

We welcome all to join in prayer...

♥ We continue to pray for our sister church in El Salvador, Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel.

9:30 a.m. Preschool
12:00 p.m. Red Cross Blood Drive | FLC (Appointment Only)
5:00 p.m. Gun Violence Prevention Meeting | Chapel
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Practice

"Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time" by Marcus Borg



Time & Talent

DIAPER DRIVE

Jennifer and Sebastian Carrillo Cely are expecting a baby this month!

Let's shower them with diapers! Their nursery is ready, but disposable diapers are always appreciated. Please bring your gift of diapers to the round table in the narthex anytime during the month of October.

All sizes are needed!

A note from your Church Kitchen Coordinator, Rachel Gross...

Over the next several weeks, I will be doing some cleaning and rearranging in the kitchen and pantry. You will see temporary labels on the cupboards where items have been relocated.

Thanks for your patience while I try some new arrangements. Feedback is welcome – email me at

raq144@earthlink.net or catch me on Sunday morning!



Executive Board Update

October 16 Meeting

Lila Hammer, Executive Board Chair

EXECUTIVE BOARD UPDATE

Reports: Treasurer Katherine Haff presented end-of-September **financial information**; our spending continues to exceed contributions. At the third quarter point, our expenditures are running at 71.8% of the approved 2024 budget. The second **2024 Sing Me Home Festival** Joe Riley artist in residence events will be held at the NM Public Library and the Firehouse on Oct. 19, and Joe will participate in worship on Oct. 20. **Commission chairs** announced new members for 2025; Nurture, Jack Fisher; PMPC, Chuck Bell; Property, Jody Sarber & Steve Hammer (both continuing terms). Lila Hammer reported that the MCOB joined the **Apache Stronghold vs. U.S.** amicus brief along with 84 other religious and secular organizations. The brief was filed with the US Supreme Court on October 15.

Business items: A request from PMPC to use Ministerial Education funds to pay **credentialing renewal fees** for ordained ministers in our congregation was approved. Lists of **potential candidates** for openings on the Fellowship and Stewardship commissions were approved. Approved Nov. 24 as **Stewardship Sunday** and Dec. 1 for the **4th Quarter Special Offering**. Witness Commission was approved to provide the opportunity for members/friends to sign a **petition** to commute the death sentence of Joseph Corcoran. A request from the **Wilt Gift Committee** to hold informational meetings and ask for congregational interest in being involved in some aspect of an immigration program was approved.

Envisioning Our Future: Greg Laszakovits joined the Board for a 40-minute Zoom conversation about his work with a variety of COB congregations through GDL Insight - his coaching and consulting agency. Since completing his M.Div. from Bethany Seminary, Greg has served in the COB General Office and several churches, including 15 yrs. as lead pastor at Elizabethtown COB (VA). Greg describes his approach this way: *"The Aligning with God's Purpose Review and*

Recommendation Process is designed to help congregations understand and analyze their current state of ministry in the context of an ever-changing, post-COVID world. The goal is to create stronger and more focused congregations that know who they are, know how they are gifted by God, and know how to use those gifts to serve the world."

After the Zoom call ended, the Board **approved a motion** to "secure GDL Insight to the Manchester Church of the Brethren congregation in an Envisioning Our Future process using money from Estate Funds (3295) to cover all costs associated with this process." Further discussion included the need for some directions/outcome goals to share with Greg prior to his initial visit. And, the importance of differentiating the process Greg will lead from the "Wild Hopes and Dreams" process. Information from the "Wild Hopes and Dreams" and Congregational Survey will be shared with Greg to help him learn about our congregation. Dates for Greg's initial visit will be investigated.



Next week the Women's Book Group will begin a new book, "Women Who Run with the Wolves". Please read the intro and section 1. Contact Pastor Amy if you'd like to join!

Theme: Worship



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3

Junior High Sunday

(Love Feast led by youth)

"Walk with me

and work with me"

Text: Matthew 11:28-30 NRSV

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Jim Chinworth preaching

"Everything we have...everything?"

Theme: Jesus calls into question the motivation of certain scribes who abuse their positions...

Text: Mark 12:38-44



"The Things We Keep"

...and the stories behind them



Please join the Fellowship Commission

Sunday, November 10th at 6:30pm in the Narthex

for an evening of storytelling.

This event is a way to get to know the people we call 'our church'.

In this era of downsizing, simplifying and 'Marie Kondo-ing' we often give things away to clear spaces...but there is always something (or many things!) that hold significant meaning in our lives...the things we keep! You are invited to bring an item that has meaning in your life...it could be an object from your grandparents, parents, your own childhood, your college years, your family or your travels. We will each take a few minutes to share the story behind the item and learn a little more about each other.



OCTOBER 26, 2024

Event: **Peace Plaque Dedication**

Time: **2pm**

Location: **Muir Peace Garden**

Description: *Join us for our annual Peace Studies Plaque Dedication. Enjoy refreshments, the company of the peace studies community, and a presentation about this year's honoree, Fred Rogers.*



In January we will be launching the planning for June 8 Vacation Bible School. We are hoping you will take some time this fall to think about how you'll add to the day of good fun and faith formation. Will you help make the lunch, be a marketplace artisan, offer crafts, lead games, provide music, be a storyteller, offer your presence as an assistant, take a background support role?

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

4-8PM FREE! ALL AGES!

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