

Peralta Memorial United Methodist Church

25 Wesley Rd -- Peralta, NM 87042 Telephone: 505-865-9334

Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 am-3:00 pm Website: www.peraltamethodist.org Church e-mail: pmumc@peraltamethodist.org



We Serve Christ So All Will Follow Him

THANK YOU

A couple weeks ago I had coffee with Rev. Joe MacDonald, the pastor of Rio Rancho United Methodist Church. In a "former life" we were both musicians. I taught middle school chorus and then worked in the music industry. Joe taught high school chorus for many years in the Houston, Texas area. As we shared stories and talked together we both came to the conclusion that for us, being pastors is far more fulfilling and enjoyable than teaching music (or working in the music industry) ever was.

Being a pastor is truly rich work; we are present for the highest highs and the lowest lows. We are privileged to be part of births, deaths, and all the celebrations and struggles of life between the cradle and grave. We get to point people to God. We get to teach about Jesus. We study the Bible, the living Word of God, and we wrestle spiritually each day.

Recently I have had many God moments when God has totally made me laugh, foiling my plans and showing me just how wrong even I, a pastor, can be. The good news is God does indeed work all things for good. Over and over again, God is showing me it is not what I will but what God wills that matters. I am simply the instrument. God makes it happen.

This past weekend I traveled to Roswell where I taught a class about church leadership to our up-and-coming Certified Lay Ministers in the New Mexico Conference. (Certified Lay Ministers are church leaders who take a year-long course of study, one weekend each month. Upon completion of the course, Certified Lay Ministers will be qualified to serve in significant leadership roles such as preaching, teaching, administration, and evangelism in churches throughout the conference.) As I taught the course, I realized how much about church leadership all of you have taught me. I have learned about relationships, spiritual growth, perseverance, and the movement of the Holy Spirit here at Peralta.

I must say thank you for allowing me to be the pastor of this amazing church. My joy in this role is beyond words. Thank you to our amazing staff. Thank you to all who volunteer and serve in our community. Thank you to so many for your willingness to take risks for God and reach out. I do my best, but I know I am far from perfect and sometimes I let people down. What joy it is to share in God's work with all of you.

From my heart – thank you. I am so excited to see what God will do next here.



GRACIOUS GOD, My love for you grows daily.

Whenever I witness an act of kindness or receive an unexpected gift, I am reminded of your expansive heart.



Even during times of duress, or sadness, or of heartache, I take comfort in knowing that nothing can separate me from your love.

Let this love in me blossom and flower so that I reflect your compassion and mercy in all that I say and do.

In gratitude and grace, I pray.

Amen

Please be in prayer for each of these on our continuing prayer list. If you know of anyone else who needs to be added, please call Ruth at 869-4842 or the church office, 865-9334.

Randy Ward Pastor David & Family Valencia County Abundant Grace Free Store Marj West Lynn Schultz Erma Ward Mike Heppler Cheryl Huber Karel & Martha Pekarek Don & Peggy Gleichman Sharon Ramirez **Dorothy Marta Conrad Joseph Hughes-Faganello Cure for Cancer** J'Amy Creel **Eva Timmons** Jim Kubisak Janette Baughman 5 year old Diego Jim & Melba Derossett Nate Meyer Joleen Baughman Karen Fastnacht USA Leaders **Larry Huff** Michael Garrison **Our Freedom** Richard & Linda Darnell Lori Buvinghausen **All Caregivers** Anne Cassidy-Vigil All military & their families **Beth & Dennie Miller Pauline Taylor** Mike Romero **Chris Knox** Bill Lynch **Debbie Hester-Rael USA Leaders**



Crafty Ladies meet on the first Tuesday and Wednesday of each month from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm in Fellowship Hall – our next meeting days are February 7th and 8th.

Congregation... you know we often ask for donations — well, get this!!! We desperately need your empty chip or candy bags (the kind with the protective lining that keeps the product fresh, ---any size bag will do as long as it has the lining). — so eat up on junk food!!

For this project, we also need zippers – any size!! *Now doesn't this make you curious enough to come and see what it is we are up to???* We welcome you!

On the more common side: we are also in need of pretty tea cups and saucers – and both 8 and 10 oz. jelly jars (or please return the empty jars from last year's Bazaar).

Please Contact: Lois Meadors at 865-6791, Kelley Green at 865-6975 or the church office if you need more information.

Hymn History

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus-1875

"For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 8:38-39



Few hymns paint such a vivid picture of God's love as this one by Samuel Trevor Francis: "...vast, unmeasured, boundless free;/Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me./Underneath me, all around me, is the current of Thy love..." It helps us visualize the immensity of Christ's liquid-love, overwhelming and submerging us in the depths of His tender, triumphant heart.

Samuel was born on November 19, 1834, in a village north of London, but his parents soon moved to the city of Hull midway up the English coast. His father was an artist. As a child, Samuel enjoyed poetry and even compiled a little handwritten volume of his own poetry. He also developed a passion for music, joining the church choir at age nine. But as a teenager, he struggled spiritually, and when he moved to London to work, he knew things weren't right in his heart.

One day, as he later wrote, "I was on my way home from work and had to cross Hungerford Bridge to the south of the Thames. During the winter's night of wind and rain and in the loneliness of that walk, I cried to God to have mercy on me. I stayed for a moment to look at the dark waters flowing under the bridge, and the temptation was whispered to me: 'Make an end of all this misery.' I drew back from the evil thought, and suddenly a message was borne into my very soul: 'You do believe in the Lord Jesus Christ?' I at once answered, 'I do believe,' and I put my whole trust in Him as my Savior."

Francis went on to become a London merchant, but his real passion was kingdom work-especially hymn writing and open-air preaching-which occupied his remaining 73 years. He traveled widely and preached around the world for the Plymouth Brethren. He died on December 28, 1925, and age 92.

EBENEZER, the ponderous, rolling melody for this hymn, is traditionally called "*Ton-Y-Botel*" ("Tune in a Bottle") because of a legend that it was found in a bottle along the Welsh Coast. It was actually composed by Thomas J. Williams and first appeared as a hymn tune in 1890 in a Welsh hymnal entitled *Llawlyfn Moliant*.

(Story taken from $\underline{\text{Then Sings My Soul}}$, by Robert J. Morgan.)

BARNABAS WRITING MINISTRY

This ministry of care, support and encouragement began at a Methodist Church in Slidell, Louisiana in 2009. Peralta Methodist is now beginning this same ministry to reach out to those who are healing, have suffered a loss, are sick, etc – and let them know they are cared for, being prayed for, supported and encouraged.

The name Barnabas means "Son of Encouragement". Throughout the New Testament, Barnabas is credited for having encouraged numerous men and women in the faith. By becoming a "Barnabas Writer" — you will prayerfully (and anonymously) write hand written notes of encouragement, comfort, hope and strength to those facing a time of crisis, loss, grief or illness.... 'to help ease the pain of another in the name of Jesus Christ.'

If you would like to participate as a writer in the Barnabas Writing Ministry, please call or e-mail Kaye Groves at 865-9163 or ladyrv2013@yahoo.com.



February 2 – Pauline Taylor February 9 - Courtney Smith February 11 - Matt Atencio February 13 – Jay Smith, Jr. February 14 - Tom Broekstra February 14 - Dorothy York February 14 - Rebeka Knowlton February 15 - Marian Hardy February 15 - Danielle Meyer February 16 - Linda Darnell February 16 - Shauna Parker February 17 - Roberta de la Rosa February 17 - Jeremy Smith February 18 - Helen Thompson February 20 - Trent Green February 25 - Mike Romero February 26 - Bobby Green February 27 - Wendy Honeyfield February 27 - Maxine Welsh February 27 - Amy Valigura February 27 - Jess Davis February 28 – Judy Carson



February 14 – Larry & Melodie Huff February 16 – Walter and Peggy Shoemaker (60th) February 16 – Gustavo & Renee Garcia



The 5th annual "Super Bowl" fundraiser to support Vacation Bible School will be held on Sunday, February 5th between worship services and at 12 noon.

Your help for this event is needed – PLEASE!

If you can donate a snack or baked item, it would be greatly appreciated. Just bring it with you on the 5th.

And of course we'd like to invite everyone to stop by and purchase a goodie to eat while watching the 'big' game – (or a good movie).

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for June 19-23, 2017.

AfterShock - Youth Group

"Turning the hearts of youth and families to God and each other"

Light Night, not just for youth but for anyone who desires encouragement and the chance to hear from our Lord, will take place the 3rd Sunday of each month in the Sanctuary from 7pm to 8pm. Come join us to feel God's presence and tuck His word deep within your heart.

• Upcoming youth camps: Conference Council for Youth Ministries (CCYM) for High School students, and Rhythm of Christ (ROC) for mid-high students will be held at Sacramento Methodist Assembly and conference Center March 3-5. We are planning on taking those youths who wish to participate for a wonder filled time with youth from around the conference. These camps are separate but at the same time, and I believe our worship time will be co-joined. Please let Marlow know ASAP if your student will be attending. We are planning on the Aftershock youth group to fund this event, thanks to the generous support of PMUMC and God's people.

Why Aftershock? Matthew 27: 45-54 The Death of Jesus

At the moment of the release of Jesus' Spirit, the curtain in the sanctuary that separated the Holy of Holies, the earthly dwelling place of God's presence, from the rest of the temple where men dwelt. This signified that man was separated from God by sin Only the Most High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies before God and then only once every year, to enter into God's presence on behalf of all of Israel, and make atonement for their sins. The tearing of the veil at the moment of Jesus' death dramatically symbolized that His sacrifice, the shedding of His own blood, was a sufficient atonement for sins. It signified that the way into the Holy of Holies was open for all people for all time, Jew and Gentile.

Through His sacrifice, each of us now have access to God the Father, is this not a tremendous gift in result of the Aftershock of Jesus' sacrifice? Thank you, Father, Amen!

In Christ's service,

Marlow Frasier



LOGOS NEWS



Our second semester of LOGOS has begun. We have two new kids this semester and two more coming soon, giving us over 30 kids each week.

The Community Building is clamoring with the voices of the kids laughing, talking, and asking questions about God each week. What a blessing to be able to share with His youngest the message of Christ and God's grace.

As with any program involving kids, at times the kids are going to have a bad day and maybe even forget to treat each other as Children of God. As the Directors, Robyn and I counsel with the kids when this happens and remind them that this is their safe place to be who they are without being judged and without being treated badly in any way. However, it also equally important that they do the same so that all the kids feel safe at LOGOS. Kids have big hearts and this is generally enough to get them back on track by reminding them that they must treat each other kindly and with love no matter what. We hope this will follow them outside of the LOGOS arena and into their world but Parents we always need your help in reinforcing that all are Children of God and deserve to be treated that way.

Something new this year will be LOGOS T-Shirts. We are working with a local printing agency to design and print LOGOS T-shirts for all the kids so that they can take the LOGOS message out into their world.

LOGOS is a place where your child can feel the love of God and Kingdom of God living each week. Please ask a child to come to LOGOS so that they too can experience the love of God in a place where all are welcome. Scholarships are always available and money is never a factor in deciding whether a child can attend LOGOS. We are here to serve God and his youngest and that is our primary goal. He takes care of the rest!

Blessings to you all,

Julieanne Frasier, Director Robyn Albani, Co-Director



Last month I told you that 2017 is going to be an exciting year and it is. We are going to continue with a Valentine's Day meeting on February 14, in Fellowship Hall beginning at 9:30 am.

Sylvia Regelbrugge will serve as hostess and will also present a devotion before leading us in making valentines for our shut-ins.

The official theme for UMW this year is "A Call for Community." As we planned for our year we tried to honor that theme. Our Barnabas Writing program has begun. Our prayer emphasis is the

Huddle programs that Pastor David has begun.

Mary Circle-UMW is hosting a Ladies' Luncheon at Ribs on Saturday, February 4th. And, if you didn't sign up, **hurry and call** Chris Knox or Kaye Groves at 865-7864 or 865-9163.

There are also many activities on the district level, including a workshop on Climate Justice which Marianne Lynch and Bernice Hughes will be attending.



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jan 29 8:30 – Worship 9:45 – Sunday School 11:00 – Worship FIRST RESPONDERS' RECOGNITION LUNCH – 12 noon 5 – Bell Choir 6 – AfterShock youth	Jan 30 Food Pantry, 10-12:30 6 pm Cub Scouts, Ed Bldg. Emmaus #101, 6:30 7 pm Boy Scouts, Ed Bldg.	Jan 31 LOGOS, 4:30-7:45 Tutoring 3:30	FEB 1st Bible Study, #101, 6 pm Girl Scouts, 6 pm Ed Bldg. Praise Team, 6 pm Choir, 7 pm	Exercise, 9 am, FH 6:15 – First Place, Conf Rm 6:30 – GriefShare, #101	3 Huddle, #101, 8:30 am Bible, Fell Hall, 10 am Cub leaders' – Ed class, 6 pm EMMAUS, Fell Hall, 6:30 pm King's Kids overnight, Comm Bldg.	Women's Lunch at RIBS restaurant, 12 noon King's Kids overnight, Comm. Bldg.
8:30 – Worship VBS Fundraiser, Ed Bldg 9:45 – Sunday School 11:00 – Worship VBS Fundraiser, Ed. Bldg 5 pm – Bell Choir No AfterShock Youth	Food Pantry 10-12:30 'Soul' group, #103 9:30 am Cub Scouts, Ed Bldg, 6-7 pm Emmaus, #101, 6:30 Stewardship -#104, 6:30 pm Boy Scouts 7 pm, Ed Bldg. 13	7 RRFB deliv Crafty Ladies, Fell Hall 9-2 LOGOS, 4:30-7:45 Tutoring 3:30 pm Financial Peace, #202, 6-8 pm Trustees' mtg, #201 6:30 pm	8 Crafty Ladies, Fell Hall, 9-2 6 pm – Girl Scouts, Ed Bldg. 6 pm- Study, #101 6 pm – Praise Team 7 pm – Choir Conf Rm reserved Thoms 7-9 pm	Exercise Fell Hall 9 am Worship, 6 pm #101 First Place 4 Health, Conf Rm, 6:30 pm GriefShare, #103, 6:30 pm SPRC, #104, 7 pm	Huddle #101, 8:30 am Bible Study, Fell Hall, 10-am Study, #103, 6 pm Emmaus #101, 6:30 pm	Threads of Love, 10:30 am, Fell Hall Auditorium reserved 10 – 5 VHS Band fundraiser
7 am – UMM Breakfast, Fell Hall 8:30-Worship 9:45-Sunday School 11:00-Worship 5 pm – Bell choir 6 pm-AfterShock Youth	Food Pantry, 10 am to 12:30 Cub Scouts, 6 pm Ed Bldg. 6 pm – Boy Scouts, Auditorium Emmaus #101, 6:30 Finance mtg, #104, 6:30 pm	UMW/Mary Circle, Fell Hall, 9:30 am LOGOS, 4:30-7:45 Tutoring, 3:30 pm Financial Peace, #202, 6-8 pm	6 pm Girl Scouts, Ed. Bldg. 6 pm - Study, #101 6 pm Praise Team 7 pm Choir Conf Rm reserved Thoms 7-9 pm	Exercise Fell Hall 9 am P.a.C.T. – call office for location Tea meeting, Fell Hall 6 pm First Place 4 Health, #101 6:30 pm 6:30 GriefShare #103 Admin Council, 6:30 pm, Conf Room	Huddle #101, 8:30 am Bible Study, Fell Hall, 10-am Study, #103, 6 pm	BLOOD DRIVE – AUDITORIUM 9-12 Sanctuary reserved 1-3 pm
19 8:30-Worship 9:45-Sunday School 11:00 – Worship 5 pm – Bell Choir 6 pm– AfterShock Youth	20 Office closed – Pres. Day holiday 'Soul' group, #103, 9:30 am Food Pantry, 10 am to 12:30 No Cub Scouts Emmaus #101, 6:30 pm Boy Scouts, 7 pm Ed Bldg.	21 LOGOS, 4:30-7:45 Tutoring 3:30 pm Financial Peace, #202, 6-8 pm	6 pm – Girl Scouts, Ed Bldg. 6 pm – Bible, #101 6 pm Praise Team 7 pm Choir Conf Rm reserved Thoms 7-9 pm	Exercise Fell Hall 9 am First Place 4 Health, Conf Room 6:30 pm 6:30 GriefShare-103	Huddle #101, 8:30 am Bible Study, Fell Hall, 10-am Study, #103, 6 pm Emmaus, #101, 6:30	25 Cub Scouts – Auditorium reserved 2-7 pm
7 am – UMM Breakfast, Fell Hall 8:30-Worship 9:45-Sunday School 11:00 – Worship 5 pm – Bell Choir 6 pm – AfterShock Youth	Food Pantry, 10 am to 12:30 Cub Scouts, 6 pm Ed Bldg. Emmaus #101, 6:30 pm Boy Scouts, 7 pm Ed Bldg.	28 LOGOS, 4:30-7:45 Tutoring, 3:30 pm Financial Peace, #202, 6-8 pm	Food Drop – Auditorium 12-6 6 pm – Girl Scouts, Ed Bldg. 6 pm – Bible, #101 7 pm – Worship Service Conf Rm reserved Thoms 7-9 pm	Mar 2 Exercise Fell Hall 9 am First Place 4 Health, Conf Room 6:30 pm 6:30 GriefShare-103	Mar 3 Huddle, #101, 8:30 am Bible, Fell Hall, 10 am Study, #103, 6 pm Cub leaders' 6 pm Ed bldg room, EMMAUS, Fell Hall, 6:30 pm	Mar 4