



MARCH 2010

Sharing the love of christ

NEW HORIZONS PRESCHOOL AND CHILDCARE CENTER “Our Window Into The Community”

Presbyterian New Horizons has been a mission of FUPC for almost 36 years. During those years New Horizons has Graduated more than 350 students. Many of these students have returned with their own children and some with grandchildren.

When doing interviews for Holy Conversations it was discovered that in some cases we were known as the Church next door to New Horizons, which clearly demonstrates the schools impact on our community.

The curriculum is Judeo/Christian based, full of love, caring, acceptance, and forgiveness. There are students of all religions enrolled and all religious holidays are honored.

Shirley Sandoval (a 33 year veteran) has had reports that the children who come from New Horizons are better prepared to start school than many others. Many of the children go directly into the gifted programs. Aside from Shirley there are 2 assistants(both having worked for over 24 years) and a substitute who has been with the school over 10 years.

New Horizons began as a mission, but has grown into a self supporting endeavor over the years. Not only have they supported themselves but they have contributed to this Church for many years.

New Horizons is experiencing some financial difficulties right now, due to changes in government funding for childcare in our public schools. So FUPC has decided that it may be time for us to take a more active part in the operations of New Horizons once again. We have decided to create a task force to evaluate how FUPC can best support and encourage the school.

It would be very nice if we as individual members of the Congregation of FUPC could step up and share our gifts with our own home town mission. They are in need of healthy daily snacks (the staff has been paying for the snacks out of their own pockets), some personal time spent with the children and of course financial assistance. Anything you can share would be appreciated. Pray for Shirley and the Staff as the work through this new challenge.

You can reach Shirley at 505-425-3258 or through the Church office.

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THANKSGIVINGS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

<u>Church Members/ Participants</u>	<u>Family/Friends</u>	<u>Worldwide and Local Community</u>
Rosemary, Anna Marie and Raymond Emil Bender Randy Campbell Trudy Trivalos Helen O'Brien	Shirley Sandoval and New Horizons Martin Jenka Val Eisenhower Valerie Klassen Victoria Klassen Lisa Conkle David Salman	The citizens of Haiti and the recovery workers Those suffering from vio- lence Those suffering from ad- diction The Cold Weather Shelter

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:30AM

WORSHIP AT 10:30AM

Thanks to the Session, Deacons, and all members and friends that attended the marathon annual meeting! We appreciate your willingness to participate in the Holy Conversations process and provide your valuable input! A special thanks to the Deacons for getting the flocks together and helping provide a great meal. If you missed the annual meeting it is not too late to participate. The Discovery Report is posted on our website and is also available upon request.

The Holy Conversations team will be attending a final retreat on Mar 5 and 6 in Albuquerque. Our goal in the 16 month process was to provide a solid foundation culminating with the Discovery Report to allow us as a church to discern what God is calling us to do. Together we can live into and implement SCORE!

In Christ,
Carol Linder, Chair Holy Conversations



The Christian Education Committee saysThanks to our winter Amigos teachers and assistants, Carol and Charlie Linder; Joyce, Carol and Christina Litherland; Rosie and Beth Lopez, Alexis Mamaux; Cody Romero, Juli and Molly Salman, Bonnie and Connie Trujillo; Lucille VanHorn; and Gay and

Rustie Veit.

In addition, the Worship and Music Committee celebrates the gifts of the musicians who participate in the choirs. Lent always requires a bit more time and dedication of those folks.



CAMPUS MINISTRY GROUP ANNOUNCES UPCOMING EVENTS Name to Change to "LIFT"

The United Campus Ministry has a new handle. They are now called **LIFT** which is an acronym for Life in Fellowship Together.

Currently scheduled activities are listed below:

Weekly Bible Study: Tuesdays 8pm in the youth room on the second floor, enter from Diamond.

Monthly Lunch: next meal will be Mar 17 or 31

Midterm Study Night (new time): March 2 - 8:00pm until midnight

Contact Grant Chesbro for more information (gchesbro@live.nmhu.edu).



NOW SHOWING First Friday Flicks Presents...

7:00pm, March 5, 2010 at Faith Hall
Cake Eaters (2007)

The return of aspiring musician Guy Kimbrough (Jayce Bartok) to his family home in upstate New York shakes up his father, Easy (Bruce Dern), and brother Beagle (Aaron Stanford), both still devastated by the recent death of the family patriarch. As the three men struggle to connect, each also tries to find love. Actress Mary Stuart Masterson's directorial debut, this moving drama co-stars Kristen Stewart, Elizabeth Ashley and Miriam Shor. (Courtesy netflix.com)

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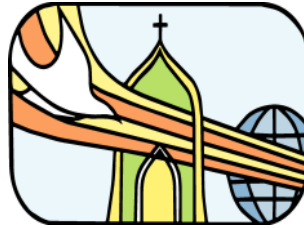
ONE HUNDRED-FORTY YEARS OF PRESBYTERIAN MISSION WORK IN LAS VEGAS, NEW MEXICO

Reverend John Annin, his wife Elizabeth and son Willie arrived in Las Vegas by stage on the 24th of October, 1869, at four o'clock in the morning. Reverend Annin set out immediately to hold regular Worship Services, The initial services were held in the parlor of the Exchange Hotel.

On the first of March, 1870, the mission school was opened in the parlors of the Masonic Temple. The school had a grand name, The San Miguel County Educational and Literary Institute. It opened with four (4) scholars, Jesse S. Taylor, son of John L. Taylor; Alfred and Sephenia Green, children of Alfred Green, Sr.; and Willie Annin. The enrollment quickly grew, as soon as word got around, about what good teachers Mr. and Mrs. Annin were and before the first term was over seventeen (17) in all were enrolled. Rev. Annin furnished some of the students with their writing materials and copy books and this was a big attraction to the poor people in Las Vegas.

Rev. Annin wrote in a letter to the Board of Missions, All that was provided by the school, "Moreover two (2) of the five (5) Hispanic in the school are members of my family constantly; and for the privilege of teaching them we board them and in great part clothe them." Willie had company at home, Jesus and Maria Martin, the children of a family who lived too

far out of town for the children to get in every day. So the Annins took them in as permanent boarders for the school term. This type boarding school was one of the earliest, if not the earliest in New Mexico. Rev. Annin's school in more or less continuous form was to continue in Las Vegas until 1889, when it was moved to Albuquerque and became the beginning of the present Menaul School. The Menaul School has many devoted alumni today in the Las Vegas and Mora areas.



On the 20th of March, 1870 Rev. John Annin gathered eight (8) persons to form a church. They being, Rev. John Annin, Elizabeth Annin, Jose Ynez Perea, Jose Antonio Chavez, Teodocio Chavez, Celso Gonzales, Tomas Maes, Mrs Alfred Green and Alfred Green. They met in the living room of the residence of Judge Louis Sulzbacher on West National, the house just east of the Mason Temple where Rev. Annin was holding his school. The Masonic Temple is the building just east of the residence of Judge Luis E. Armijo.

John Annin was an ardent Free Mason, this accounts for the fact that he obtained the use of the facilities of the Chapman Lodge #2 A.F.& A.M., for his first school. The school met in the Masonic Temple from 1870 until when it moved to the new church building at Chavez and Socorro Sts.

Kindness, Compassion and generosity are reflections of God's love.

"Blessed are the givers"
(2 Corinthians 9:7)

And grateful are the receivers...

We at Presbyterian New Horizons just cant thank you enough for your kindness and generosity.

Lillian and Art Bustamante

Adela Cde Baca

Shirley Sandoval

In The Mailbag



Dear Church members,

Thank you so much for responding to Georgia Ortiz's plea for funds to keep our Summer Program going this year. Your contribution of \$100 will be a big help toward that goal. In return, we will continue to do our best to provide quality programming for the kids of Chimayó and Abiquiú, both after school and during the summer.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2010.

Sincerely,

Doug Clark

Executive Director

Boys and Girls Club, Del Norte



FROM THE PASTOR Dear Friends,

As Lent began this year I accidentally began re-reading Annie Dillard's Pulitzer Prize winning book, Pilgrim at Tinker Creek. I have no TV right now and had been rummaging through the bookcase during the dark, cold winter evenings.

The book is a theological, biological journal, in which Annie records her intimate observations of the immense varieties of beings who live or visit the area around the creek where she resides in rural Virginia. She includes all manner of things visible to humans and invisible except sometimes through a microscope, "all creatures, great and small". It seems that hardly anything escapes her undivided attention and research. The abundance of wild, scary and sublime creatures inhabiting her world, above and below ground, causes her to ponder the nature of a Creator responsible for it all. Her descriptions of some of the monstrous types of insect behaviors are certainly gruesome. I'll spare you the gory details, but you might check out the habits of female praying mantises if you need something to shock you. Or stylops. Or parasitic wasps. She observes the unlikely processes by which some species develop from egg to adult. I certainly wouldn't bet any money that any individuals could possibly survive to maturity – but they do. She also comments on humans from time to time.

In order to honestly observe, Annie developed a way of being that "has no captions". She sees without internal mental comment on what's happening in the present, no matter how surprising or awesome. For instance, she sits close to a copperhead snake, after warning it she's in the neighborhood – so close she sees it being bitten by a mosquito, defenseless.

Annie threads the book with Biblical images and quotations, honestly seeking to both discover what she really believes and stretch her belief to include the raw beauty and ugliness of what she observes. At the end of it all, she concludes with paragraphs of thanksgiving and praise, her faith, sense of the mystery, freedom, abundance and wildness of God having been strengthened. Because of this, the book follows a Lenten pattern. It suggests we take plenty of time to carefully observe what's going on in and around us now, without mental comment. It takes courage and daring to stretch our faith large enough to honestly include reality without our fearful filters and desired outcomes attached. You might well be surprised by what you notice! God's presence with us now on our Lenten pilgrimage is the only guarantee that Easter, in the distance, will be filled with deeper meaning, stronger faith and praise.

"Sometimes I ride a bucking faith while one hand grips and the other flails in the air, and like any daredevil I gouge with my heels for blood, for a wilder ride, for more."
(from Pilgrim at Tinker Creek, p. 269.)

God bless us on our Lenten journeys (wild rides?), and may we dare to go for more.

Randy



During the month of February the New Horizons students have been learning the concepts of "how many" and "how much" using numbers. They have enjoyed making things out of play-dough. They read lots of picture stories, many of which were about the presidents (for Presidents' Day). Speaking of holidays, they read the story of the ground hog for Ground Hog's Day and talked about what it means if he sees his shadow.

Science was fun, too, as the kids got to touch a large icicle and learn how they are formed. They also spent time talking about dinosaurs and their habitats and got to watch a video about the different kinds.

Then they made some wonderful pictures of dinosaurs to hang on the wall.

For Valentines Day we all celebrated by singing songs and playing games. The children made valentine figures using heart shapes. They decorated bags to use as containers for all their valentines cards and treats. Thanks to all the parents, children and staff for all of the great food and gifts for the Valentines Day party.

Please remember to read to your children for our "Bikes for Books" program which will end on May 3, 2010. READ, READ, READ!!



3/7	Third Sunday in Lent—Communion	Preacher	John Detterick
		Liturgist	Amos Estrada
		Piano	Fred Salas
3/14	Fourth Sunday in Lent	Preacher	Val Isenhower
		Liturgist	Jack Van Horn
		Piano	Em Krall
3/21	Fifth Sunday in Lent — Communion	Preacher	Gay Veit
		Liturgist	Randy Campbell
		Piano	Fred Salas
3/28	Palm Sunday	Preacher	Val Isenhower
		Liturgist	Paul Wilson
		Piano	Fred Salas

*Lenten worship services every Wednesday during Lent at First United Methodist Church at noon

<u>Deacon of the Month</u>	<u>Elder of the Month</u>
Sharon Vander Meer	Amos Estrada

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Approval of creation of a Support Team for New Horizons School/Day Care. The Team will include people from the N.H. Board, the church plus parents and;
- Approval, with joyful consent of the N.H. Board, that the church treasurer include New Horizons' finances in the church's new accounting system;
- Approval of the Kitchen Committee's general layout as sketched and plans for presentation to the congregation;
- Approval of request to match funds from the congregation with Benevolence Funds to be given to the Menaul School Furnace Fund. Rev. Jim Collie, long-time Executive Presbyterian of Santa Fe Presbytery, will be leaving that post on April 1 and has designated the Menaul School Furnace Fund to receive funds from those who wish to thank and honor him for his service; and,
- Approval that the church join many other New Mexico faith communities encouraging the Interfaith NM Health Security Campaign by signing a statement.

KITCHEN COMMITTEE CALLS FOR OPINIONS

The Kitchen Committee is putting the final touches on an exciting plan for kitchen renovation to present to the Congregation. We believe the plan will result in a kitchen that is much easier to use because the different functions – preparing, serving and cleaning up – have their own “zones.” No more squeezing past servers, dodging the stove hood or hunting for a match. The project will be funded with a generous gift from Marilyn Ernest’s estate.

A display of the plan, guiding principles, various views of the layout and many details will be posted in the Fellowship Hall by Sunday March 7th. There are four ways you can tell us what you think:

- Leave a note in the Trustee’s mailbox
- Call any kitchen committee member (phone numbers below)
- Post on Facebook
- Attend a March 14th meeting at 4:30 PM where the committee will present the plan and answer questions

We really want to know what you think.

Tuesday March 23rd at the 6:30 PM the Session will vote on proceeding with the project at its regular monthly meeting.

Richard Lindeborg 425-9120	Pat Rucker 454-9707
Juli Salman 425-9421	Susan Swan 425-6923
Connie or Diego Trujillo 425-8901	Jack Van Horn 454-9301
Gay Veit 690-0022	

AMIGOS START SPRING EARLY!

The spring quarter for our Amigos de Cristo Sunday school class begins March 7 for children pre-K through 7th grade. The Bible verse for each week is featured in a critter-filled poster on the bulletin board in fellowship hall.

The remaining Sundays in Lent will be devoted to lessons from the four gospels, including the narrative of Palm Sunday, the cleansing of the temple, the last supper, and Jesus praying in the garden.

April moves on to the narrative of the empty tomb from Luke and stories from Acts, including healing by Peter and John, Philip and the Ethiopian official, and conversion of the first Gentiles.

May’s lessons come mostly from the story of Paul’s conversion in the book of Acts, including his experience on the Road to Damascus, his escape from the city, and how Barnabas helped Paul gain acceptance by the followers of Christ in Jerusalem. Our last lesson for the school year is on May 23: the story of Pentecost.

We will continue to base the Time for Young Disciples on a small portion of the Amigos curriculum’s scripture for each Sunday.

First United Presbyterian Church

1000 Douglas Avenue
Las Vegas, NM 87701



MARCH

INVITATION TO LENTEN ACTIVITIES

We have an increase of opportunities to worship during Lent, participating both with our congregation and the ecumenical community of Las Vegas. Here's a listing of what's available:

Sunday, February 28 at 2:30 p.m. there will be a concert at the First United Methodist Church. It will include a wide range of music and musicians, including the Methodist Bell Choir.

Sunday, February 28 through Sunday, March 28: After worship bread and soup lunches followed by a study led by Commissioned Lay Pastor Candidates on the book, [Following Jesus: Biblical Reflections on Discipleship](#) by N.T. Wright.

Wednesday, February 24 through Wednesday, April 24: Noon Lenten Services at First United Methodist Church. The service follows Holden Village Evening Prayer, a contemplative musical service. Brief meditations will be offered each week by local clergy. The services will conclude by 1:00 p.m.

A Seder Meal will be hosted at the First United Methodist Church, beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Maundy Thursday, April 1.

There is a suggested donation and reservations are required. Please contact the church office if you are interested. The Maundy Thursday Service will be at St. Paul's Peace Church at 7:30 p.m. Either Rosemary or Randy will be preaching. There will be two Good Friday Services this year, one at noon at St. Paul's Peace Church and the second at First United Presbyterian at 6:30 p.m., a Tenebrae Service. Rev. Pat Halverson will preach at both services.

And after Lent, Easter Sunrise Service will be held at the Old Town Mission Church at 6:30 a.m. Rev. Richard Reed will preach.

You're invited to include, as you are able, Lenten activities, worship and study as part of your Lenten Discipline.

There will be no Sunday Morning Jumpstart breakfast, youth/adult Bible Study group or Serendipity class for adults and youth from February 21 through Easter Sunday, April 4; nor will there be fellowship refreshments after church. Whatever choir is singing or ringing on a given Sunday will have its morning rehearsal later than usual: 9:45 unless announced otherwise.

There will be no Tuesday evening vespers services at FUPC on March 2 or March 16.