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We are beginning to organize a "Need Knows no Season" project to adopt some families in need like we do at Christmas time. Last year we helped 25 families through the Pojoaque Elementary school system, and it was well received. They were so appreciative. I just got the contact for them today and will be asking how this might work given the COVID restrictions in place.

I would like for you to pray about it, maybe even fast about it, and then help with this act of kindness as



## Are you feeling exhausted?



When a cat senses a dog, the alarm bells ring, and its hair stands on end. It can't stay in this state for very long, so it must decide rather quickly whether it needs to fly, fight, or figure out that the dog didn't even notice it, which might mean that after the dog passes, the cat can go back to its previous business. But if the dog hangs around, the cat will have to adapt to its continued presence. They might become friends, but it is more likely that the cat will be in a constant state of potential danger. A cat can only adapt to a prolonged sense of potential danger for so long, and then it will collapse out of exhaustion.

We are going into our sixth month of being exposed to a prolonged sense of potential danger. Thankfully, none of us have been infected with COVID-19. But others have. And all of our lives have been disrupted by the precautions we have to take because of the constant threat of exposure. We are adapting. We are implementing best practices. But we are also growing weary, some are even becoming exhausted. And the threat of being exposed is not going away any time soon.

What can we do? We could find some relief from the truths recorded in Bible. Here are a few verses to get your started: (1) "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." Mt. 11:28-30 (2) Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful. JN 14:27 (3) Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; For the Lord God is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation." Isaiah 12:2 (4) I have strength for every situation through Him who empowers me. Phil. 4:13

We could find ways to share God's love with those who do not yet know His promises. Ways that bring relief to our friends and neighbors who are exhausted from being stressed out for so long. We can pray that God uses us to help them discover His rest.

Peace in Christ,  
Pastor Doug



## WHAT SHOULD BE THE CHRISTIAN'S RESPONSE TO RACIAL TENSIONS?

*Covid 19 and the civil unrest in our nation is in the news and on our hearts daily. We are figuring out ways to "be together" while following unprecedented restrictions. We are heartbroken that innocent lives are being lost on the streets of America. We wonder, "What can I do? Should the church be more actively involved? Is this a civil, political issue or a religious, spiritual issue?"*

*I pray that we will devote ourselves to God and cast our anxieties on Him. Trust that the Spirit will protect us from bitterness. We must have confidence that the gospel is powerful and the church will not be overwhelmed.*

*We believe that Jesus and the gospel destroys "the dividing wall of hostility," Eph. 2:14 NIV.*

*Kevin DeYoung at The Gospel Coalition is writing a series of articles addressing these questions. This is one of several thoughtful resources I ask you to consider. One answer is found in the biblical teaching that we are made in the image of God. These several implications follow regarding race and racism.*

***First**, and most obviously, the image of God speaks to the inherent worth and dignity of every human being.*

***Second**, if the image of God reminds us of who we are, it also directs us to what we ought to be.*

***Third**, we would do well to start with what we have in common rather than with what separates us.*

***Fourth**, as image bearers, we are free moral agents, responsible before God for our choices.*

***Fifth**, we should seek to understand our fellow image bearers as whole people, not as truncated versions of the worst parts of their life and character.*

***Sixth**, we should be slow to attribute to individual image bearers the unfavorable characteristics associated with a broader group identity—especially when that broader group identity was not freely chosen or the broader group denounces those unfavorable characteristics.*

*For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. (1 Cor. 2:2 NIV).*

**See Thinking Theologically About Racial Tensions: The Image of God**

**by Kevin DeYoung at The Gospel Coalition**



## Who's Who in the Pews

Wencil & Pat McClenahan moved to Santa Fe from Fullerton, California in 2017, after Wencil retired from Boeing, after 25 years. He was born and raised in Los Alamos and first attended our church in 1955. He has also worked in the retail auto industry. He is building a garage in which to build a Cobra kit car. Additionally, he likes to fly fish and learn new things.

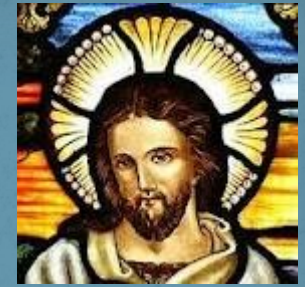
Pat is from Dodge City, KS. She was a bookkeeper at local businesses in Las Cruces and Everett, WA. She enjoys reading, keeping up with the Grandkids and horseback riding at their daughter, Dianne's home in Rowe, NM.

They each have two children from previous marriages. They became members of our church in 2018, shortly after returning to New Mexico. That was always there goal - to return here.

## The Frame Game Who is this?



Last month was  
**Kayleen Hovey**



Don't make  
smoothies  
anymore! The  
blender is scary  
on my ears!

-Elly, age 3

## Just one of our Los Alamos Christian Church Missions



**Back to school on the 13th**

When families have exhausted the resources of their local church, school and community and still face a crisis that threatens to overcome the families' ability to sustain itself, the most likely place to turn to is the government-run foster care or juvenile justice system. Cookson Hills provides an alternative to those families by offering residential care for their child in a family-modeled environment, individualized Christian education, vocational training, spiritual formation programs, and specialized therapeutic services.

In these days of doubts and uncertainties, we at The Christian Church of Los Alamos have confidence that God still communicates to us through His Word, the Bible. Surely, the Creator is able to make Himself understood. We have confidence, therefore, that the ultimate expression of God's will is in the Bible, supremely in the person of Jesus Christ, whom we confess to be God's Son, our Savior and Lord who gave His life as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

We welcome to our fellowship every person, regardless of previous affiliation, who accepts Jesus as the Christ, and who will share a willingness to conform their lives and practices to the guidance of the Scripture. In the essentials of faith clearly expressed in its pages, we seek unity of conviction. In areas where Scripture does not clearly speak, we seek liberty for each person. In our relationships with each other, we advocate love and trust.

The adventure of discipleship has led us to some practices that may seem novel to Christians more bound by church tradition. It has led us to a weekly observance of the Lord's Supper, to limiting baptism to those old enough to make a personal commitment of faith for themselves, and to the dramatic and ancient practice of baptism by immersion--an unmistakable burial and resurrection with Christ.

When one accepts the good news of Christ, they discover all that they need to make it through life, and all that they need to be prepared for eternity. In Christ is met all of our ultimate needs for a sense of significance, meaning, and eternal purpose. In Him as well is met our need for acceptance, love, and freedom from guilt. This liberating gospel becomes the wellspring from which our service to God through the ministries of our church flow. We reach out to our community in His name with His love that they too may encounter the good news.

At the Christian Church, we practice the principle of the ministry of all believers, for God's Spirit indwells and gifts each one. We encourage, train, and support every member to be faithful followers and servants of Jesus Christ. As a result, we believe you will find a fresh and vital kind of Christian faith here. You will also find a vigorous church life in which you and your family can get involved. Your growth and development in Christ is our principal concern. Let us know how we can help you!



## AUGUST ONLINE EVENTS

### FOR OUR YOUTH AND CHILDREN

Check out the "Children and Youth Ministries of LACC" Youtube channel where you will see the past and latest videos of those respective ministries.

The children and youth ministries continue to meet online through our church's new Faithlife platform.

The Preschoolers and Younger Elementary meet Mondays at 4 p.m

Middle Schoolers on Tuesdays at 3:45

Older Elementary on Wednesdays at 4:00

And High Schoolers on Thursdays at 6:30 pm

If your child or youth hasn't signed up yet for these online ex-

periences, Pastor Steve will be happy to work with you to set up your Faithlife account.

Then your child and or youth can have a wonderful opportunity of some online fun, community building, a time of scripture discovery, and prayer.



See our website at:

[www.lachristian.org](http://www.lachristian.org)



### Adult Life Group Class

Is meeting onsite on Wednesday nights at 6:30 here at the church. It is only onsite. They are studying through First Corinthians.



### The Young Adult LifeGroup

meets on Tuesday at 7PM You can also join it online, email [ccpastor@msn.com](mailto:ccpastor@msn.com) to get the directions on how to do so.

## OUR NEWEST WORSHIP LEADER GREG PORT WELCOMES YOU

I'm from all over the U.S. I grew up as a military brat, moved 8 times between birth and high school graduation. I ultimately did my undergraduate degree at Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Massachusetts and came here in May of 2017 after graduating

I was offered a student position at LANL and decided to take it along with doing a Master's part time online. Shortly after graduating, I was offered a full staff position and have been here since. With regards to this church, Pastor Partin and his family were friends of my family when we lived here

between 2010 and 2011. When I came back, I decided to give this church a try and came to greatly appreciate Pastor Partin's amazing sermons, the congregation's overall friendly nature, and the opportunity to serve the church through music.

Outside of drumming and music, I am a car guy. Last year, I started getting into autocross. I also enjoy golfing. Otherwise, I have a general interest in computers and technology, like playing video games, and even have a minor in game development. Ultimately, I hope to follow God's will for my life. With regards to music



leadership, I would like to praise God with my own style of worship music and hope to be able to introduce these musical styles of worship to the congregation..





*Thanks to you all*



## OUR MEDIA PEOPLE

From top left to right:

Gretchen Keirstead, Rick Hinckley, Steve Hanson,  
Roy Keirstead, Reid Pettit, Tammy Hinckley, Cathy Hadley,  
Kayleen Hovey and Barb Hanson



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The people who operate our sound system each Sunday are referred to as our SOUND TECHs. The sound board is a "Must have" piece of equipment for us! It is a major part of our worship service, therefore falling under the Worship Ministry. It looks very complicated, but it really isn't. It just takes a little time to learn how everything works. The Techs are on a rotating schedule and therefore are not required to be there every Sunday. If you think this is a ministry you would like to serve in, please contact Pastor Doug or Gretchen Keirstead and we'll get you into a training program. This is a vital position and your service would be

GREATLY APRECIATED!

# Our Mission

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Our church has new mission and vision statements and we would love to introduce them to you. We have prepared a web-based presentation to help you understand the rationale for such statements, to answer some of the frequently asked questions about them and to provide you with the scriptural underpinnings that are foundational to them. We sincerely hope that you will take a few moments sometime soon to see what we've put together for you.

Here is a brief sampling of some of the questions that are addressed:

- Do we really need mission and vision statements?
- What is a mission statement and what's it good for?
- What is a vision statement and what's it good for?
- We've got the Bible. What better expression of our mission and vision as a church could there possibly be than that?
- Didn't we already have a mission statement? Why change it?

You can't miss the link to this presentation in the middle of our church home page, <http://www.lachristian.org> . Please feel free to contact any of the elders with your comments and suggestions.

Make peace with your past  
so it doesn't spoil the present!



## Mayhem with the Mertzes

Michael Irish had been approached by Bobby Houlton and Dennis Wilhoit, about his beautiful Hawaiian shirts. Bobby had noticed them when the Irish family had been at the church doing the HULA FOR GOD programs. Michael reluctantly introduced Bobby to Layloni Hockapooowie, who had her own (over the road) shirt shop. Michael liked being the only one wearing Hockapooie shirts. Layloni gave Bobby her internet site address and he was in heaven!

Shirts, shirts, shirts and more shirts were ordered. Papaya white, island orchid, coconut cream, proud to be a woman pink, so many colors, so little Bobby... Ferns, palms, lichen, sand, volcanoes all were etched onto the shirts. Dennis's eyes kind of glazed over as he and Bobby looked through the pages. Mary had to shake Dennis every once in awhile to bring him back to the real world! Layloni suggested one in particular that she felt was a huge hit. It was covered with colorful exotic birds eating all sorts of Hawaiian fruit from trees and bushes. Of course the major color of the shirt was SCREAMING PINK, Bobby's favorite!

Now, many men who would wear a shirt THAT PINK, would have to have real confidence in themselves, but Bobby just seems to love pink. He was like a caged animal while he waited for his shirts to come from Hockapooowie Enterprises. At last the day came for the shirts to arrive. One after the other, Bobby tried them all on. Pam stood by with the smelling salts.

The next Sunday Bobby was like a child waiting to show the world his new toy. He decided that the church would be his stage. He strutted through the door of the sanctuary, like a new arrival for the American Idol show, knowing he would have the **only** shirt in the house that everyone would be looking at! He stopped dead in his tracks. In front of him he found the entire Worship Team dressed out in the exact same shirt. Layloni Hockapooowie had been a very busy lady with the help of Michael Irish. Bobby was a very depressed, hyperventilating fashion flop. Pam stood by with her smelling salts, as he and his shirt melted into a blob of disappointment...



Will Bobby ever wear pink again?  
Will Pam have enough smelling salts?  
Will Hockapooowie Enterprises go national?  
Look for the answers next month in  
Mayhem with the Mertzes

