



White Rock Presbyterian Church

Overlook

An informative newsletter published by the White Rock Presbyterian Church

February 2015

From the Pastor's Desk



Your Service Ministry

The 2014 Annual Report of our church is now printed and available, for those who have not yet picked up a copy. The Annual Report provides a snapshot of one year in the life of our church. This year's edition provides a remarkable view of the activity of White Rock Presbyterian Church during the year just passed. For all of you who wrote a report of your particular ministry for the report, thank you. There are some very gifted writers among our saints.

I was particularly struck by Rod McCabe's report on the work of the Service Ministry of our church last year. It became clear to me that in the process of carrying out this ministry, oriented toward those outside the walls of our buildings, we lose track of all that God is doing through us. In this month's column from the pastor I would like to briefly summarize what Rod provided for the Annual Report. Here are some of the more significant Service Ministry accomplishments of 2014—what the Holy Spirit was doing in and through you last year.

- ☼ The Rummage Sale, which garnered \$2,700 for LA Cares, the Women's Crisis Center of Northern New Mexico, and the Navajo House of Fellowship

- ☼ House construction by a group (October 11-12) and by individuals on the Navajo Reservation near Gallup
- ☼ Firewood deliveries, quilt deliveries, tool lending, and Christmas boxes for Navajo friends
- ☼ Scholarship support through the Julie's Helpers Fund for young Navajo women attending college
- ☼ Strengthening the bonds of Christian love and community through all of these exchanges with Navajo sisters and brothers
- ☼ Operation Christmas Child 2014, which yielded more than 220 boxes of toiletry items, school supplies, clothing, and toys for children in need overseas
- ☼ Financial support for various local, regional, national, and international ministries: mission support for the Presbyterian Church (USA), the PCUSA One Great Hour of Sharing and Christmas Joy offerings, Leith and Carol Fujii in Thailand, John and Jenny Heaton in Tajikistan, the Café Justo coffee ministry, regional PCUSA ministries like the Jicarita Cluster, Young Life Los Alamos, LA Cares, and others

You will find more details on all of these efforts in the 2014 Annual Report, Service Ministry section. We are not a large church, but God is doing some astounding things through us as we carry out ministries of care and compassion in Christ's name.

Peace and joy,
Pastor John

WRPC Prayer Group

WRPC Contact Information

White Rock Presbyterian Church is located at 310 Rover Boulevard, Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544. The pastor, Rev. John Guthrie, can be reached at 505-709-8207 or by email at jguthrie@wrpchurch.com. Our church office administrator, Gillian Erickson, can be contacted at the church office (672-3682) Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm. You may email her anytime at officemanager@wrpchurch.com.

The WRPC Prayer Group meets weekly on Mondays at 7:00 PM, either at the home of Irene Davis-Dellinger or Ken and Jennifer Holmes. Everyone is welcome to join the group, which prays for personal, church, local, national, and international events and figures.

If it is difficult for you to join the group on Mondays, remember that you are encouraged to set aside some time around 7:00 PM on those evenings to pray with the group, even though you are physically separated from the group. You may want to use the weekly prayer request bulletin insert as a guide for some of your prayers.

Sunday School

Everyone is invited to join in the study of *The Acts of the Apostles*, which is currently underway. The class meets at 11:00 AM nearly every Sunday for one hour. Pastor John provides background and perspective on each week's reading for about half the hour, and the other half is devoted to class discussion and questions.

Acts describes the work of the Holy Spirit in the church in the years following the resurrection and ascension of Christ. It was written to encourage the saints living in about 80 AD or so, and its application to our life together is still as strong as it was when Luke wrote it for that community. Everyone is welcome; come and see what the Holy Spirit has done, and is doing, in the life of the church.

Pastor John

Journeys in Faith

The Journeys in Faith study group continues its weekly Thursday evening meetings, 7:30 PM at the home of Bob and Selma Reinovsky. The group is currently reading and discussing *The Panda's Thumb: More Reflections on Natural History*, by noted biologist and natural historian Stephen J. Gould. Everyone is welcome! Please see or call Bob or Selma for more information.

* * * * *

February is the most misspelled of all the months.

PW News

The women of the church offer two opportunities to pursue Bible study and all women are invited to participate.

The first is the weekly Women's Bible Study Group, which recently finished a study on some of the Minor Prophets—Ezra, Haggai and Zechariah. They used a book by Warren Weirsbe entitled, *Be Heroic*. They have just started a new study using a book by John MacArthur entitled, *Twelve Extraordinary Women—How God shaped women of the Bible and what He wants to do with you*. They will be studying Eve, Sarah, Rahab, Ruth, Hannah, Mary (mother of Jesus), Anna, the Samaritan woman, Martha and Mary, Mary Magdalene, and Lydia.

The Women's Bible Study Group tries to meet weekly on Monday afternoons at 1:30 in one of their homes, but they allow flexibility when needed to accommodate their busy schedules. Other women are welcome to join in. It is a great group for studying God's Word, enjoying and deepening fellowship together, and for prayer support. Contact Mary Medendorp for further information on exact meeting times and places.

The second opportunity for Bible study is the Presbyterian Women's Bible Study, which is regularly scheduled for the third Thursday of the month, at 10:00 am, in the church parlor. In February that will be on the 19th. The group is sharing the book, *The Woman Who Named God* (chapters 15 and 16).

The women are planning to package Easter cookies made for the Crisis Center.

Feel welcome to join us. For more information, please talk with Joyce Berzins or Mary Medendorp.

Selma Reinovsky

Go Paperless! Save a stamp! If you would like to receive your copy of the Overlook electronically rather than through the mail, just let our WRPC Office Manager know and make sure she has your correct e-mail address. We'll send you a PDF file at the beginning of the month. You'll get your Overlook quicker and it will be in glorious color as well.

Save the Date!

Valentine's Day Dinner

The entire WRPC family is invited to a Valentine's Day Potluck Dinner hosted by the Fellowship Ministry Committee on Saturday, February 7, beginning at 6:00 PM in Memorial Hall. Please bring a dish to share, and come for amazing food and fellowship!

Worship with the Santa Fe Korean Presbyterian Fellowship

Join us for worship on Sunday, February 8, with our Korean-American sisters and brothers. Note that the worship time will change to 10:30 AM to better accommodate both churches. We will worship with parts of the service in Korean and parts in English, and we will celebrate the Lord's Supper together. Come join us as we celebrate the unity of the church with Christ as our Head.

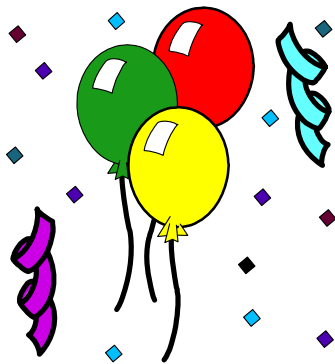
Ecumenical Lenten Series

For a number of years several Los Alamos churches have joined together during the season of Lent to offer weekly gatherings for food, spiritual growth, and worship. The tradition continues in 2015, and the sponsoring churches are eager to include White Rock Presbyterian Church. Other participating churches include Bethlehem Lutheran, First United Methodist, Trinity on the Hill Episcopal, and The United Church.

The Lenten gatherings will happen every Thursday evening from February 26 through March 26, meeting at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. Each evening consists of a simple soup and bread supper, a number of classes offering growth in discipleship, and worship. Dinner begins at 6:00 PM and worship ends about 8:00 PM. You are welcome to come for any or all of the evening events. Each week is independent, so you may come for as many Thursday evenings as your schedule allows.

This year the theme of the Lenten series is "Building the Beloved Community," focusing on God's love for us in Christ, and our mutual love for each other in Christ. I encourage you to participate in this unique opportunity for fellowship, study, and worship with Christian brothers and sisters from several churches during the Season of Lent. I participated last year, and the experience was very much worthwhile, on several levels. Please ask me if you have questions.

February Birthdays



Don Burns	5
Anthony Haven	7
Mary Medendorp	7
Carol Honig	11
Frances Naffziger	15
Joyce Berzins	25
Susan Buxton	25
Bob Reinovsky	27
Jeff Goettee	28

Ash Wednesday Worship

The traditional observation of Ash Wednesday for White Rock Presbyterian Church is set for Wednesday, February 18, at 7:30 PM. The solemn service includes prayer, scripture, singing, a brief sermon, and the imposition of ashes on the foreheads of those wishing to receive this traditional mark of penitence. Come and worship the God of mercy as we begin the Lenten journey for 2015.

Pastor John

inseparable connection between our spiritual lives and how we handle money. The increase in financial giving at WRPC, coupled with the increase of time volunteering in church projects, events, and mission in 2014 might indicate a spiritual transformation at work in our lives. It certainly indicates a willingness to support the efforts of our new pastor toward revitalization of our church and growth of our congregation.

Susan Buxton
(from the 2014 Annual Report)

Music Director Search

The Worship Ministry Committee continues its search for a Music Director or Worship Accompanist. Matt Hanson, who has accompanied us for several recent Sundays, is a prospective candidate for the position. Matt remains under consideration, but no hiring decision has yet been made. Questions and recommendations may be directed to any member of the committee (Selma Reinovsky, Bob Reinovsky, Joyce Haven, Craig Kelley, or John Guthrie).

Pastor John

Important Contacts

Pastor/Session Moderator:

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Treasury Notes

If I had to pick one attribute to describe our church life in 2014, it would be the generosity of giving of time and of money. For those interested in statistics, the average financial giving has been significantly increasing over the last few years. In 2013 the average pledge was \$4,444, in 2014 it was \$5,015, and for 2015 it will be \$5,282. This increase in pledging is amazing in itself, given our small pool of givers. But the astounding figure to me is the second-mile giving in 2014. We received \$60,271 from more than 27 giving units for our non-budget Designated Fund accounts, such as Buildings & Grounds, Carpet, Furnishings, Julie's Helpers, One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, Christmas Joy Offering, Navajo Mission, the Rummage Sale, and other fund accounts. The majority of this second-mile giving was from those who already regularly gave to the church for general operating costs.

One of my favorite Bible verses is from Matthew 6:21, "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." This has been cited as the biblical basis for the

*Freezing
cold winds,
biting chills, and
white snow fluffed hills
Valentines day, oh how gay!
presidents' day is coming our way.
February, sweet and small, greatest month of all.*

Eric Lies, 28 Word Poem for February

Meet Eric and Becky Hinderliter

Eric and Becky are Mission co-workers in Lithuania where they have been serving at the Lithuanian Christian Church (LCC) International University in Klaipėda, Lithuania since 2001.



LCC was founded by Lithuanian Christians, Canadian, and US foundations as an English language institute in the wake the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe.

Today LCC is a fully accredited liberal arts school with a distinct Christian emphasis. It seeks to prepare students for leadership in the post-Soviet region. For its first 10 years LCC served primarily Lithuania. Starting in 2004, LCC broadened its reach to post-Soviet countries to the east. About half the students now come from Albania, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Moldova, Russia, and Ukraine. At LCC, Eric teaches economics, sociology, and theology. Becky teaches accounting.

Unlike most mission assignments that focus on a specific ethnic group or a specific country, LCC is international. Seven languages are spoken in LLC, with Russian as the first language. The students' faith backgrounds are also diverse. Students from Lithuania and western Ukraine tend to be Catholic, while those from Russia and Belarus are mostly Orthodox. The faculty comes from Lithuania, Latvia, Canada, the United States, and several other countries. With the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, the door opened for Christian missions in this formerly closed region. Enjoying that openness, LLC strives to strengthen civil society and the church. The formerly Soviet countries all instituted market economies, although there is now some movement toward more authoritarian, state-controlled economies. The gap between the rich and poor has widened dramatically since 1991. Ethnic and nationalist tensions, repressed in the Soviet times, have exploded. The newly independent states need ethical leaders who understand how to develop democratic political traditions and foster the rebirth of civil society. Further, the church needs faithful, biblically grounded leaders with a concern for reconciliation, tolerance, and social justice, and LCC seeks to help fill these needs. Not all LCC students are Christians, so LCC strives to help them experience what a faithful Christian life might be like. They are invited to

consider the call to faith and to examine their own worldviews in light of the gospel.

Eric and Becky Hinderliter seek to teach through their words and their actions. "We hope we teach more than the subjects from the college catalog," Becky says. "We hope our students catch something more, something about how to live a life one values, how one relates to others, and how one contributes to the common good." Eric notes, "We also hope that students get a glimpse of what the Christian life might look like. We hope we teach the truth."

Eric and Becky focus on building relationships as a key part of the teaching and learning process. Their students often ask them how long they plan to stay at LCC. "They are really asking, 'Are you going to be here long enough to make a worthwhile relationship possible?'" Becky says, "Students long for authentic relationships with authentic and trustworthy adults."

The Hinderlitters say they have been blessed by the visits from U.S. Presbyterians who have come to Lithuania to teach, to work, and to visit with them in Klaipėda. They also enjoy visits from former students who share their stories of marriage and family, job success, and church involvement. Their students often credit their LCC education with shaping their values and helping them discern their vocations.

Prior to their mission service Eric served in leadership roles for several nonprofits and local governments, and Becky was an administrator in a state agency in Pennsylvania. They are members of Pine Street Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. There they discerned a call into cross-cultural service. A visit to the South India Institute for Advanced Christian Studies in Bangalore in 2000 confirmed their sense of call to mission service as teachers. While visiting the school, they were struck by the words of Psalm 118:23 that were carved on a large stone at the school's entrance: "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes." This verse continues to be a watchword of their life and ministry.

The Hinderlitters bring to LCC academic credentials that serve their students well and that help LCC maintain accreditation. Eric earned a bachelor's degree at Allegheny College in Pennsylvania, and master's and doctoral degrees from Brown University. He earned a master's degree in faith-based development from Eastern College. Becky received a bachelor's degree and an M.B.A. from Lebanon Valley College in Pennsylvania.

February 2015

Office hours: T, W, Th, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm +++ 672-3682, officemanager@wrpchurch.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:15 AM Worship with the Lord's Supper 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:00 AM Bible Study 12:00 PM "Out-to-Lunch Bunch"	2 7:00 PM Prayer Group	3	4 12:00 PM WRPW Luncheon	5 7:30 PM Journeys in Faith Dialogue	6 6:30 AM PM in the AM	7 6:00 PM Valentine's Day Dinner (Memorial Hall)
8 11:00 AM Worship with Santa Fe Korean Fellowship, including celebration of the Lord's Supper	9 7:00 PM Prayer Group	10 7:30 PM Worship Ministry Team Meeting	11	12 7:30 PM Journeys in Faith Dialogue	13 6:30 AM PM in the AM	14
15 9:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:00 AM Bible Study 12:00 PM Session	16 7:00 PM Prayer Group <i>Presidents' Day</i>	17	18 7:30 PM Ash Wednesday Worship Service	19 10:00 AM PW Circle 7:30 PM Journeys in Faith Dialogue	20 6:30 AM PM in the AM Presbytery Meeting, Albuquerque	21
22 9:15 AM Worship 10:30 AM Coffee Fellowship 11:00 AM Bible Study <i>1st Sunday in Lent</i>	23 7:00 PM Prayer Group	24	25	26 7:30 PM Journeys in Faith Dialogue	27 6:30 AM PM in the AM	28

Jan 2015						
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