



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LAS CRUCES

OCTOBER 29, 2015

GOOD NEWS!

Trunk or Treat Is Coming!

→ **This Saturday Oct 31** ←



What is It? Trunk or treat is an important outreach to our community, sponsored by the Congregational Life and Outreach ministry team. The essence of trunk or treat is serving kids candy from the trunks of our cars in a safe, fun environment. But there is much more, including music, food, crafts, and games.

This event is totally dependent on our Congregation to be successful.

There are lots of ways to help out in this fun event:

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| <i>Give out candy from my car trunk with optional car decoration</i> |
| <i>Run a booth for a pre-planned game (ducks, bowling, bean bags, etc.)</i> |
| <i>Devise and run my own game booth</i> |
| <i>Kitchen duty and serving food (hot cocoa, nachos, popcorn, etc.)</i> |
| <i>Donate extra candy</i> |
| <i>Table setup (planning to set up 4 pm on the 31st)</i> |
| <i>Take-down</i> |
| <i>Clean up kitchen</i> |
| <i>Lighting, power strips, extension cords</i> |
| <i>Bring a pre-carved pumpkin for pumpkin contest</i> |
| <i>Bake undecorated sugar cookies (deliver to church office by Friday, Oct 30)</i> |
| <i>Other (fill in the blank):</i> |

Please contact Stephen Taylor (sptaylor70@aol.com) or Lon Anderson (lonandenise@q.com) and let us know how you can help out



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Here is what is coming up in November at Salt & Light!

November 4th (9)- "Ask, Seek, Knock!" (Prayer Theme) Bring your favorite knock-knock jokes!

{Off Nov 11 Veteran's Day, No school, No Salt & Light!}

Sunday November 15th S&L Elementary & Middle School Sing

November 18th (10)- "Harvesting for Him!" (Thanksgiving Theme) We will decorate Tom Turkeys!

{Off Nov 25 Thanksgiving Break, No School, No Salt & Light!}

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All Saints Day Celebration

The early Christian Church marked the anniversary of a martyr's death as their "birthday" as a saint. On All Saints Day we give thanks for the lives of those who have been a blessing and influence on our lives, and who have passed on into the Kingdom of God. This year All Saints Day falls on **Sunday November 1**, and it is an appropriate time to honor and remember those who have died this past year. During the pastoral prayer at the 10:30 worship service that day I will read the names of those who have died (members and family members and friends) in the last year.

If you have a family member or friend whose name you would like included, please contact the church office **before October 28** with the name along with contact information so we can let the family know about his special worship service. There will be a sign-up sheet in the office or you may email or call our church secretary, Linda@fpc.lc or 526-5559. Whenever we repeat the Apostles Creed we say, "(I believe in) the communion of saints." On All Saints Day we are reminded that that we are connected to all the people who have loved God and followed Jesus in all times and all places. Saying the names of those who have died this past year is a way of remembering that we are a community of faith, a family of God.



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Salt & Light Sings!



On Sunday Oct 18th, Salt & Light Middle School & Elementary kids put on a super performance, led by Ms. Beth, singing and narrating the story of the Promised Land, and how Jesus rocked the boat with His disciples in a fishing/feeding miracle! These kids love to be involved in church, and we are so blessed to know each of them! God is so great!



Thanks to the kids' families making sure they came to church, and for their support & involvement in the program! Special thanks to our musically talented Director Beth, her accompanist Pat, and the multi-talented Dina!



Appreciative kudos go out to our Sunday school teachers, Brent for elementary, and Nancy Cowan & Kelly for middle school, for their cooperation with program needs! Thank you hugs go out to an awesome parent, Stacey, for providing a light snack & drink to the performers! And thanks to Natassja for assistance after the kids sang!

Everyone works together around here to make S&L productive and successful! And if we didn't have such a supportive congregation, none of this would be possible! Thanks to God for our congregation!



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The Faith & Fellowship Praise and Worship Community
has **moved to Sundays.**

Sunday Calendar – 8:45AM to 9:30AM in the Sanctuary

Nov 1: Praise Service / Communion – Pastor Norm

Nov 8: Praise Service – Pastor Himes

Nov 15: Praise Service – Matt Holt

Nov 22: Bread & Breakfast in Watkins Hall

Nov 29: Praise Service - Pastor Norm (Advent 1)

Be on the lookout for our **"Bread and Breakfast"** mornings!

Sundays at First Presbyterian is the place to be!

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A Verse for Today

⁽⁷⁾For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. ⁽⁸⁾Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you. Thessalonians 4: 7-8

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Now There's a Thought

Wise men talk because they have something to say.
Fools talk because they have to say something - Plato



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Driver Needed please *Salt & Light!*

Is anyone able to commit to a weekly pick-up ASAP from:

Hillrise Elementary School (3-4 children)?

These young children will not be able to participate in our *Wednesday Children & Youth program*, without a way to church. God will work this out, so please pray if it may be you He calls!

Thank you so much!

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Church Chuckles

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"I'm enrolling in seminary college so I can learn about miracles, like how to pay off my student loans."



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1st Pres Men: Are you interested in becoming a **Turkey Tom** this Thanksgiving??

Salt & Light has openings for you to **work with children** while you become a turkey tom! All you have to do is stand there, and the kids will transform you in a **gentle & delicate** way!

There is **no laughing or making fun** of turkey toms.

This job is taken very seriously and experience is appreciated!

You can trust the children

So if anyone believes this, apply for the position with Michelle, otherwise she will force the table-parents to do it, see above!

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Don't Forget to "Fall Back"



Daylight savings time ends this Sunday at 2 AM. So don't forget to reset your clocks before you go to bed Saturday evening. Or you could just be really early for church this Sunday! **It's also a good reminder to change the batteries in your smoke detectors.**



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Faith & Fellowship

Do you like to **EAT**? Do you like to make a **joyful noise**?
Do you like to get together with **family, friends and neighbors**?
Do you like to discuss aspects of a **Christian life**?



Did I mention **EAT**?



You are invited to **"Bread & Breakfast"** in Watkins Hall

Once a month on Sundays, Faith & Fellowship will be meeting for Faith discussions (**Bread**) and Fellowship (**Breakfast**) instead of a Praise Service.

Our first Bread & Breakfast will be **November 22nd at 8:45am**.

There is nothing to bring except a desire to be with others like you who enjoy getting together as a community of faith.

Sundays at First Presbyterian is the place to be!



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On Friday, October 23, "The Country Drifters" entertained In-Betweeners after an abundant potluck dinner. It was a terrific evening! Thanks, guys!





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A Service of Love

What happens when, for reasons of poor health or advancing age, a member of our church family is unable to attend Worship and participate actively in the life of our congregation? Though we may be involved in many things and lead busy lives, we remember Psalm 71:9, "Do not cast me off in the time of old age: do not forsake me when my strength is spent." Yes, the Scripture is clear: it is an essential part of our ministry to assure those we no longer see at Worship of God's gracious love and promises by visiting them, talking with them, sometimes just sitting quietly with them.

In the past, Rev. Marcus Burr and then Rev. Carrol Blevins helped greatly with this ministry, making a real difference to many people. When the Lord took Carrol home so suddenly, Rev. John Himes stepped up, agreeing to fill the need temporarily. He has organized our visitation ministry with regular visits and monthly Communion for those who cannot come to church. Rev. Himes has been extremely generous in giving of his time, making 35 to 40 visits each month, but he will be stepping down at the end of December. The visitation ministry is not optional, but rather a critical need that must be filled. The Session is looking for help to meet this need.

If you know of a retired pastor, even if not Presbyterian, who might be interested, we would like to speak with him or her. We are hoping God will send us someone with a compassionate heart, who could serve the Lord's Supper and work with volunteer lay visitors.

Many of our members do wonderful ministry in visiting the sick and homebound, and they find satisfaction in knowing that they're fulfilling a mission for the Lord. Even beyond that, there is real joy in getting to know the seniors who have truly amazing and interesting life experiences to tell. If you are interested in being trained and committing to serve our homebound, Rev. Norm will be happy to talk with you and provide the support you need.



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Good News S&L Oct 21st



Salt & Light Oct 21st was our 7th week, "PJ Party (Peace with Jesus)!" We decorated with peace signs & teddy bears, and wore PJs. Our verse was, Jesus said, "...Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you...Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27). Judi "knocked" another stage wall "out of the park" with her hand-made creation! Slippers got a little soggy due to our hail-stormy weather, which affected some kids & families coming to church. Once again, the schools were on "shelter" with cancelled after-school activities, and the middle & high schools didn't release kids until 4:10pm. But prayers for peace in the weather prevailed, as it cleared up by 4:45pm, and God protected all our kids & families. We missed some of our 8th graders who went on a field-trip, and look forward to seeing them next week!



We hung out in the Cinema with free-time laughing and playing until Bible & Music classes. Kathy, Marianne & Wayne made very cool jack-o-lanterns with oranges for another Halloween Snack, paired up with fresh-out-of-the-oven frosted cinnamon rolls!





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During, "Three in a Furnace?" our elem Bible teachers taught from Daniel 3 with how God gives us strength to obey Him even when we are scared. They also touched on Acts 5:29, "We must obey God rather than men!"



Breakfast-for-dinner was fabulous for those who weren't on (horrible) diets, who passed! Mr. Don and Mr. Ed cooked up pancakes, eggs, lil' smokies & fruit salad for all to enjoy! After dinner, Ms. Jamie led the kids in the very peaceful "cup-stomping game," which ended in a tie between Will & Michael! The elementary needed a few extra cups to get into their grooves, and it was a super fun night!

We are very blessed to have such a special & fun-loving group of kids and volunteers this semester! We all do this together, because it's how we do it!



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RAFFLE TICKETS

Beautiful Hand Made Quilt
Made By Ronnie Harden
Raffle will take place Sunday, Dec 6th.
Tickets: \$2 for 1 and \$5 for 3.
Ticket sales by Mid & High School Youth going on the FPC Mission Trip to South Dakota
July, 2016

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Thanks to all who have donated

great **Calendar Pictures** for Salt & Light!

We have had a nice response of people giving us
animals, flowers, faith & whimsy pictures and cards!

We will keep them to use with future themed decorations!

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In the Morning

O God, before I tackle the tasks of this day, I ask You to direct, control, and guide me through all its hours.

Grand that today I may never, even for one moment, forget Your presence.

Today I do not want to take any step, or come to any decision, without Your guidance.

Lord, keep my lips, that they may speak no evil, derogatory, or discouraging word.

Keep my eyes, that they may never linger on anything sordid or forbidden.

Keep my hands, that I may do my work with diligence, remembering that all my work is for You.

Keep my mind, that no soiled or bitter thought may lodge there.

Keep my heart, that it may be always warm and glowing with thoughts of Your goodness,
Your faithfulness, Your love.

I ask Your help, that I may begin, continue, and end this day with You.

Amen

It's time to
"Fall Back!"
Daylight Savings Time
Ends Sunday at 2am



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Seen Around Church



The Good News is a publication of First Presbyterian Church of Las Cruces, New Mexico and distributed on Thursday of each week. Anyone wishing to have information published in The Good News should send it via email to LCFEL01@MSN.COM. Deadline for inclusion in the Thursday issue is 12:00 Noon on Wednesday of that week. Back issues of the Good News are available on the church's web site (URL <http://www.zianet.com/fpc>) under publications or more directly at <http://gnews.qzxservices.com>