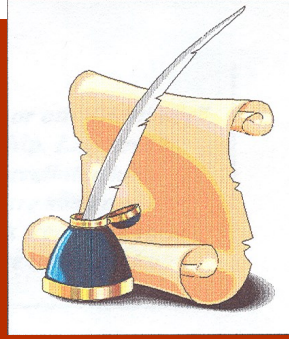


# The Holy Post



JUNE 2022

There's an old expression that states "You Can't Go Home." It came from a Thomas Wolf novel and expresses a desire to return to a perceived better time... a remembered time of great happiness that... well it never really existed in the first place. Many of us have a desire for that kind of security. It would be nice to live in a place and time where everything is just perfect.

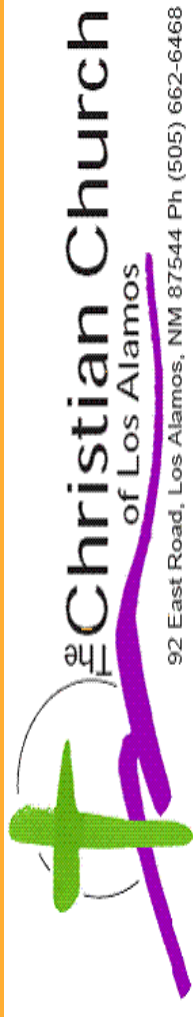
It seems that today we are one hundred eighty degrees from there. We are constantly on an unfamiliar road. The very thing that makes humans successful, our ability to adapt to change, is tearing us apart, because it is coming at us so fast! What we need to remember is that WE ARE NOT ALONE. NO MATTER WHAT COMES AT US, WE CAN MAKE IT OUR HOME!

Some of us may get lost for awhile trying to resist the change, but the change is coming... like it or not, it IS coming... all around... all the time! The good news is you can be found again! You can be reborn again. You're not alone!

We will not be the first generation to see HOME as a place from our past. A place and time where we felt more in control and less fearful is a dream that we all share. But **as change takes its toll on all generations, those places don't exist anymore...** The places have changed and so have the people. That's often why it's painful to return to those places and find everything is GONE... Like the leaves of last fall... the snows of last winter... they are gone forever...

HOME is in your heart and your mind. We left those places for a good reason. We are humans and we have a need for growth and change! HOME is part of us and always will be. It fills our hearts like our faith. Jesus is always with us as well, always... He will one day take us to our real home! A home that is beautiful and perfect all the time. **We can and we will make that our home.** We need NO FEAR of that. We will be found if we are lost... We will always be loved... We will have no desire to look back at this world and wish for it, again. We will never be alone... We will never be afraid... **Our new HOME will be PARADISE!!!**

*Phil*



# Happy Birthday

Leta Harlow	2nd
Joe Arellano	4th
Stephen Harshman	4th
Dave Mann	9th
Gretchen Kierstead	13th
Brian Rooney	17th
Michelle Irish	19th
Qualia Nasise	26th
Sherri Bublitz	27th



## Anniversaries

Bob & Sally Nolen	1st
Dave & Toni Mann	3rd
Jim & Janice Gross	12th



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## Life After Fire



After his house burned in the Cerro Grande fire back in 2000, Mike Barnes, a member of our church at the time, shared this prayer:

“Father God, Savior Jesus, Holy Spirit; Thank you for love. Thank you for Ivy [His wife] for protecting her and for her love and support. Thank you for the safety of the fire fighters and the disaster relief workers, for all that gave to my community and to me. Thank you for cleaning my closet, my attic, and my life of worldly things. Now I see clearly your love. My spirit has been set free. Thank you for the man that gave me clean underwear, for the woman that fed my fish, for the 4th graders that sent lunch, for the officer that kept me from dander, and most of all, for all that prayed for me. Thank you for those that gave me a hug. It was a big fire, but it is eclipsed by the love. Let us know that there is no greater power. In the days to come, let me not slip back into the materialism of this world. Let my light, my love, burn bright so that I do not lose this baptism of spirit, baptism by fire. In all eternity I am given only this moment. I cannot change history or even my immediate past, but will learn from it. I will dream of but not dwell on the future. I will take charge of now, the only reality. I rededicate my life to the expression of love. In the dark hours let me see past the fear and be open to you light. Today and everyday let me serve my purpose, helping others toward their potential.”

The Cerro Pelado fire is 95% contained as I write. We were Ready, Set, then No evacuation for us. And we all breathed a sigh of relief. We offered prayers of thanks because disaster was averted for us; but we have kept praying for others around our beautiful state who have suffered. There has been loss of forests, wildlife, structures, and life. Fires are still raging and the effort to contain them is ongoing. And the recovery efforts are just beginning.

We have all responded in prayer, some opened up their homes to those evacuated, some sent supplies to Glorieta and to other relief centers, and some found other ways to offer help and support. Few of our responses were the result of an official church program. They were primarily individual acts of love and compassion from those who follow Jesus trying to do as He would do. What each of us do, in following Jesus' example, adds up to make a huge difference.

You don't need an official program to help those in need. You can help any one, any time, any where. You are officially “unleashed” to respond as the Lord leads you. Want to feed the hungry? Go to your cabinet, fill up a bag with food, find a hungry person and give it to them. There are lots of hungry people around. Remind them when you do that God loves them. But maybe handing out food isn't your thing. Don't worry, there are people with a great many other needs whom you could help in Jesus' name. You don't have to do something “big,” you don't have to post it on social media; but, if you are really following Jesus, you will do something for someone. Expressing His love is what we do, it is how we are known. And God is looking forward to receiving prayers of thanks like the one Mike offered so long ago. People in need will do that when they receive the help you offer.

Peace in Christ,  
Pastor Doug Partin

## A message from Steve

### *Serving....was never an option for me.*

When asked to reflect on why I serve in the church I realized that serving was never presented to me as an option. As a child, I was taught that I was expected to participate in family activities, and was given certain tasks to accomplish on a regular basis. It was my parents' training of me and my siblings that prepared us to become active, beneficial citizens to society.

As a young believer, I was taught that being a part of a God's family means you participate in activities that benefit the family as a whole in the role, or roles, you have been given in accordance with your giftedness and calling. When, where, and how I serve was my responsibility to know and act on based on God's equipping; whether it was as a general member of the body, a deacon, or an elder.

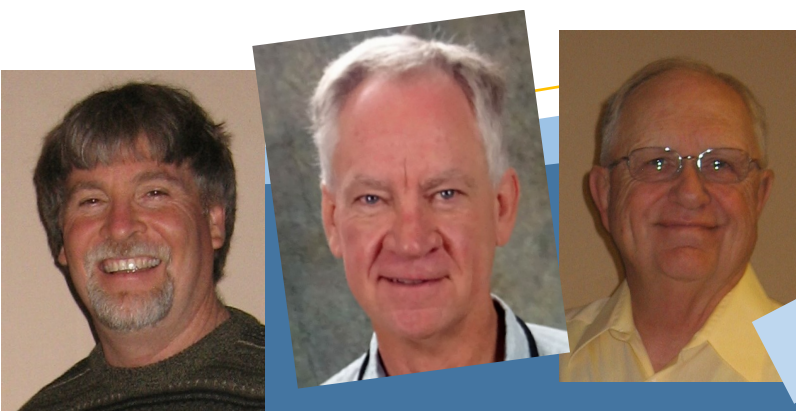
I was instilled with the understanding that each of us has a role that we are intended to fulfill in God's design of the church (1 Cor. 12:8, 12-27). It is a role that God uses in our lives to grow us into mature, functioning parts of His family here on earth, His Bride. Without each of us doing their part, the body/family/bride suffers and the view the world has becomes tainted (Ephesians 4:11-24). Perhaps most importantly my service is done out of respect, obedience, and reverence because of what God in Christ has done for me. As Romans 12:1 says, it is my "...spiritual service of worship."

There is an old song that reminds me of the special relationship(s) I am in with those that have accepted Jesus as Lord and Savior. They're family!

### **The Family of God**



### **Rick Hinckley, Bob Houlton, Bob Nolen & Steve Hanson**



*These are your 2022 Elders*

## Who's who in the Pews?



**Kevin and Inna Bohn:** came to Los Alamos in 2016 from Madison, WI. Kevin works at LANL.

They love to travel. Inna's mother was trapped in Ukraine, until Inna went there to bring her here, last month. They hope that the war there will end soon and that the Crimea area will be Ukrainian, again.

They have 3 children: Keetah, 12 Sebastian and Levi 7.

They like the friendliness, genuine care, prayer support and the patience we share with their children.

## The Frame Game Who is this?



Last month was  
**Evan Anderson**



***From the mouths of Little Ones***  
Angels work for God and watch out for kids  
when God has to do something else



Leah Mae Peterson.

The newest member of the Peterson family  
and our Church family



June 22nd Pizza meal provided by Szymon and Carolyn Tuzel.

Devotional by Doug.

Preschool and children activities. TBA

Youth will play with and help with games. Matt will be recruiting Youth.

Adult picnic table talk with Doug.

## Prayer Garden



A refresh to our

Prayer Garden.

Hope You

Enjoy it.



# JUNE CELEBRATIONS

June 8 , 22nd and July 22

Urban Park

5:45pm - 7:45pm

Picnic foods provided by Kathy Anderson. Let church office know if you're coming by Monday morning, June 6.



Devotional led by Pastor Doug.

Activities:



Preschoolers: Water play led by Matthew White.



Children: Outdoor games led by Lee Anderson.

Youth: will be able to play along and or help with games. *Matt will be recruiting youth.*

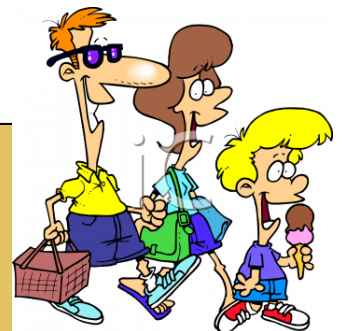


Adults picnic table talk with Pastor Doug.

**There will be a Father's Day Picnic June 19<sup>th</sup>**

Join us and share the fun. Bring your lawn chairs, sports equipment and a side dish or dessert. It all begins after

service at about 11:30 am - 2:pm @ East Park



See our website at:

www.lachristian.org



### Triple Treats

Triple Treats will be at the Hollowell's home on June 14th and included the Logans and the Yeamans. Games (no brainers) will follow. If you'd like to be on our list for Triple Treats, just call 920-7367, email me at [philanddorii@msn.com](mailto:philanddorii@msn.com) or let us know when we see you at church. This is a "Parents Night Out" event. We try to mix it up with new members and old. The Hollowells will supply the main course and ask the other friends to bring a salad or dessert to share.

*It's a great way to meet new people in our church.*

## SAYING GOODBYE TO GRETCHEN

**Secretary**  
Gretchen Kierstead began serving the Christian Church of Los Alamos in 2002. As secretary, she was focused on keeping our congregation in touch, the books balanced, and our pastors well supported.

Like many of us it has come time for her to



retire and enjoy traveling and other activities of retirement. She has been a

very reliable and generous servant of our lord.

**Thanks Gretchen.**

\*\*\*\*\*

We give extra special love and prayers to the families of the horrific events that took place in Texas, We cannot nor do we wish to know the agony they are going through. We can only make known that we care and love them in this difficult time.



Look what your  
donations helped to do!



For the fire relief help!

## Please Pray as we go to Camps!

We celebrate that we have children, middle schoolers, and high schoolers going to camp this year (that's right, three camps!)

*Please pray that God will speak to us who are going and that we may be refreshed and challenged to make a difference with our friends back at home.*

(participants as of May 25)

Two CIY (Christ in Youth) camps at Glorieta

Adventure Camp, Glorieta, NM



1. **Youth:** Samantha Corrales and Fredrick Hasselstrom; Adult sponsors Morgan Irish (& Makoa) and Pastor Steve.
- 2.
3. "MOVE" High Schoolers, June 25-29. MIX," Middle Schoolers, June 5-9



**Youth:** Maddi and Noah Banks, Celeste El-Darazi, Stephen Harshman. Adult sponsors Maricel Hasselstrom (& Freja); Matthew White, and Pastor Steve.

The third camp is Children's "Prospectors" camp in Como, Colorado, June 20-23  
Children: Max El-Darazi, Freja Hasselstrom, and Natalia Tuzel. Adult sponsor: Pastor Steve.

**Please pray for two youth who are a part of our youth group:** Keetah Bohn and Jaden Lloyd. They will be missionaries Christian Youth in Action (Child Evangelism Fellowship).

These two youth will be working with children in VBSs and Bible clubs around NM throughout the summer.





## Mayhem with the Mertzes

Grampa Ulley and Grandma Utesha were visiting and taking care of the children. They all listened as Grandma Utesha told stories of her childhood.

"We used to skate outside on a pond. We would shovel down to the ice and smooth it with our hose and a squeegee. It was wonderful fun. We would fold a towel up and put it in our snow pants so it didn't hurt as much when we fell.

I had a swing made from a tire; it hung from a tree in our front yard. It was such fun, because you could ride it in all kinds of positions.

We rode our pony. Her name was Kitty and she was the most beautiful color of butterscotch. She would follow me around waiting for me to give her a carrot.

We picked wild raspberries in the woods behind our barn. They were small, but there were tons and tons of them and boy were they sweet!"

Finally, Squirt could stay quiet no longer. Wide-eyed and full of amazement after taking this all in, at last she said,

"Gee Grandma, I sure wish I'd gotten to know you sooner, when you were still fun!"

Will Grandma Utesha tell any more stories?  
Will Squirt want a pony, now?  
Will Grandma Utesha try to be more fun?  
Look for the answers next month in  
Mayhem with the Mertzes

