



Peralta Memorial United Methodist Church

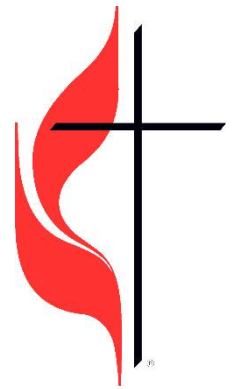
25 Wesley Rd -- Peralta, NM 87042

Telephone: 505-865-9334

Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 am-3:00 pm

Website: www.peraltamethodist.org

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We Serve Christ So All Will Follow Him

"LOOKING UP" IN DECEMBER

The time between Thanksgiving and Christmas can be very stressful. There are holiday gatherings, parties to attend, and gifts to buy. Some of us may have to travel or prepare for company arriving. Don't forget the concerts and Christmas programs to attend.

In the midst of the stress of life I sometimes get way too hard on myself. It seems that stress is our constant traveling companion, always sitting right beside us, so common that we don't even realize it. Our companion of stress causes us to lose joy, to worry far more than we need to, and to be very critical of ourselves, even when we're doing well. When I look at myself I often wonder why I'm not doing more and why I'm not doing things better.

Last night I fell asleep on the couch, sitting up, with my head bent over to one side resting on the arm of the couch. I woke up a few hours later, lights still on, with a crick in my neck. Then I made my way to bed and found myself in conversation with God, lying there in the early morning hours.

In our conversation, God reminded me that I'm doing just fine. God questioned how much I trusted in God. Am I truly letting God lead, or am I trying to make things happen on my own? God told me it was time to sit back and watch the Holy Spirit work.

In the Huddle discipleship small group we are asked to assess our "In, Out, and Up" relationships each month. "In" is our relationship with others in the church community. "Out" is our relationship with people outside of the church. "Up" is our relationship with God. With the busyness of December, it is easy for us to focus on the "In" of church events and the "Out" of holiday everything but neglect the "Up" with God. Have you ever grown frustrated or short-tempered during the holidays? Have you ever been upset that you didn't receive just what you wanted?

My hope for each of us is that we may receive another gift this December – greater than any material gift we could give. May we receive the gift of time and relationship with God. God made us. God knows us. God loves us. God will grant us gifts of hope, peace, and strength. God will grant us the permission to rest with a blessing, if only we ask. I pray that each of us will take time for an upward relationship with God this December. God is ready and waiting for us. May we nurture our "up" relationship with God and receive fully the very best that God has to offer us.

Pastor David



The 2017 bell ringing campaign continues.

Bell Ringers are needed to fill some of the time slots. Can you spare 2 hours to help out, PLEASE????



This year we will also need assistance to drop off and pick up the kettles (starting at 9 am and ending at 5 pm). If you can help, please call us.

Wayne Sharp 505-620-8042 or Lanna Sharp 505-615-8042.

Thank you for all the support.

A fterShock

“ Turning the hearts of youth and families to God and each other”

It is really hard to believe that this will be the last newsletter for 2017. The Aftershock youth will be pretty busy this coming month.

Saturday December 16 -- Ringing the bells at Walmart, both doors, starting at 9am and finishing at 1pm. Please consider coming to help out for as long or as little as you can. We will have some snacks and hot chocolate for you.

Sunday December 17 - we are going to Jim Kubisak's home for a wonderful pre-Christmas party at his wonderful Christmas home and ultimate Man-cave full of all kinds of Knick- knacks and cool stuff. We will leave the church at 4pm and return by 8:30-ish.

Saturday December 23rd - we are going caroling on the hay ride trailer pulled by the Blaine's. We leave the church at 2pm to travel and sing around Peralta and Bosque Farms. We will return to the church by bus from the parsonage about 5pm for our annual Aftershock Christmas party and white elephant gift exchange.

Sunday December 24th the youth will meet at 4pm to set out and light luminarias around the campus parking lot and down Wesley road. We can use as much help as possible. No Youth group that night and no youth group on New Year's eve.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

December 2 - Bill Killough
December 2 - Tristin Garcia
December 4 - Tinka Platt
December 4 - Tracy McRae
Dec. 4 - Sherry Kallenbach
December 4 - Samantha Inman
December 5 - James Matsutani
December 5 - Tekota Lumpkin
December 5 - Keira Vaughn
December 8 - Kelley Green
December 8 - Luke Rindels
December 9 - Laurie Maynes
December 9 - Kiersten Pointer
December 9 - C.J. Huff
December 11 - Caity Signorello
December 12 - John Gobert
December 18 - Troy Meyer
December 18 - Neil Ergish
December 19 - Chris Broekstra
December 20 - Emma Harris
December 21 - Jeanette Smith
December 25 - Milt Ferguson
December 26 - Cheryl Huber
December 26- Carol Smith
December 27 -Mike Buvinghausen
December 27 - Dominic Medina
December 29 - Patti Harris-Thompson
December 30 - David Saiz
December 31 - Angie Davis
December 31 - Lilly Genson

December 3 - Trevoer & Carissa Green
December 5 - Jack & Gayle Stayton
December 7 - Butch & Stella West
December 31 - David & Melissa Madara



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

GIVING...

Did you know??? You can participate in CHARITABLE giving to the church through using a unique charity link at smile.amazon.com. Anyone who uses AMAZON to shop (specifically going to smile.amazon.com) can choose a charity to which Amazon will donate .5% of eligible smile.amazon.com purchases to that particular charity.

If you choose to make Peralta Memorial UMC your charity for such donations, Amazon will send the appropriate monies directly to the church's bank account.

The unique charity link is: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/85-0316976>.

Thanks for considering choosing Peralta Memorial UMC as your charity while shopping at smile.amazon.com.



Please be in prayer for each of these in 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.

Pastor David & Family	Valencia County Abundant Grace Free Store	Donna Duke	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	Eva Timmons	J'Amy Creel
Jim Kubisak	Janette Baughman	5 year old Diego	Jim & Melba Derosssett
Joleen Baughman	Karen Fastnacht	Nate Meyer	USA Leaders
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
			Our Freedom

UMW/ Mary Circle will hold its December meeting on December 12th at 9:30 AM in Fellowship Hall with Kaye Groves and Chris Knox serving as hostesses. We will be **revealing our Secret Prayer Partners** and there will be a reading of a Christmas story.



We need to finish organizing our **Christmas Goodie Plates** for our shut-ins. **We will be filling and delivering the plates on Saturday, December 16th starting at 9:00 AM in the kitchen by Fellowship Hall.** So we will be calling some of you who have delivered plates for us in the past. **If anyone wants to help deliver plates, donate food for the plates or help fill plates, just let us know! New helpers are always appreciated, all are welcome to help.**

Contact Kaye Groves 965-9163, Chris Knox, 865-7864 or the church office.



CRAFTY LADIES

Once again our Bazaar was blessed by God with many helping hands:

Thanks to you who worked at the Bazaar and to those who shopped!

Thanks to all who set up and took it all down again!

Thanks to all who baked and prepared desserts, breads and other goodies!

Thanks to the makers of candies, jams, and snacks!

Thanks to those who created wreaths, and a whole variety of things!

Thanks to those who donated items and those who prayed!

Thanks to all those we forgot to mention but God knows!

A blessed Christmas and New Year to All!

Soon it will be time for everyone to get out, put up and then take down your own Christmas decorations. If you find you are tired of something, **PLEASE** don't throw anything away... bring it to us for 2018!

We are excited and ready to start on our next year's 40th!!! Holiday Bazaar.

Our regular meetings will start again in January, on the 2nd and 3rd at 9:30 am.

There's A Song in the Air- 1872

“Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song, and His praise in the assembly of saints.” Psalm 149:1

For a long time, Josiah Gilbert Holland was known to his friends as a failure at just about everything he tried. Dropping out of high school, he tried his hand at photography, then calligraphy. When those professions didn't pan out, Josiah, 21, enrolled in Berkshire Medical College. After graduation, he practiced medicine in Springfield, Massachusetts, for a while before quitting to start a newspaper. The paper folded after 6 months. At length, he joined the editorial staff of another newspaper, the *Springfield Republican*, and there he finally found his niche in writing.

In 1865, the world was stunned by the tragic assassination of Abraham Lincoln. The next year it was Josiah Holland who published the first major biography of Lincoln. In it, he presented Lincoln as a “true-hearted Christian” and provided a number of stories to reinforce the point. The notoriety put Josiah Holland on the literary map of his day.

In 1870, he became a founder and the senior editor of *Scribner's Magazine*. He continued publishing books and was quite prolific. In 1872, he published *The Marble Prophecy and Other Poems*. In it were the four stanzas of “There's a Song in the Air.” It was an unusual poem, in that the first four lines of each stanza contained six syllables each, but the fifth and sixth lines were twice as long. Two years later, it was set to music in a collection of Sunday school songs, but didn't achieve widespread popularity.

Several years after Josiah's death in 1881, a Latin professor named Karl Pomeroy Harrington read “There's a Song in the Air.” Harrington was an amateur musician who had begun writing melodies as a youngster on the small organ in his childhood home. Harrington later inherited that old Estey organ and moved it to his vacation cottage in North Woodstock, New Hampshire. While spending the summer there in 1904, he sat down at the old instrument, pumping the bellows with the foot pedals, and hammered out the lovely melodic tune to which “There's a Song in the Air” is now widely sung.

Excerpt taken from *Then Sings My Soul* by Robert J. Morgan



Please note:

**Church office hours
December 4, 5, 6, 7
Open 9 am to 12 noon**



END OF YEAR GIVING STATEMENTS – If you would like to receive a written statement of donations you've made to Peralta Church in 2017, please fill out a form which can be found on the Welcome Table in the Narthex. Thank you!!!



NATIVITY WALK

NATIVITY WALK

SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 9

10 am to 6 pm
In Fellowship Hall

LOGOS PRESENTATION – TUESDAY, December 12th
at 6:30 pm in the Sanctuary

Please come to enjoy the blessing these children will bring to us!!!



On Saturday, December 16th,
a special worship service

will be held at 3:00 pm in the Sanctuary.

Why is it called "Blue Christmas"? Because not everyone is feeling "up and cheery" for the Christmas holidays, and possibly feeling like they're 'blue'. Dealing with the death of a loved one, facing life after divorce or separation, coping with the loss of a job, living with cancer or some other disease that puts a question mark over the future --- any other number of human situations that make thinking of parties and joviality painful. The link to holding the service at this time of year connects the longest day of the year with St. Thomas the Apostle and his struggle to believe Jesus' resurrection with the struggle of darkness and grief faced by those living with any type of loss.

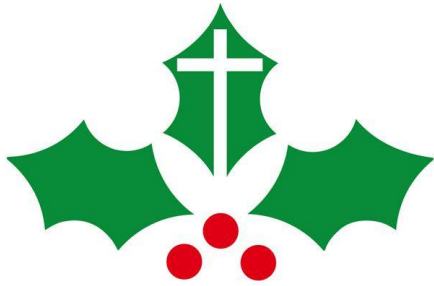
Everyone is invited – and welcomed –
to join in this service of quiet and remembrance
to feel and experience the love of God that is with us ALL THE TIME.



The Peralta Memorial UMC choir will present

'A NOEL CELEBRATION'

On Sunday, December 17th at both services
8:30 am and 11:00 am



Christmas Eve

Morning Worship

Sunday, December 24

10:00 am

Informal service featuring a
christmas Carol
sing along



Christmas Eve

Candlelight &



Communion

DECEMBER 24

3:00 & 7:00 PM



DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Huddle, 8:30 #101 Fitness, #203, 4:30 Emmaus, Fell Hall & K, 6:30	2 Cub Scouts float prep Girl Scouts overnight, Fell Hall & K, 4:30 til Sunday am
3 – 1st Sunday Advent 8:30 Worship 9:45 – Sunday School 11:00 – Worship 12:15 – Youth LT, FH Sanctuary reserved – Recital 1:30-4:30 AfterShock, 6:00 pm	4 <i>Office open 9-12</i> Food Pantry, 10-12:30 Fitness, 4:30 #203 Emmaus, #101, 6 pm Cub Scouts 5:30, Ed Bldg Boy Scouts, 6:30, Ed Bldg.	5 <i>Office open 9-12</i> Tai Ji balance, FH 4 pm Fitness, 4:30, #203 LOGOS 4:30-7 (3:30 homework) Last one til 2018 Trustees, #201 6:30 pm	6 <i>Office open 9-12</i> Auditorium reserved 9-5 Fitness, 4:30, #203 Praise Team 6 Bible #101, 6 GriefShare, #103 6 pm Girl Scouts, 6-8 Ed Bldg. Choir 7 pm	7 <i>Office open 9-12</i> Exercise 9 am Fell Hall Tai Ji Balance, FH, 12 noon Fitness, 4:30, #203 6 pm, Cub leaders mtg, 6 pm – Worship mtg, #101 First Place, 6:30, Conf Rm 7 pm SPRC, #104	8 Huddle, 8:30 #101 Set up Nativity Walk, Fell Hall 1:00 pm Fitness, 4:30, #203	9 Threads of Love, Conf Room, 10:30 am NATIVITY WALK FELL HALL 10-6 
10 – 2nd Sunday Advent 7 am – UMM breakfast, Auditorium 8:30 – Worship 9:45 – Sunday School 11 am – Worship NATIVITY WALK til 2 in Fell Hall, then take down 6 pm - AfterShock	11 ‘Soul’ class, 9:30, #103 Food Pantry, 10-12:30 4:30 – Fitness, #103 6 pm Cub Scouts Ed Bldg 6:30 – Emmaus #101 6:30 – Finance meeting, #104 7 pm – Boy Scouts Ed Bldg.	12 UMW/Mary Circle, 9:30 am – Fell Hall Tai Ji balance, FH 4 pm 4:30 Fitness, #203 5 pm – LOGOS family dinner 6:30 – LOGOS presentation, in Sanctuary Everyone is invited!!!	13 4:30 Fitness, #203 6-8 Cantata Rehearsal 6 pm Bible #101 6 pm – Girl Scouts, Ed Bldg	14 9 am Exercise, FH Tai Ji Balance, FH, 12 noon 4:30 Fitness #203 6:30, First Place #101 6:30 Ad Council Conf Room	15 Huddle, 8:30, #101 4:30 – Fitness #203 4-8 – Auditorium reserved	16 Fell Hall Kitchen reserved, UMW 9 am Blue Christmas Service, 3:00 pm Sanctuary
17– 3rd Sunday Advent 8:30 – Worship – Cantata 9:45 – Sunday School 11:00 – Worship, Cantata 6 pm AfterShock @ Kubisak home	18 Food Pantry, 10-12:30 4:30 – Fitness #203 6 pm- Cub Scouts, Ed Bldg 6:30 – Emmaus #101 7 pm – Boy Scouts Ed Bldg	19 Tai Ji balance, FH 4 pm 4:30, Fitness #203	20 4:30, Fitness #203 6 pm – Bible #101 6 pm – Girl Scouts, Ed Bldg 6 pm GriefShare #103 No Praise Team or Choir	21 9 am Exercise, FH Tai Ji Balance, FH, 12 noon 4:30, Fitness #203 6:30 First Place, Conf Room	22 Huddle, 8:30, #101 4:30, Fitness #203	23 Youth caroling and party - Auditorium reserved 3-8 pm
24 - 4th Sunday Advent 10 am service w/ Christmas Carols CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT & COMMUNION AT 3:00 & 7:00 pm	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS 	26 Tai Ji balance, FH 4 pm 4:30, Fitness #203 6 pm Bible #101	27 4:30, Fitness #203 No Praise Team or Choir	28 Exercise 9 am ?? Tai Ji Balance 12 ?? 4:30, Fitness #203	29 Roadrunner Food Delivery 4:30, Fitness #203	30
31 8:30 – Worship 9:45 – Sunday School 11:00 – Worship No AfterShock Youth Group	Jan 1, 2018 Happy New Year Office closed FOOD PANTRY WILL BE OPEN!! 10 am	Jan 2, 2018	Jan 3, 2018	Jan 4, 2018	Jan 5, 2018	Jan 6, 2018 Do you need a statement of giving for 2017? Be sure to fill out a request. Forms are on the Welcome Table in Narthex!!