery in order to receive nominations that reflect the full diversity of our Presbytery. As with everything this year, Covid really took over and made it difficult to innovate when everyone was just trying to survive! However, we were able to create a nomination form for the Presbytery which we hope will become more widely used as we promote it more. A silver lining to our new pandemic lifestyle has been that the use of online committee meetings has opened up participation to those who live far away from Albuquerque. We hope that this technology continues to remove obstacles to participation in the future even when we're able to meet in person.

Our biggest challenge this year was COM which had 8 openings. One issue we ran up against a couple times was that younger people who aren't retired cannot give up a full day of work every month for meetings, so that is something we recommend COM consider as they move forward.

A couple big changes this year came from the recommendations from the Presbytery Design Taskforce which recommended changing the networking committees from 9 members each to 3 coordinators each. It has also been recommended to expand the size of Finance and Property, and decrease the size of CPM from 12 to 9.

Thanks to everyone who submitted nominations! We have a great group of people stepping into service next year and we look forward to seeing what they accomplish.

Submitted by Stephanie Urban (Chair)

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

Coordinating Team Members: Nancy Thomas, First Albuquerque, Co-Moderator; Martha Lane, Covenant, Albuquerque, Co-Moderator; Jane Moses, First Albuquerque, Co-Moderator and Menaul School Representative; Lola Blackwell, Covenant, Albuquerque, Secretary and Past Moderator; June DeFore, Rio Rancho, Treasurer; Edith Waugh Feliciano, St. Andrew, Albuquerque, Church Women United Representative; Susan Smith, First Albuquerque, Synod PW Treasurer and Moderator-Elect

PPWCT Meeting, January 17, 2020, First Albuquerque: Business included finalizing plans for the Presbytery PW Gathering/Mini-retreat scheduled for February 1, 2020; discussing the need to revise outdated by-laws to reflect current practice; addressing updates to the contact list to ensure a representative from each congregation is receiving notices about events and PW work; reporting on finances with a \$5,054 checking account balance as of December 31, 2019; highlighting the fall focus on Thank Offering gifts and recipients.

February 1, 2020, PW Gathering/Mini-Retreat, “Labors of Love in the Face of Injustice: Journey Inward and Outward”, 9:00-2:00 First Albuquerque:

- Rev. Jamie Martinez, Chaplain, UNM Hospital, guided 48 participants from 13 congregations in considering “Countering Injustice as Bearers of God’s Life-giving Love”
- Representatives from 5 congregations shared stories about their engagement in ministries of love and justice
 - Kathy Freeze, Catholic Charities’ “Team Refugee” collaboration with Rio Rancho Presbyterian
 - Bill Miller, “Neighborhood Ministry”, St. Andrew, Albuquerque, ministry to homeless
 - Anna Torres, “Asylee Housing for Transgender Population, Second, Albuquerque
 - Kirsten Marr, “Food Insecurity Projects and Advocacy”, First Albuquerque
 - Stella Webster, “Masada House for Addicts in Recovery”, First Farmington
- Carol Main, Grand Canyon Presbytery, Synod of the Southwest Representative to PW PCUSA 2019 Mission Experience, reported on her visit to sites in the Finger Lakes region of NY as an historical perspective on suffrage and anti-slavery engagement
- Letter writing project by participants to asylees in several detention centers.

February, PW PC (USA) Announces Catholic Charities' Team Refugee Youth as a 2020

Thank Offering Recipient: This project which collaborates with Rio Rancho Presbyterian Church received a grant to further build their Team Refugee Youth program. About 50 refugee and asylee families will participate in family engagement groups. Children of the families will be involved in the tutoring, homework and day camps to support successful integration into local communities, and families will be equipped to support and advocate for their children in school.

PPWCT Engagement during COVID: The PPWCT meeting scheduled for March 13, 2020, was canceled. A planning session scheduled for that day was also canceled. Those attending the February 1 gathering who had expressed an interest in providing feedback and input options for carrying out the PW purposes in Santa Fe Presbytery had been invited. Through email communication among the PPWCT, it was determined that **no Fall Gathering of Presbyterian Women would be scheduled for 2020.** Following up on options for a forward planning meeting and investigating options to offer the PW Bible Study virtually continued to be issues of interest. A review of the by-laws has been postponed until the CT can meet in person.

Despite the inactive status of the Presbytery of Santa Fe PWCT, there has been continued reporting to and presence at Santa Fe Presbytery CT's virtual meetings. The Presbytery PW has also continued to participate in Synod PWCT virtual meetings and has submitted items about the state of the work in Santa Fe Presbytery to the *Loaves and Fishes*, the newsletter for PW of the Synod of the Southwest. The newsletter was sent out to contact lists for Presbyterian Women in each congregation, and efforts were made to update the list.

October 5, 2020, 5:30, First Session of "Into the Light: Finding Hope through Prayers of Lament," 2020-21 PWPC (USA) Bible Study:

At a September 9, 2020, Santa Fe Presbytery PW planning meeting hosted by Susan Smith, Moderator-Elect for the Synod of the Southwest, the decision was made to send out a survey to the Presbytery PW contact list to poll interest in and ability to get on Zoom to participate in the study. Feedback indicated enough interest to start the study. The survey also showed that circles in several congregations are meeting in person with distancing protocols in place. Susan Smith led Lesson 1, with six participants, and the study will be offered monthly on first Mondays at 5:30. Lesson 2 is scheduled for November 2, 2020 at 5:30.

Presbytery PWCT Leadership: June DeFore, Santa Fe Presbytery PW treasurer and member of Rio Rancho, has moved to Renton, Washington, to be near family. She served competently in this position. Since the PPWCT is not currently meeting, the Synod of the Southwest PWCT authorized that in the transition the role of Santa Fe

Presbytery PW treasurer be assumed by Susan Smith, current treasurer of the Synod PWCT. Earlier in the year Edith Waugh Feliciano, who served faithfully as representative to Church Women United, resigned for health reasons and has not been replaced. Efforts to engage in additional forward planning and to maintain and sustain the quality of leadership in Santa Fe Presbytery PW in carrying out the purposes of PW will continue. Carol Marr, First Albuquerque, is the treasurer elect for Synod of the Southwest. Susan Smith, First Albuquerque, is Moderator-elect for the Synod.

2020 PW Thank Offering Appeal: Efforts are being made to raise awareness of this offering collected in the fall by PW. See the above description of the Catholic Charities Thank Offering grant received this year

October 31, 2020, 10:00 a.m. : CLUSTER CAFÉ ZOOM Sponsored by PW of the Synod of the Southwest: Susan Jackson Dowd, PW PC(USA) Executive Director, will be the guest speaker on “All Things Presbyterian Women,” with a focus on Micah 6:8: “And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.” Thank Offering recipient updates and reflections on the PW Bible Study will also be provided. Bonnie Thompson, PW Synod of the Southwest Moderator is accepting registrations. thompson.bonnie1@gmail.com

SAVE THE DATE: The Churchwide Gathering for Presbyterian Women is scheduled for August 5-8, 2021 in St. Louis MO. The theme is “Rejoice in Hope.” Santa Fe Presbytery is hoping for strong representation.

Submitted by Nancy Thomas

CUBA WORK GROUP

Members of the Cuba Work Group for 2019-20 included representatives from partner churches: Tony Aja (Jicarita Cluster), Bryan and Janice Beck (Shepherd of the Valley PC), Bill and Sharon Eklund (First Presbyterian, Santa Fe), Dean Lewis, Howard Paul, Anna and Jack Torres (Second PC), Herman and Frances Santillanes (Cuba PC), Susan Keil Smith (moderator), Virginia Watkins (Las Placitas PC). Trip participants are always invited to participate in the Cuba Work Group, as interest and schedules allow.

There was no partner trip planned for 2020, since travel was restricted due to COVID-19.

Bryan and Jancie Beck, Bill Eklund, Howard Paul, Susan Keil Smith and Kathy Westmoreland represented the Presbytery of Santa Fe partnerships and Lane Leckman and Roger Scott Powers represented MNC at the Cuba Partners Network virtual gathering held on September 25-26, 2020.

The Presbytery of Santa Fe continues to affirm and support its partnership with the Synod of Cuba. Churches and groups in the Presbytery of Santa Fe with partner churches in Cuba include: Shepherd of the Valley (ABQ) with San Nicolas de Bari; First Presbyterian (Santa Fe) with Sagua la Grande; First Presbyterian (Cuba) & Las Placitas (Placitas) with Sabanilla; Rio Rancho Presbyterian with Caibarien; Jicarita Cluster/Westminster, Santa Fe with Placetas; Second PC (ABQ) with Central PC in Matanzas.

The Cuba Special Offering goal for 2020 was \$15,000. Since there were no face to face meetings or opportunities to share experiences with churches personally, an appeal from the Cuba Partners Network was sent to partners. Individuals and churches from the Presbytery of Santa Fe contributed a total of \$25,232 in support of the Synod of the Presbyterian Reformed Church of Cuba and to individual partner churches. Many thanks to the Cuba PC, FPC of Albuquerque, FPC of Santa Fe, FPC of Farmington, Las Placitas PC, Rio Rancho PC, Shepherd of the Valley PC and Westminster PC, Santa Fe. All the funds were sent through the Cuba Partners Network.

The Goals of the Cuba Work Group for 2020-21 will include: expansion/strengthening of partnerships. the Cuba Special Offering and a particular focus on advocacy. If you are interested in learning more about the advocacy efforts, please contact Susan Keil Smith at susankeil1246@gmail.com.

Interested persons may view segments of the Virtual Gathering on You Tube, using the following links: Please feel free to share our YouTube channel link (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5TnEdpLxCV0>), then click "Submit" button below....Thank you for your comments!

With peace, hope and gratitude on behalf of the Cuba Work Group,
Susan Keil Smith, coordinator.

LUTHERAN ADVOCACY MINISTRY NEW MEXICO



ELCA World Hunger
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

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Rocky Mountain Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-NM is called to advocate for justice in public policy, with a particular emphasis on alleviating poverty and hunger and supporting ELCA members, congregations, and ecumenical partners in the ministry of advocacy.

October, 2020

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-New Mexico (LAM-NM) is called to advocate for justice in public policy, with a particular emphasis on alleviating poverty and hunger and supporting ELCA members, congregations, and ecumenical partners in the ministry of advocacy.

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-NM represents the Rocky Mountain Synod-ELCA and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in our advocacy ministry.

Since the last LAM-NM report, long-time director Ruth Hoffman retired. Kurt Rager began service as director on 1 December 2019. 2020 continues to be a year of transition. Despite the dramatic limitations caused by the on-going COVID-19 pandemic, advocacy work continues through digital means such as online platforms. This includes both direct advocacy during the 2020 Special Session, legislative interim committee meetings, and in our participation and collaboration in a variety of state-wide coalitions that connect to our policy priorities.

Our work continues to include:

- Maintaining an active advocacy presence before the New Mexico state legislature both during the legislative session and in the time between sessions when issues are considered by interim legislative committees **(See 2020 Legislative Priority Summary below)**
- Interacting with and advocating before executive branch of government and particular departments and agencies that have jurisdiction over a variety of human needs programs
- Joining in coalition with other organizations to advocate on issues of mutual interest
- Working with the New Mexico Conference of Churches and the New Mexico Catholic Conference on issues of mutual interest
- Planning and hosting a fall advocacy conference spotlighting a number of issues on the Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-NM Advocacy Agenda and our Bishop's Legislative Luncheon & Issues Briefing during legislative sessions (a 2020 Fall Advocacy Conference is tentatively being planned using a digital platform and the 2021 Bishop's Legislative Luncheon/Issue Briefing format is TBD.)

- Encouraging ELCA and ecumenical partner congregations and in New Mexico and their members to become involved in advocacy activities
- Working in ecumenical partnership with the Presbytery of Santa Fe
- Communicating about the ministry of Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-NM through newsletters, our website, speaking opportunities, as well as through our Advocacy Network

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry-New Mexico



Rocky Mountain Synod
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

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Summary of 2020 Legislation relating to our Advocacy Agenda

Affordable Housing & Homelessness:

SB46 (Sen. Nancy Rodriguez) requested \$10 million for the State Housing Trust Fund which provides funding for affordable housing projects in our state.

✓ **\$1.2 million for the State Housing Trust Fund was appropriated.**

SB25 (Sen. Bill Tallman) would have provided outreach services to homeless Veterans.

SB25 passed Senate Public Affairs but was not heard in Senate Finance Committee, died.

SB 190 (Sen. Nancy Rodriguez) requested \$413,000 in matching funds for a youth homelessness demonstration program.

✓ **Though SB190 died in committee, the \$413,000 in matching funds was included in HB2, the General Appropriations Act of 2020.**

HB98 (Rep. Christine Trujillo, Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero and Rep. Melanie Stansbury) requested \$750,000 to support a state-wide outreach initiative for Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability Insurance to people experiencing homelessness who have a disability.

✓ **\$200,000 in new funding for the SOAR initiative to help homeless people access disability benefits.**

✓ **Additionally, \$4 million for new supportive housing through the state Linkages program and other state programs.**

Family-Sustaining Income:

HJR1 (Rep. Antonio Maestas & Rep. Javier Martinez) proposed a constitutional amendment asking voters to authorize an additional 1% of the income from the Land Grant Permanent Fund to be used for quality early childhood programs.

HJR1 passed the House Floor by a vote of 44-25, was amended and passed by the Senate Rules Committee, but never made it onto the Senate Rules Committee agenda.

Health Care:

LAM-NM advocates that the state Medicaid program be fully funded.

✓ **HB2, as enacted into law, included a \$56 million increase for Medicaid, though that was slightly less than the Human Services Department requested.**

HB100 (Rep. Deborah Armstrong and Rep. Micaela Cadena) sought to make technical changes to the Health Care Exchange Act that would ultimately decrease the number of New Mexicans living without medical insurance.

✓ **HB100 was passed by the House & Senate and has been signed by the Governor.**

HB83 (Rep. Doreen Gallegos and Sen. John Arthur Smith) proposed the creation of an Early Childhood Education & Care Fund with an initial injection of \$320 million. This legislation was prioritized by the Governor (over HJR1).

✓ **HB83 was passed by the House & Senate and has been signed by the Governor.**

HB278 (Rep. Debbie Armstrong, Rep. Javier Martinez and Rep. Elizabeth Thomson) proposed replacing an expiring federal premium surtax with a state-level premium surtax, with a portion of the new revenue going into a new Health Care Affordability Fund that would reduce the cost of health care for New Mexico residents.

HB273 passed the House, 41-25, and was referred to the Senate Finance Committee where it was not placed on the committee's agenda.

HB292 (Rep. Micaela Cadena and Sen. Daniel Ivey-Soto) proposed capping co-pays for insulin at a maximum of \$50 per month and establishing a commission to study other essential medications that may need similar caps.

✓ **HB292 was amended to reduce the insulin co-pay cap to \$25, was passed by the House & Senate and has been signed by the Governor.**

SB1 (Sen. Mary Kay Papen and Rep. Debbie Armstrong) proposed creating a wholesale prescription drug importation program in New Mexico, to purchase lower-priced prescription drugs from Canada and potentially other countries.

✓ **SB1 was passed by the House & Senate and has been signed by the Governor.**

Hunger:

HB10 (Rep. Melanie Stansbury and Rep. Willie Madrid) proposed eliminating reduced-priced copayments for all school breakfast and lunch programs. Doing so would eliminate co-pays for approximately 12,500 NM students who are in families at 185% of the federal poverty level.

✓HB10 was passed by the House & Senate and included a \$650,000 appropriation to the NM Public Education Department. HB10 has been signed by the Governor.

HB69 (Rep. Joanne Ferrary, Rep. Christine Trujillo and Rep. Melanie Stansbury) would have provided \$100,000 to the Higher Education Department to create a pilot program to reduce hunger among college students.

HB69 died in committee.

HB75 (Rep. Melanie Stansbury, Rep. Karen Bash, Rep. Joanne Ferrary and Rep. Rebecca Dow) proposed an appropriation of \$200,000 to the Human Services Department to convene a taskforce to do an assessment of hunger, malnutrition, and food production/distribution in New Mexico.

HB75 died in committee.

HB340 (Rep. Melanie Stansbury, Rep. Joanne Ferrary, Rep. Karen Bash, Rep. Christine Trujillo and Rep. Elizabeth Thomson) would have provided an emergency appropriation of \$500,000 to New Mexico food banks for the purchase of non-perishable foods.

HB 340 died in committee.

Tax Policy:

The failed tax policies of the last 15 years have shifted the burden to middle and low-income families. School funding was down dramatically, higher education was cut by 30%, \$400 million was cut from health care, behavioral health services have been dismantled; and unmet needs have been ignored. Oil & gas provide major resources but make New Mexico depend on a boom-and-bust cycle. We need more stable sources of revenue that are sustainable & provide enough revenue to meet the needs of our state, particularly the most vulnerable. LAM-NM supported proposals to make the personal income tax more progressive; increase the Working Families Tax Credit and the Low Income Comprehensive Tax Rebate; raise the corporate tax rates; and other provisions.

HB148 (Rep. Javier Martinez) proposed increasing the Working-Families Tax Credit (from 17% of the Federal EITC to 30% for families with a child under 6, and 20% for other families), and repealing the 40% capital gains tax deduction.

HB148 passed the House, 45-23, but died in the Senate.

Other:

SB4 (Sen. William Burt, Sen. Elizabeth Stefanics, Rep. Susan Herrera and Rep. Gail Armstrong) would provide an emergency appropriation of \$8 million to the Department of Finance and Administration to institute outreach efforts in order to achieve a complete count state-wide during the 2020 Census.

✓**SB4 was passed by the House & Senate and was signed by the Governor on 10 February 2020.**

2020 1st Special Session:

HB5 (Speaker Brian Egolf, Rep. Karen Bash and Sen. Gerald Ortiz y Pino) proposed creating a New Mexico Civil Rights Commission and in particular to make recommendations on the termination of qualified immunity. A report would be required by 15 November 2020.

✓**HB5 was amended and passed by the House & Senate and has been signed by the Governor.**

HB15 (Rep. Patricia Roybal Caballero, Rep. Javier Martinez and Sen. Linda Lopez) would require state agencies to develop and implement policies to address, reduce and prevent institutional racism.

HB15 was passed in committee but died on the floor. General consensus was that this legislation would be best addressed in the 2021 Legislative session.

SB4 (Sen. Daniel Ivey-Soto, Sen. Gabriel Ramos, Rep. Linda Trujillo, Rep. Wonda Johnson) would provide temporary procedures for conducting the 2020 General Election. Bill was written to deal with the pandemic and provisions would sunset on 31 December 2020. A provision to have all county clerks send absentee ballot applications directly to voters was removed, and instead, county clerks have the option to do so.

✓**SB4 was passed, as amended, by the House & Senate and has been signed by the Governor.**

YOUTH MINISTRY REPORT

I've always believed youth ministry is inherently relational, about the ways in which we walk alongside young people as we seek to recognize God walking alongside us in the journey of life. As with so many places in our lives, we have been challenged this year to develop and discover new ways to be in relationship when we can't physically be together.

Following Triennium last summer, we had a consistent monthly gathering going for churches in the presbytery, gathering for times of fellowship and relationship, including numerous churches in this collaborative ministry. Like so many things, this came to a quick halt in mid-April, and I have shifted my efforts to try to more directly support individual churches as they adapted to youth ministry in a COVID-19 world. In the past month, we've started having monthly support calls for youth leaders, offering space to share best practices and ideas for what is working for individual groups, as well as providing encouragement for one another as we navigate these difficult times. Soon we'll try our first "virtual" presbytery youth hangout via Zoom, offering space for connection across the presbytery. As always, we try to remain adaptable and aware of the unique needs of our many different churches.

Looking forward, we hold plans loosely, recognizing how our call to ministry may change as the world continues to change around us. We hope to continue offering large-group virtual opportunities over the coming months, provided they create meaningful space (and aren't just one more Zoom call for our youth to join). We also plan to pick up on our Doctrine of Discovery service learning trip next summer, but will only do so with full confidence in the safety of our participants.

A new and developing opportunity within the presbytery is a college-aged ministry group, continuing to engage with youth who have been connected with presbytery events over the past few years. Especially in our current COVID-19 world, these young adults in a period of transition are seeking community more than ever, and we are exploring ways to engage with that group, particularly following the leadership of those young adults as we discern how to move forward.

Please continue to pray for the young people of our presbytery, as they seek to process and find a new normal in a quickly changing world.

Submitted by Luke M. Rembold,

Presbytery of Santa Fe Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator

ALBUQUERQUE YOUNG ADULT VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

At last October's presbytery meeting, we commissioned 5 YAVs on behalf of the presbytery, challenging and blessing them for the year of service and growth ahead. Little did we know at that point just what they would be challenged with in the coming spring! While one of our ABQYAVs discerned in December 2019 that they would leave the program, our other four persevered through an incredibly challenging spring and finished the year out in July 2020.

The 2019 ABQYAV program year brought a lot of newness. We had three new partners, the New Mexico Wilderness Alliance, the Lutheran Family Services Refugee and Asylee program, and a shared position with New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light and Earthkeepers 360 (based out of FPC Santa Fe). We had also moved ABQYAV housing from Menaul School to a house owned by First Presbyterian Church ABQ, allowing YAVs to be in a neighborhood and create their own home space in a new way. While we always have a lot of learn in the midst of newness as we develop relationships and learn about our partners, it also reflects our ongoing growth and development as a program.

The 2019 ABQYAV program year was also unprecedented in terms of health challenges. Our year began three days in with a YAV being struck by a truck while on his bicycle, resulting in over a month of hospital and rehab stays before he was able to move into the YAV house. His recovery continued throughout the year. Another YAV had a brief emergency room visit for kidney stones. At the close of the year, a different YAV wiped out on their bicycle taking a turn on slippery roads during a monsoon. And all of this before we even start talking about the challenges of COVID-19.

While international YAVs were sent home in early April because of COVID-19, domestic YAVs had the choice whether to return home or to stay at site, and each of our four YAVs chose to stay in ABQ for the duration of their term of service. However, this wasn't always easy, as YAVs were spending even more time in close proximity to one another at the YAV house, and many of their opportunities for building relationships in the broader community and exploring New Mexico were limited at best. We are incredibly proud of the four ABQYAVs for their perseverance and dedication to finishing their time in ABQ.

Looking to the future, the in-person 2020-2021 YAV program year was cancelled by our Louisville office at the Presbyterian Mission Agency (a "virtual" YAV year is being offered by the Louisville office for interested young adults). Both the national program and our local ABQYAV board have chosen to use this time to evaluate our mission and

programming, and dedicate additional time to relationship-building with the community. Without YAVs on the ground, the work of the site coordinator will focus on an examination of our local programming, collaboration with the Louisville office on broader YAV program review, and preparation for what we hope will be a robust 2021-2022 program year.

I'm also excited to have additional opportunities to share with churches in this unique season of ABQYAV! Please reach out, whether for a minute for mission or sermon, or for a special virtual event for us to talk more about the ABQYAV program. As always, we are grateful for the incredible prayers and support of this presbytery.

Submitted by Luke M. Rembold, ABQYAV Site Coordinator, Presbytery of Santa Fe

MISSION NETWORKING COMMITTEE

MNC ANNUAL REPORT TO PRESBYTERY -- October 17, 2020

Rev. Roger Scott Powers, Chair (pastor.standrewabq@aol.com)

Mission Co-Worker Visit

Visit by Leisa Wagstaff, Mission Co-Worker in South Sudan, coordinated by Judy Crawford.

Quarterly Mission Chair Gatherings

The MNC began hosting quarterly Zoom gatherings of Mission Chairs and other interested persons from congregations across Santa Fe Presbytery. One was held on June 6 and another was held on September 10. The gatherings provide opportunities for sharing, networking, and learning from one another. Mission partnerships between congregations working in similar mission areas are encouraged where mutually beneficial.

2020 MNC Expenditures

As of October 6, the Mission Networking Committee has supported the Presbytery's Cuba Partnership with \$400 and donated \$1,300 in support of COVID Relief in Native Communities, as follows:

\$400 Black Mountain Mission

\$400 Chinle Trinity Presbyterian

\$400 Laguna United Presbyterian

\$100 Notah Begay III Foundation Covid 19 Relief Fund

Synod of the Southwest Native American Relief Project

In response to the letter from the Native American Ministries Coordinating Committee of the Synod of the Southwest requesting financial support for its Native American Relief Project, the MNC voted to recommend to CT that \$10,000 be donated from Santa Fe Presbytery's portion of the Peace & Global Witness Offering (Fund 2077; current balance: \$20,545). Given the amount of money, CT referred this to the October meeting of Presbytery for a floor vote.

Family-to-Family Fund

As of October 6, the presbytery has distributed \$18,820.76 among 43 households in need. The fund's current balance is almost \$24,500.

PC(USA) Matthew 25 Initiative

Seven congregations in our presbytery and the ABQ YAV Site have now joined our denomination's Matthew 25 Initiative:

- St. Andrew Presbyterian Church (Albuquerque)
- Second Presbyterian Church (Albuquerque)
- First Presbyterian Church (Farmington)
- First United Presbyterian Church (Las Vegas)
- First Presbyterian Church of Santa Fe
- Westminster Presbyterian Church (Santa Fe)
- White Rock Presbyterian Church
- Albuquerque YAV Site

Earth Care Congregations

Four congregations in our presbytery have become Earth Care Congregations:

- First Presbyterian Church | Albuquerque, NM
- La Mesa Presbyterian Church | Albuquerque, NM
- Las Placitas Presbyterian Church | Corrales, NM
- New Life Presbyterian Church | Albuquerque, NM

EDUCATION NETWORKING COMMITTEE

The Education Networking Committee met twice since October of 2019: November 7, 2019 and January 9, 2020.

Committee member Olga Joyce completed her term of service at the end of December. Committee members for 2020 are: Teaching Elders Kay Johnson, Asher Dean, and Lou Knowles; Ruling Elders Louann Johnson, Jennifer Holmes, Tanya Blankinship, John Emerson, and Art Romero, and Susie Chang; and the Presbytery's Youth and Young Adult Ministry Coordinator Luke Rembold, and Administrator/Associate Stated Clerk Tiffany Lo-Finch. Louann Johnson and Tanya Blankinship served as Co-Chairs in 2019 and 2020. At the January 2020, meeting Teaching Elder Kay Johnson resigned from ENC to serve on other Presbytery committees.

Before the March 2020 meeting was held, a public health stay at home order was issued for the state of New Mexico due to the Coronavirus pandemic, so meetings could not be held in March or May.

In June the Review of Presbytery Design Task Force recommended that each networking committee have just 3 committee members going forward. Tanya Blankinship and Louann Johnson agreed to stay on the committee, with the third position vacant.

The ENC is sponsoring an educational Zoom course October 8 – November 19 on Anti-Racism and Privilege. The class will feature a different guest speaker each week who can provide both personal testimony, data and understanding of systemic conditions, and suggest ways in which we can do something about them.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lou Ann Johnson and Tanya Blankinship, Co-Chairs

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The Personnel Committee has met with each member of the staff of the Presbytery and begun evaluations of the position descriptions. Based on the proposed recommendations from the Task Force, the committee will continue to assess the needs for support within the context of the work necessary to assist the Administrator and support her role.

At this time, the committee has affirmed the work that is being done by the part time staff: Administrative Assistant: Marie Elena Miller, Stated Clerk: Stephen Rhoades, Associate for the Commission on Ministry: Bill Humphries, Financial Assistant: Chad Poole, Communications Coordinator: Claire Lewis and Chaplain: Takako Terino.

The committee also wants to affirm the work of the full time staff, Administrator: Tiffany Lo-Finch and Young Adult Volunteer Coordinator: Luke Rembold. Luke's work include quarter time working with youth and young adults within the Presbytery of Santa Fe.

Committee members include: Randy Campbell, Nelson Capitan, Jan Micali, Toby Montoya, Susan Keil Smith and Judith Todd. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve in this capacity as our work contributes to the vitality of the presbytery.

Submitted by Susan Keil Smith

NECROLOGY REPORT

Presbytery of Santa Fe October 2020

Teaching Elders	Date Ordained	Date of Death
Rev. James Anderson	May 15, 1954	November 15, 2019
Rev. Richard Avery	January 3, 1960	March 15, 2020
Rev. Robert Craig	September 28, 1979	October 19, 2019
Rev. Peter Frazier-Koontz	November 29, 1968	September 11, 2020
Rev. Earl Harvey	June 1, 1952	April 2, 2020

Ruling Elders	Date Ordained	Date of Death
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Albuquerque, Covenant

William Burk	January 9, 1985	March 15, 2020
Gerry Freyermuth	March 20, 1977	August 24, 2020

Albuquerque, First

Caroline Beaumont		Sept 22, 2020
Edward Beaumont		May 1, 2020
Jean Bridges		October 29, 2019
Norman Brown		April 16, 2020
Harry Drake		August 22, 2020
Marshall Farris		June 20, 2020
Gretchen Gardner		February 15, 2020
Kay Sisk		February 10, 2020

Albuquerque, Immanuel

Vonceil Clark		August 10, 2020
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Albuquerque, Rio Grande

Bill Edwards		September 24, 2019
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Albuquerque, Second

David Aaron Lopez	February 7, 2010	March 29, 2020
Eva (Pacheco) Ortega	January 11, 1998	May 2, 2020
Avenago F. Padilla	December 12, 1982	October 7, 2019
Elifas Santillanes	June 23, 1946	July 22, 2020

Farmington, First

Barbara Gille	January 13, 1974	May 7, 2020
Ray Marley	1987	October 4, 2019

Los Alamos, White Rock

Irene Davis Dillinger		August 16, 2019
Vernon Kerr		May 28, 2020

Ranchos, Ranchos de Taos

Cathy Valerio Amador	March 13, 1977	November 19, 2019
Edward G. Grant Jr.	January 21, 1990	August 31, 2019
Bertha Romero	January 28, 1996	January 24, 2020
Eloy O Valerio	April 4, 1960	November 2, 2019

Rio Rancho

Jean Olsen	1993	February 9, 2019
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Santa Fe, First

Roger Copple		June 13, 2020
Freda Elliot	1995	January 1, 2020
James Moore		April 20, 2020
Charles A. Schenck		December 18, 2018
Charles Stringfellow		November 15, 2019

Santa Fe, Westminster

John Singleton	1973	February 3, 2020
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If you know of an elder or minister that was not included on this list, please let Stephen Rhoades, States Clerk, know.