

**Leadership Board July 2023 Reports**  
**First United Methodist Church of Los Alamos, NM**

**No meeting in July 2023.**

**Pastor's Report – Pastor John Nash**

1. Phillip is working on installing new AV equipment and we hope to have most of the sound upgrades ready for this weekend.
2. The Ark board has approved a motion to spend up to \$5,000 for cameras that will be installed in classrooms and hallways.
3. The Ark Board will be doing an email vote on a vendor to install new door locks for the front and back door.
  - a. Once that is approved it will need to come to leadership board for approval.
    - I. Since we are not meeting this month, I would like to propose that we also do that by email.
4. I have sermons mapped out through the end of October.
  - a. First will be a series entitled How do I? in which I give some practical advice on things we know we're supposed to do, and maybe always have done, but might not have been taught how to do.
  - b. And the next series will be Down on the Farm: Lessons on Growing a Life in Faith.
5. I will be out Sunday, October 8.
  - a. Phillip is scheduled to preach that Sunday.
6. I am also out Sunday, November 12.
  - a. We will be in a series on Revelation, and so I am hoping to get a friend who is a retired clergy and professor of the Hebrew Bible to come and talk about apocalyptic literature in the Jewish tradition.
7. Clergy retreat this year is October 15-19. I don't know yet if I will be attending do to some other scheduling conflicts.
8. I have a meeting scheduled next week with our new DS and one of the items is to talk about charge conferences, and so I should have more information soon on a date as well as what they might look like this year.
9. Most of the staff have submitted their reviews to me and I will begin my responses and having our sit downs next week.
10. Our staff transitions are happening and there are bound to be some gaps, so please have a little patience
  - a. as well as to talk with me where you might see some discrepancies happening so we can get them corrected.
11. We have just a few fellowship activities left, but the overall response has been very positive and so we will definitely plan on something similar for next year.
  - a. I have even heard that another church liked the idea and may try and do something like it as well.
12. I went to Century Bank and completed the paperwork to close our savings account and instead have our savings in the money market account as was approved last month.
13. I will be leading training on slides and cameras in the coming weeks.
  - a. We have one new volunteer for the sound booth and I hope that I might pick up some more through the training.
14. Our volunteer extravaganza is happening soon, and so we will begin planning that in the next few weeks.
  - a. We will also be reaching out to those who submitted information on goals in order to take some next steps with them.

**Ark Report - Shanice Ramos**

1. New Assistant Director - Jen Hopkins.
2. You are invited! Ark open house/Carnival Saturday, August 5, 2023, from 11:00 am – 2:00 pm. Open to the public.

- a. This will be promoted in Los Alamos, White Rock, Espanola public spaces and online through Facebook groups, including our own.
- 3. We are hiring teachers.
- 4. 7 teachers signed up for free ECECD certificate program at UNM - LA.
- 5. We are starting the process for 4-star status with Focus. Right now, we are a three-star center.
  - a. First visit will be August 11th.
  - b. We will keep you posted!

**Annual Conference - Don Casperson**

No report.

**Church facility – Julie Risch**

- 1. Garbage disposal
  - a. plumber fixed it as there was a utensil stuck in it
- 2. Prayer garden evergreens
  - a. Olivia's trees will be trimming the prayer garden trees on July 27.
  - b. \$500 per day, max 3 days.
  - c. Rafael will maintain the trees from now on.

**Connecting (Lay leader) -**

**Crisis and Caring Ministries - Carol Mead**

Nothing to report.

**Faith Development Report - Phillip Ortega**

- 1. Faith Development Leadership Team
  - a. Made important discussions
    - i. Grade splits for children’s programming
    - ii. Dates for children’s programming
    - iii. Discussed needs
    - iv. Revamping meal organization
- 2. Mid-Summer Night Fellowship
  - a. Events:
    - i. Isotopes Baseball Game
    - ii. Pool Party at Barranca Mesa Pool
    - iii. Paint Night led by Jeanne Gibson
    - iv. Los Alamos Summer Friday Night Concert at Ashley Pond - twice
    - v. Trip to Albuquerque Bio-Park (Zoo and Aquarium)
    - vi. 2 hikes led by Tom Ricketts
  - b. Amazing turnouts
    - i. Average of 20 people per event
    - ii. Cost to church is minimal
    - iii. Excitement for the events
  - c. Upcoming Events
    - i. July 23 at 1:00 pm - Bowling at Strike Gold Lanes at the cities of Gold Casino in Pojoaque
    - ii. July 30 at 2:30 pm - Oppenheimer Movie at SALA
    - iii. Aug. 6 - 5:00-6:30 - Pool Party #2 at Barranca Mesa Pool
- 3. Safer Sanctuaries
  - a. Our current Safe Sanctuary policy is well in line with new guidelines.
    - i. Will evaluate in the future to implement less cis-gendered policies.

- b. Next training August 6<sup>th</sup> @ 11:30 a.m.
- 4. Audio upgrade
  - a. Equipment delays have left little to report here.
  - b. Improvements should be immediately noticeable.
- 5. Youth
  - a. Parent Meeting for new and current parents Monday, July 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - b. Discussing expectations, confirmation, and scheduling.
  - c. Promotion lock-in July 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>

### **Fellowship - Carol Mead**

See list of events under Faith Development.

### **Leadership Board – Julie Risch**

- 1. Valerie has created a Google Survey for church goals.
  - a. The link is on the church website.

### **Missions – Camille Wescott**

- 1. Leticia Chavez-Paulette shared information with the congregation and 10:30 a.m. Sunday school class about a Peaceful Habitation.
- 2. There will be a Yard Work day July 29 to help Lee Weinland and Jim and Gail Little.
- 3. There have been many purses donated! This drive ends July 23.
- 4. The Baby Bottle Campaign for Hope Pregnancy Center happens in August.
- 5. Linda Leschnitzer and Camille Wescott made a streamlined checklist for the Medanales Christmas box shopping.
- 6. The food pantry is getting a lot of use!

### **SPRC – Nathaniel Morgan**

### **United Methodist Women/United Women in Faith – Carol Mead**

- 1. Everyone enjoyed our summer picnic brunch for all the ladies of the church on June 27, 2023, at North Mesa Park. It was a mix of old and new friends.
- 2. We will deliver all the purses and accessories for Pursonality Plus, an organization that provides purses and associated goodies to women at homeless shelters, those getting out of prison, etc. next weekend.
- 3. There are 5 of us attending Mission u at Sacramento next weekend. The study is Living the Kin-dom, based on the Lord's Prayer.
- 4. Our September book for All Booked Up will be the Book Woman of Troublesome Creek.
- 5. We are winding up the Reading Program year with everyone reporting their reading Aug. 1, 2023.

### **Worship - Valerie Collins**

- 1. I had a very nice visit meeting my newest granddaughter in NC and appreciate Cathy Hinojosa leading hymns so I could be absent on July 16<sup>th</sup>.
- 2. July has 5 Sundays, so July 30<sup>th</sup> will again be a contemporary service.
- 3. Lee is feeling better and is planning to join us again on guitar these last two weeks in July.
- 4. Lena Mastro decided that her schedule at Bandelier was more demanding than expected and resigned from singing with First Light. We enjoyed having her, and I told her the door is always open if she finds things slowing down and would like to join us again.
- 5. Current plans are to resume bells and choir after Labor Day.