

The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight – Proverbs 9:10

Michael Merschel, a book critic for the Dallas Morning News offered a heartfelt explanation for his absence from the office: "I want you to imagine a middle-aged man who fell in love with a beautiful baby girl almost 18 years ago, and now he is driving her to a gigantic college in a distant city filled with all kinds of people who do the things people do at college... and he has to leave her there. And drive home alone in a minivan." That sounds like perhaps one of the longest and most lonely drives a parent could make. So I will simply offer up a prayer on behalf of all those who have journeyed in similar fashion over recent days.

Well, it is the beginning of a new school year, and it matters not whether the child in question is being ushered up the steep steps of a large yellow bus on the way to Kindergarten or dreaming of the day that a satin doctoral hood will be lowered over her head in a last commencement ceremony. In any circumstance, we send them off in the hope that they will learn more than we have known, live better than we have existed, and serve more faithfully and effectively than we could have dreamed or imagined. So, with my sincere apologies to Shakespeare, let me paraphrase what most of us are now trying hard to avoid: "Some are born mediocre, some achieve mediocrity, and some have mediocrity thrust upon them." Honestly, we want much better than that! We want them to grow up more like Jesus than we might even have dared for ourselves.

In fact, if my experience as a pastor is any sort of indication, on every side I see nothing less than the frantic and heroic efforts of parents desperately hoping to enhance the genetic cards that their children have been dealt, pouring all of their available time and money into an all-or-nothing bet that those sons and daughters will eventually play a winning hand in life.

To put it in terms of our Scriptural vocabulary rather than speaking about Darwin and competitive advantages, the real and best goal would seem to be that we teach both ourselves and all of our children how to live with covenantal compassion as people who know bone-marrow deep that we have been blessed by God to be a blessing to others. We are only Chosen and Adopted so that we might be, in Frederick Buechner's fine phrase, the true Luck Bearers of this world.

Let me simply remind you that after he spent an entire night in prayer on a lonely mountain, after dawn on the next day the Lord Jesus named none other than Judas as one of his 12 apostles. I do not take that to mean that Jesus did so as a way of predetermining the fate and eternal destiny of Judas, a human being whom Jesus deeply loved to the very end just as the Gospels affirm. I think instead that it says two important things about Jesus that may be helpful for all of us to remember as we pour ourselves into the kids entrusted to our care. First, absolutely nobody should be considered Beyond Hope where Nothing More Can Be Done, for despite what Jesus knew to be true about all of the vulnerability and danger that was undoubtedly there . . . Jesus still chose Judas.

But let's also remember something else as well, for it may also prove crucial to know on one of those ordinary days of despair that do occasionally come, even among those completely well intentioned students: Not even Jesus can be the determiner of results in someone else's life. Ask any parent and they will tell you, even the very best of homes and upbringing may not be enough to protect your kid from the consequences of a whim-based lifestyle. Stuff happens. And because it does, let's commit ourselves to being the God-given answer to that very prayer.

In Christ, Manish



## SUNDAY, AUGUST 4<sup>th</sup> we'll resume the regular Sunday schedule: 8:30 am Worship Service 9:45 – Sunday School (for everyone) 11:00 am Worship Service 6:00 pm – AfterShock Youth Group

CRAFT

We cordially invite ALL women of the church to join us as we are fast approaching the 45<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Bazaar in November. If you have some spare time and would like to help create pretty things – this is the place for you! No special talents needed. We'd love to have you join us – come check it out!! Meeting days are August 6, 7, 20 and 21<sup>st</sup> from 9 am to about 2 pm in Fellowship Hall. We are still seeking more 8 oz jelly jars, please!!
Donations can be dropped off at the church office. THANK YOU!

August 1 – Don Taylor August 1 – Lois Meadors August 1 – Tiffany Karney August 5 – Jennifer Kropf August 8 – Buddy York August 13 – Bryce Redd August 20 – Gladys Ansley August 20 – Kace Green August 22 – Hannah Stockton August 24 – Carolyn Honeyfield August 27 – Nancy Pettis August 30 – Bart Regelbrugge August 30 – Naomi Jordan





August 13 – Tom & Sandy Blaine August 15 – Frank & Karen Bonanno August 17 – Dale & Carolyn Honeyfield August 21 – Paul & Mary Valigura August 29 – Nick & Anna Gipson



Please join us at the August meeting days for GriefShare which will be on the  $8^{th}$  and  $22^{nd}$  at 1:00 pm in the Conference Room.

Everyone is welcome to attend. If you'd like information, please call the church office at 505-865-9334.



Peralta Methodist Women, Mary Circle

Mary Circle will resume meeting in August on Tuesday, August 13 at 9:30 am in the Fellowship Hall.

We will be having devotion and prayer time. Jackie Hardy will present our program: "Body Parts"



Please join us! All women are cordially invited!

## FINANCES OF THE CHURCH - UPDATE

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	GENERAL FUND OPERATING REVENUE/EXPENDITURE For the period from January to June 2024										
		For the	period from .	January to Jul	16 2024						
			ACTUAL		Surplus						
	Month	Budget	Revenues	Expenses	(Shortfall)						
	January	22,896	21,028	19,301	1,727						
	February	22,896	17,747	24,173	(6,426)						
	March	22,896	18,334	18,550	(215)						
	April	22,896	19,977	17,019	2,958						
	May	22,896	14,901	16,993	(2,092)						
	June	22,896	20,149	24,253	(4,104)						
Total Year to Date		137,376	112,136	120,289	(8,153)						
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	HISTORY OF	THE DISAFFILI	ATION LOAN F	ROM MARCH 2	023 to JUNE 202	24					
	March 2023	2023 Principal	12/31/2023	2024 Principal	6/30/2024						
	LOAN	Payments	Loan Balance	Payments	Loan Balance						
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## Mary Circle's Bake Sale – the bake sale you have been waiting for!



## Sunday August 25, 2024

Stock up on treats for your Labor Day weekend



Bake Sale available between services and after 2nd service at Peralta Methodist



Turning the hearts of youth and families to God and each other. Haggai 2:6-7

June and July brought much ministry from our amazing Youth Group. First they served as leaders in our church's Vacation Bible School where they ministered to 38 kids with the assistance of many adult helpers and young helpers. Thanks to all who participated in VBS as it would not have been as successful without all the help from the congregation and individuals who gave their time for God's most precious.

Six Youth then went on to their annual Mission Trip in Cimarron, New Mexico where they ministered to 17 kids as well. They also ministered to each other as they shared giving the devotional each evening which was followed by an in-depth study and discussion on each subject that was shared. It was heartwarming to see these youth share parts of themselves during our study time and with each other on a daily basis.

Cimarron Community Church welcomed the youth with open arms and much gratitude for what they do each year there. The town of Cimarron also welcomed us and showed their gratitude by feeding us a meal each day from the different restaurants they have there. The youth started their mission when we arrived by unloading the trailer and heading straight to the sanctuary where they put all the decorations up, including posters around the church, all the banners, etc. They knew exactly what they needed to do and they wasted no time getting it all done and ready for the kids who would arrive the next morning. After a night's rest they arose and got ready to greet all the kids when they arrived and led a very successful VBS in Cimarron each day.

It was amazing to watch the energy they gave in leading VBS and their excitement with the kids who loved them. By Friday, we had some tears from the children who didn't want the youth to go home.

In the afternoons each day, the youth travelled to different places such as the Veteran's Memorial in Angel Fire, where all were moved by what we saw and heard, in fact, there were a lot of tears as we all realized how much these veterans had done for us. On another afternoon, the youth went to Raton where they spent a few hours swimming in the local pool and played water volleyball.

And still another afternoon, they went to Red River where they rode the chair lift up the mountain and enjoyed the beautiful sights they saw and then went on to ride go carts where they raced each other; Lilly won and Julieanne and Marlow came in last. Over all, this summer has been such a blessing to so many, including the Youth who expressed how much it meant to them to be able to minister to God's precious children and to each other both at home and on their mission trip.

We give a **Giant Thank You** to this congregation for your support of the Aftershock Youth Group and Youth Ministry.



If you would like to be a part of Prayer Warriors, you may call Ruth or the Church Office to be added.

And we know that in ALL things GOD works for the GOOD of those who love him, who have been called according ROMANS 8:28

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

Abundant Grace Free Store Our Freedom **Rev. Manish Shirlay** 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** Joleen Baughman Karen Fastnacht Nate Meyer USA Diego Leaders Larry & Melodie Huff Michael Garrison Richard & Linda Darnell Lori Buvinghausen All Caregivers Anne Cassidy-Vigil Beth Barnett Marilvn Smith All military & their families Don Taylor Ted Georae Bruce Walters John Dutil Veronica Garcia Krista Storch David Martinez Cliff Steuben **Betty Jean Highland** 



A Big thanks to Richard Timmons and grandsons (Emmet and Stetson Bland) for cooking and serving breakfast to the Sunray, TX youth group passing through on their way to a Mission trip. They are part of a Global Methodist Church in Sunray.

Your actions speak of a generous love by extending yourselves into service to others. Your efforts are appreciated. Blessings.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
RETURN TO TWO WORSHIP SERVICES 8:30 & 11 AM				1 Back to School - Los Lunas 9:30 am –Study group, Fell Hall	2	<b>3</b> KAIROS 8:30 – 4 Community Bldg.
<b>4</b> 8:30 – Worship 9:45 – Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 6:00 pm AfterShock Youth Group	<b>5</b> 9:00 – Food Pantry 9:30 – Soulkeepers, Conf Room 5 pm – Cub Scouts Auditoirum & Kitchen 6:00- Prayer Group #101 7:00 pm – Scouts, Ed Bldg, & #204	<b>6</b> Crafty Ladies, 9-2 Fellowship Hall & Kitchen	7 Crafty Ladies, 9-2 Fellowship Hall & Kitchen 5 pm – Kids Choir 5:30 pm Bible Study #101 6:00 pm – PMC Choir	8 1 pm GriefShare, Conf Room	9	<b>10</b> Threads of Love, Fellowship Hall, 10:30 am
<b>11</b> 7 am- Men's Breakfast study, Fell Hall 8:30 – Worship 9:45 – Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 6:00 pm AfterShock Youth Group	<b>12</b> 9:00 am – Food Pantry 5:30 – Cub Scouts, Educ Building 6:00- Prayer Group #101 7:00 pm – Scouts, Ed Bldg, & #204	13 9:30 am Mary Circle Fellowship Hall Girl Scout Svc Unit, Fell Hall 6:30 pm SPRC meeting, #101 6:30 pm.	<b>14</b> 5:00 pm - Kids Choir 5:30 – Bible Study, #101 6 pm – PMC Choir	15 9:30 – study group Fellowship Hall Administrative Council 6:30 pm, Confernce Room	16	17
<b>18</b> 8:30 – Worship 9:45 – Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship 6:00 pm AfterShock Youth Group	<b>19</b> 9 am – Food Pantry 9:30 -Soulkeepers, Conf Rm 5:30 – Cub Scouts Education Bldg. 6-8 – Prayer Group, #101 7 pm – Scouts, Educ Bldg & #204	<b>20</b> Crafty Ladies, 9-2 Fellowship Hall & K	<b>21</b> Crafty Ladies, 9-2 Fellowship Hall & K 5 pm – Kids' Choir 5:30 -Bible Study #101 6 pm – PMC Choir	<b>22</b> 1 pm – GriefShare, Conference Room	23	24
25 7 am – Men's breakfast study, Fell Hall 8:30 – Worship MARY CIRCLE BAKE SALE 9:45 – Sunday School 11:00 am - Worship MARY CIRCLE BAKE SALE 6:00 pm AfterShock Youth Group	<b>26</b> 9:00 am – Food Pantry 5:30 – Cub Scouts, Educ Building 6:00- Prayer Group #101 7:00 pm – Scouts, Ed Bldg, & #204	<b>27</b> Order of Arrow, Fell Hall 7:00 pm	28 5 pm – Kids' Choir 5:30 -Bible Study #101 6 pm – PMC Choir	<b>29</b> 9:30 am Study group, Fell Hall	30	31