



Peralta Methodist Church

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Going Beyond Our Walls to Build God's Kingdom

On Friday November 8, 2019, on a fresh fall day, I presented myself along with 140 people to take the oath to become a naturalized citizen of America. In my 25 years (then) in the United States – I became more and more Indian even as I became more and more American. I have a unique vantage point of seeing the world both from the East and the West.

However, it is not a simple matter to decide to become an American. Few of those that are born or die citizens of the same country consciously commit themselves to their own citizenship, but we who change citizenship by choice must commit ourselves voluntarily to the history and the heritage, the pride and the guilt of our adopted homeland. So, just as America, through its Immigration services, has examined my personal history, I also began conducting my own examination of America. America is the only country in the world that is not founded on race or even common history. America was founded on an idea and the idea is liberty. This idea which had never been expressed by any nation before, liberty under the law. This nation established on the edge of the civilized world over 250 years ago had the collection of political geniuses the likes of which the world has never seen in its entire history. America is the only country in the world that has defeated the great evils of the 20th century – Fascism, Nazism and Communism. This is America's gift to the world – Liberty and Hope.

And so I duly appear at the Las Cruces convention center and take my place in a line of would-be citizens from all over the world – and on this particular day, Mexicans predominately. As we are presented to the Judge as petitioners for naturalization having been examined and found eligible, the Judge accepts the motion and takes us through the Oath of Allegiance. "...that I absolutely and entirely renounce all allegiance and fidelity to any state or nation I have heretofore been a subject or citizen. That I will support and defend the constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies; that I will bear true faithso help me God!"

I repeat the powerful, magisterial words of the Oath and I am moved to tears by them. And yet at the same time, I feel that I can never altogether renounce the country in which I was born; never renounce my mother tongue, my Indian childhood, my Indian memories, my distinctive Indian features.

"Fellow Citizens," the Judge says "it is a privilege to be the first to address as fellow-citizens, you have been found to be of good character. It means that you have, to this point in your lives, conducted yourselves uprightly and honorably. And, second, you have been found to be attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States and well disposed toward the order and happiness of the United States. We like to be reminded at occasions like this, that this is a government of law, a government by consent of the governed, a government of, by and for the people. When you go to Washington, to our capital city – I ask that you look at the beautiful marble building of the Supreme Court of the United States, and above the towering but graceful columns, read what is written there in only four words: 'EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER LAW.' We are a nation of immigrants such as you who are before me as new citizens this morning. The United States has absorbed the strength of all its immigrants, and this fusion of many different strains and virtues has contributed to our present strength, and helped to make democracy work."

I am touched by the Judge's words. As I stand with the rest of the immigrants to take the pledge of allegiance, I wonder about the inner life and past of each of the immigrants there, of what each must have gone through to arrive in this country. We each have given up our country, our culture, our relationships to be here today.

As I pledge allegiance, I recall coming across some words of Judge Learned Hand, who, swearing in another generation of citizens in New York's Central Park, said: "some of us have chosen America as the Land of our adoption. We have some right to consider ourselves a picked group, a group who had the courage to break from the past and brave the dangers and the loneliness of a strange land. What was the object that nerved us, or those who went before us, to this choice? We sought liberty, freedom from oppression, freedom from want, freedom to be ourselves...Liberty lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies here, no constitution, no law, no court can save it...The spirit of Liberty is the spirit of HIM, who nearly two thousand years ago, taught mankind that lesson it has never learned, but has never quite forgotten; that there may be a kingdom where the least shall be heard and considered side by side with the greatest. And now, in that spirit, that spirit of an America which has never been, and which may never be; nay, which never will be except as the conscience and courage of Americans create it; yet in the spirit of that America which lies hidden in some form in the aspirations of us all...in that spirit of liberty and of America I ask you to rise and with me pledge our faith in the glorious destiny of our beloved country."

I pledge allegiance to the flag and to the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands – One Nation under God, Indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

I am now a Naturalized Citizen and grateful like all immigrants to be part of this great Republic.



Pastor Manish and his Uncle Ash Gaikwad -

Manish's Uncle was the first one in his family to come to America and paved the way for Manish to be here.

Grace & Peace,

Pastor Manish Shirley

Summer



WORSHIP TIMES

Worship services in July
Begin at 9:00 am.
Sunday School will begin
at 10:15 am.



GriefShare is looking forward to starting the latest video and workbook we received. Meeting dates in July are on the 13th and 27th at 1:00 pm – in the Conference Room in the 2-story Community Building.

Please know, that anyone is more than welcome to join us, at any time! Phyllis Graham, Diana Ward and Carol Smith are co-facilitators and will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have. Call the Church office for their phone numbers.



Peralta Methodist Women – Mary Circle



Mary Circle will meet on Tuesday July 11, 2023
at its regular time of 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.
Join us for devotion, prayer time, and great fellowship.

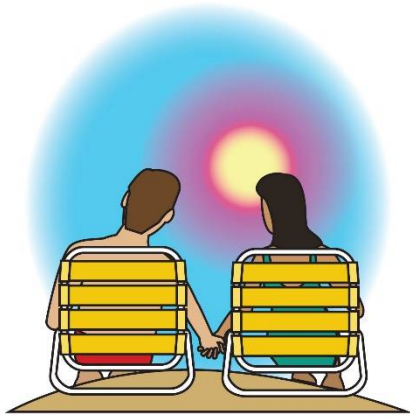
Jackie Hardy will present our program.

We will have light refreshments.

All women are welcome and cordially invited!



JULY BIRTHDAYS



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

July 1 - Justin Hepler
July 3 - Kaye Groves
July 4 - Trevor Green
July 5 - Jenna Galey
July 7 - Landon Rindels
July 8 - Cylia Villa
July 9 - Tina Tietjen
July 9 - April Smith
July 12 - Daniel Zamora
July 12 - Maddy Honeyfield
July 17 - Reagan Green
July 19 - La Nelda Ross
July 19 - Beth Barnett
July 20 - Lisa Inman
July 21 - Dorothy Rose
July 21 - LaDena Skinner
July 28 - Bob "Red" Knowlton
July 29 - Connie Irwin
July 31 - Harold Bayley

July 9 - Luke & Cristina Rindels
July 18 - Buddy & Jennifer York
July 31 - Mark & Lesley Scholz



Potluck

5th Sunday – July 30th
POTLUCK LUNCH in the Auditorium
Following Sunday School

(we 'll begin about 11:30 am)



In July, we'll start the twice-a-month meetings. Scheduled days are: July 4th and 5th and July 18th and 19th. Please join us at 9:00 am each of these days.

We'll continue working on the projects for the Bazaar in November – while we enjoy good fellowship and lunch.



Battle of the Badges Peralta

SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2023
8:00AM-12:00PM

Peralta Methodist Church
25 Wesley Road
Peralta, NM 87042

To schedule an appointment, call Sally at 505-246-1488 or visit donors.vitalant.org and use the blood drive code: Peralta

For more information or to schedule a donation, call 877-258-4825 or visit us at vitalant.org
Find us @   

SATURDAY
JULY 22nd
8 am –
12 noon
In Auditorium

vitalant 



Independence Day

PRAAYER



PRAYER WARRIORS

*Dear God our Father,
we praise You today for who You are—a God of love,
who reveals to us that love is truth and freedom.
Thank You for our country, the United States of America,
conceived in liberty, and for all those who have
sacrificed that we might enjoy these freedoms.*

*Like a city on a mountaintop, help us to share our blessings
with the world, and to allow the light of Your Holy Spirit
within us to set others free in spirit, soul, and body.
In Jesus' name. Amen.*



Have a Blessed Holiday



Pease 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 or the church office, 865-9334. If you would like to be a part of Prayer Warriors, please let us know.

Our Freedom	Abundant Grace Free Store		
Rev. Manish Shirly	Nadia M		
Ruth Romero	Lynn Schultz	Erma Ward	
Mike Heppler	Cheryl Huber		
Dan McCarty	Bill Lynch	Don Gleichman	
Lois Meadors	Dorothy Marta		
Daniel Gurule	Conrad Joseph Hughes	Cure for Cancer	
Donna Duke	J'Amy Creel	Jim Kubisak	Diego Joleen Baughman
Karen Fastnacht	Nate Meyer	USA Leaders	
Larry & Melodie Huff	Michael Garrison		
Richard & Linda Darnell	Lori Buvinghausen	All Caregivers	Anne Cassidy-Vigil
All military & their families	Beth Barnett	Jay & Marilyn Smith	Don Taylor
Ted George	Bruce & Cindy Walters	John Dutil & daughter Lora (caregiver)	Veronica Garcia



We are preparing for the **Friendship Tea**
to be held in September (the 16th),
benefitting the **Abundant Grace Free Store**



Please join us for the July planning meeting
on Tuesday July 11, 2023 at 5:30 pm in the
NW Annex Building.

We would love to have you join us.

There will be a Decorations Workshop Day on Saturday, July 22, and July
29, 2023 from 1:00 to 3:00 in the NW Annex Building –join to help and
enjoy the fun and fellowship. **NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!**

Call Sylvia Regelbrugge with any questions.

AfterShock - Youth



'Turning the Hearts of Youth and Families to God and each other

The Youth Group did a fabulous job leading the many components
of Vacation Bible School, both here at Peralta and also in Cimarron.

They decorated the spaces; led music and singing; games, crafts, &
recreation; were helpers for the Adult volunteers for each age group,
and took care of photography & video work. They were enthusiastic
and energetic through it all. **GREAT JOB YOUTH!!!!**

We won't be meeting on July 2nd -- but youth group regularly meets
Sundays from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>NOTESUMMER WORSHIP IS AT 9 AM</p> <p>SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 10:15 AM</p>						1
<p>2</p> <p>9:00 AM – WORSHIP 10:15 am – Sunday School No AfterShock Youth</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Office closed today</p> <p>9-11:30 am– Food Pantry 9:30 – Soulkeepers, Conf Room</p> <p>5:30 – Emmaus #101 No Scouts</p>	<p>4 –</p> <p>INDEPENDENCE DAY</p>  <p>Office is closed 9 am – Crafty Ladies, Fell Hall & Kitchen 4:30 – Fitness #203</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9 am Crafty Ladies, Fell Hall & Kitchen</p> <p>4:30 – Fitness, #203 5:30 -Bible Study, Conf Room 6-8 – Auditorium reserved</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9 am – Strength & Balance, Fell Hall 10:30 am – Strength & Relax – Fell Hall</p> <p>4:30 – Fitness #203 6-9 Auditorium reserved 7:30 – Girl Scout Svc Unit meeting, Fell Hall</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:30 am – Threads of Love, Fell Hall</p>
<p>9</p> <p>7:00 am – MM Breakfast, Fell Hall</p> <p>9:00 AM – WORSHIP 10:15 am – Sunday School 6pm – AfterShock Youth</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9-11:30 – Food Pantry 5:30- Emmaus, #101 5:30- Cub Scouts, Educ. Bldg. 7 pm - Scouts, Educ Bldg, & #204</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Mary Circle, Fellowship Hall, 9:30 am</p> <p>4:30– Fitness #203 5:30 – Tea meeting, NW Annex</p>	<p>12</p> <p>4:30 – Fitness, #203 5:30- Bible Study #101 6-8 Auditorium</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9 am – S & B 10:30 – S & R F. Hall 4:30 – Fitness, #203 6-8 – Auditorium reserved</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Community EMMAUS, Fell Hall & Sanctuary 6 pm</p> <p>Auditorium reserved until Saturday</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Auditorium reserved until 6 pm</p>
<p>16</p> <p>9:00 AM – WORSHIP 10:15 am – Sunday School 6 pm AfterShock Youth</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9-11:30 – Food Pantry 9:30 Soulkeepers, Conf Room</p> <p>5:30 –Emmaus, #101 5:30 – Cub Scouts, 7 pm - Scouts, Educ Bldg, & #204</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Crafty Ladies, Fell Hall – 9 am</p> <p>4:30 Fitness 6-8 Auditorium reserved</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Crafty Ladies, Fell Hall – 9 am 4:30 Fitness, #203 5:30 Bible Study 101 6-8 Auditorium reserved</p>	<p>20</p> <p>No S & B No – S & B</p> <p>4:30 Fitness, #203 6-8 – Auditorium reserved 6:30 – Ad Council meeting, Conf Rm (possibly)</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>  <p>BLOOD DRIVE – Auditorium 8-12 1-3 – Tea decorating, NW Annex</p>
<p>23</p> <p>7:00 – MM Breakfast, Fell Hall</p> <p>9:00 AM – WORSHIP 10:15 am – Sunday School 6 pm – AfterShock Youth</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9-11:30 Food Pantry</p> <p>5:30 Emmaus, #101 5:30 Cub Scouts 7 pm - Scouts, Educ Bldg #204</p>	<p>25</p> <p>4:30– Fitness, #203 6:30 – Order Arrow, Fell Hall 6-8 pm – Auditorium reserved</p>	<p>26</p> <p>4:30 – Fitness #203 5:30 – Bible, #101 6-8 Auditorium reerved</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9 am – S & B- F.H. 10:30 – S & R-F.H</p> <p>4:30 Fitness #203 Auditorium reserved 6-8 pm 7 pm – Chaplains’ meeting, Conf Rm</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>KAIROS – Conference Rm & classrooms 8 am to 5 pm</p> <p>Auditorium set up for Sunday 1-3 –Tea decorating, NW Annex</p>
<p>30- 5th Sunday</p> <p>9:00 AM – WORSHIP 10:15 – Sunday School POTLUCK LUNCH FOLLOWING SUNDAY SCHOOL 6 pm- AfterShock Youth</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9 am – Food Pantry 9:30 – Soulkeepers, Conf Room 5:30 Emmaus #101 5:30 – Cubs, Ed Bldg 7:00 - Scouts</p>	<p>August 1</p> <p>Crafty Ladies – 9 am, Fell Hall</p> <p>4:30 Fitness</p>	<p>August 2</p> <p>Crafty Ladies – 9 am, Fell Hall</p> <p>4:30 Fitness 5:30 – Bible, #101</p>	<p>August 3</p> <p>9 – S & B 10:30 – S & R 4:30 Fitness 7:30 – GS Svc Unit, Fell Hall</p>	<p>August 4</p> <p>Emmaus 6 pm FH & Kitchen</p>	<p>August 5</p> <p>KAIROS, Conf Room & classrooms 8 am to 5 pm</p>