



# *First Presbyterian Church of Taos*

*We best serve Christ by loving all!*



*Church Newsletter*

*From our Pastor*

*July - August 2017*

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Dear friends,

It's been nothing short of a blessing getting to know you all these last six months. Believe me, it is every pastor's dream to find herself shepherding a group of sincere and dedicated people of faith who are actively seeking to discern what new ways God may be moving in their midst!

It's also been a joy to begin to get to know those of you who spend your summers with us. That's been a new experience for me – halfway through the year, getting to know a whole new group of people dedicated to the work of God in this particular church.

It is my hope, during these summer months, to spend some time in fellowship with each of you, getting to know you a little more personally. I'm looking forward to our upcoming "Dinners for Eight" and encourage you sign up for this opportunity to spend time with members of your church family that you don't usually see outside of the church walls.

Speaking of fellowship, I want to personally invite each of you to join me at the Annual Meeting of the Jicarita Cluster. We'll meet at Camp Loma Verde on Saturday, August 12, from 11 AM to 2 PM for a time of worship, fellowship, and of course, good food!

If you haven't heard of the Jicarita Cluster (I hadn't until I came to this church), it is a group of Presbyterian Churches in Northern New Mexico, mostly smaller churches like our own, that share a Hispanic heritage and have traditionally collaborated in mission and ministry. The Jicarita Cluster has been less active in the last few years, to the point that its leadership met in December to talk frankly about whether the Cluster should continue. Those present did the hard work of discernment and heard a resounding "YES!" from the Holy Spirit.

And so, we forge ahead, meeting in August to nurture these relationships across churches and miles (and often mountains!), share our common joys and struggles, and trust that Spirit will show us what new work of mission and ministry we might embark on together.

I pray for and trust in the inspiring presence of that Spirit both for the Jicarita Cluster and for our own First Presbyterian Church of Taos. Let us continue to listen and step forward in faith.

Much peace to you all,

Rev. Ginna Bairby

**OUR NEW WEBSITE HAS GONE LIVE!**  
Please visit us at  
**FirstPresbyterianTaos.com**





**“A Prayer for Guidance”**

By Audrey White, from  
*Prayers for the New Social  
Awakening*, eds.  
Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty and  
Christian Iosso

Lord, please guide my feet,  
that I may walking the light of peace.  
Guide my hands,  
that I may stretch them out to those in  
need.  
Guide my arms,  
that I may embrace your broken chil-  
dren and those that I do not know.  
Guide my eyes,  
that I may see the things that unite me  
with all the people of the world.  
Guide my ears,  
that I may hear the weeping of the  
world.  
Guide my tongue,  
that I may speak only kindness, never  
destruction.  
Guide my dreams,  
that I may see the hope of the future  
through the despair of the night.  
Guide my thoughts,  
that I may learn how to create a posi-  
tive change.  
Lord, above all, please guide my heart,  
that I may love all the children of the  
world, seek justice for the oppressed,  
and live humbly under your hope.  
In the name of Your grace,  
  
Amen.

# Greetings!

Hope everyone is enjoying this time of the year with sunny skies, rain and beautiful sunsets, What a ride! Lots of things had happened since our past Newsletter. I’m glad to announce that our website is up and running, please be patient as we are still in the process of updating some of our pages.

I would like to end this Newsletter, by sending my prayers to you and your family, wishing you a great rest of the summer and hoping the end of this season leaves with beautiful memories...

Mayra Burris  
Church Administrator



Do we have your correct information?

If you have recently changed you mailing address, email address, phone number, etc. please let us know so we can update it in our Church Directory.

Please Visit Our New Website

Church Office: (575) 758-3124  
Fax: (575) 758-1124  
E-mail: [Presbychurch@qwestoffice.net](mailto:Presbychurch@qwestoffice.net)  
Website: [FirstPresbyterianTaos.com](http://FirstPresbyterianTaos.com)



**DEAR GOD,  
IN YOUR STRONG HANDS,  
I PLACE MY LIFE TODAY;  
CHOOSING TO DEPEND  
ON YOU TO LIGHT AND  
GUIDE MY WAY.  
AMEN**





## Adult Sunday School

The Old Testament Series with Amy-Jill Levine continues with Moses and Exodus during July. We have an interesting discussion on the topic and a chance to develop spiritually. The class is on Sunday at 9:30 in the Lounge.

If you have any questions, please contact John Abeln at 758-0613.

## Monthly Book Club

Readers Wanted!

Please join our monthly Book Club. Interesting discussion, nice folks, and good food. Meetings:

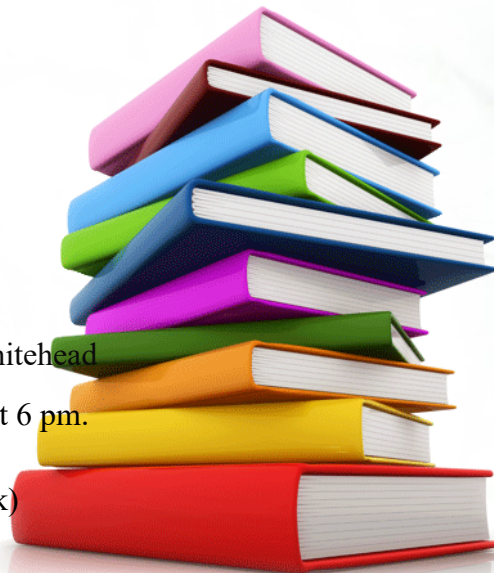
Thursday July 6th 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM  
Thursday August 3rd 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Book for July: *House of Rain* by Craig Childs  
Book for August: *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead

Our potluck dinner starts at 5:30 with discussion beginning at 6 pm. Bring a dish to share. Everyone is welcome!

Location: First Presbyterian Church, (next to Kit Carson Park)  
215 Paseo del Pueblo Norte. (Back Building)

For additional information contact:  
575-758-3124



## Knitting Group

With Marcia Kuska

The Knitting Group meets on the first and third Tuesday each month from 12 Noon until 2PM in Marcia Kuska's home. You do not have to knit (or crochet) to join us and are welcome to come for fellowship and a cup of coffee. Some of us knit, crochet, needlepoint, embroider, and mend. In the past we have made scarves and prayer shawls. We have a few of these items completed and would welcome suggestions if you know of someone you would like to give one to. Just let us know.

If you have any questions or need directions you can call  
**Marcia Kuska**  
@ (575) 751-4855.





# WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDIES

You are invited to join us for the  
2017-18 Women's Bible Study  
***CLOUD OF WITNESSES***  
***The Community of Christ in Hebrews***

Have you ever taken a look at a "dry stack fence"? Not one from a D-I-Y emporium, but one made of rough, natural stones collected from good old terra firma. Each stone in that fence wall fits that of the stones that adjoin it. In this way, the integrity of the wall is maintained. The metaphor of this study is that each of us, on our faith walk, is like a rock in the wall, supported and surrounded. Come and find the many ways that you are. You might be surprised.

Meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays from 10:00 – 11:30 Lounge.  
Beginning August 22  
Study books are available from Joan Doolittle for \$10.00



Traditionally the women do not meet in the summer. Our last regular meeting was the rummage sale in May. However, in June we assisted the family of our beloved Pastor Emeritus, John Snider, in his Memorial Service. Presbyterian women furnished desserts and shared the cost of a catered meal for family and friends with the Ranchos church women. We appreciate the efforts of JoAnn Ortiz in coordinating this event.

Our next meeting will be a planning session for the upcoming year, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am in the lounge. We hope to share ideas for making our meetings more appealing to women in our church. Please bring a sandwich and your ideas.

Our first official meeting will be September 14<sup>th</sup>.  
As Presbyterian Women our Purpose is:

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to nurture our faith through prayer and Bible Study, to support the mission of the church worldwide, to work for justice and peace, to build an inclusive, caring community of women that strengthens the Presbyterian Church (USA) and witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom.

Looking forward to working to achieve our PW Purpose.

Margaret Mactavish, PW Moderator





### TOGETHER AT THE TABLE...SHARED TABLE

On the first Sunday of each month, you are invited to bring canned or packaged foods for Shared Table, and set them near the Communion table before worship begins (not during the Sacrament itself, please). Personal hygiene items, diapers and toilet paper are also helpful. Other Sundays, items can be deposited in baskets in the coffee fellowship area, near the pulpit. During the week, donations may be dropped off at the church office during work hours Tuesday through Thursday.



### The Shared Table

2nd & 4th Wednesdays of Each Month.

11:00 AM- 12 noon

in El Prado at El Pueblito Methodist Church

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM at

Ranchos Presbyterian Church.



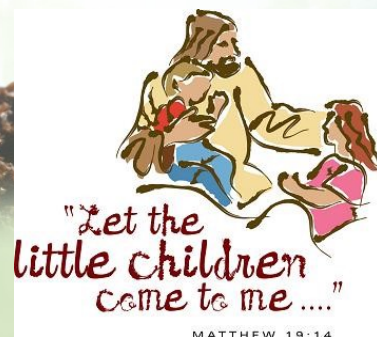
*“Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.’”*

*Mark 10:14*

### Children on Communion Sunday

As you may have noticed, we are trying something new for our youngest worshippers on Communion Sunday (the first Sunday of the month). Since our Sunday school teachers take a well-deserved week off on Communion Sundays, we’ve set up some tables with books, toys, and art supplies in the coffee room next door to the sanctuary.

Children are invited to sit at these tables and worship however they wish; after all, who’s to say that coloring and playing (quietly) aren’t beautiful forms of worship? Children area also welcome to come forward and receive the Sacrament of Communion in the service.





# Save the Dates

**Save the Date!** The Jicarita Cluster will meet on Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> from 11 AM to 2 PM at Camp Loma Verde. The theme for this annual meeting will be “Celebrating our Journey”, in which we will tell our Jicarita story with words, pictures, testimonials, and worship. We will also honor Dean Lewis for his many years of service. Main course and beverages for lunch will be provided; we ask that all who are able bring a side to supplement (salad, dessert, etc.). Please join us for this time of worship, fellowship, and celebration!



August 2nd marks the arrival of the First Presbyterian Church of Billings, Montana, Young Adult Mission Team! This ambitious group of 15, ages 20 to 24, will be tackling a laundry list of tasks ranging from re-coating the entire roof, to painting, to assisting with carpet cleaning, to grounds work. It will be a time of fellowship and lots of projects being completed. The group of 12 college-age students and 3 chaperones will be staying at Camp Loma Verde where they will assist with the closing of the camp and other camp projects. If you would like to make a monetary donation to help defray the cost of materials to repair our church please see Patsy Wright or Dave Doolittle. Would you be willing to assist with the projects? If so please see us as well, as many hands are needed to repair our church home. We are so grateful to this mission group willing to spend their vacation time with our church family! Prayers are answered!



Join in the fun! Sign up to be in one of our **Dinners for Eight** dinner groups. These will be small group dinners hosted in homes of our First Presbyterian members. The groups will meet once between August 6-16, with a date being set by each host and their group members. This fellowship activity is meant to strengthen our community through building deeper friendships. If you didn't get the chance to sign up in worship, please contact Prudy Abeln, (575) 758-0613.



## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Do you know someone who would like to join the multi-age Sunday School class? The class is open to any child between ages 4 and 11. We begin the church service in the pews with friends and family. After a spiritual gathering with Pastor Ginna we leave the sanctuary and go to the Sunday School room. Our Sunday School room is located right outside the sanctuary close to the back door. We do not meet on the first Sunday of each month as we would like to join in with our church family for Communion.

Utilizing a PC(USA) multi-age curriculum we explore the grace of God through the stories of the Old and New Testament. Your children will be inspired to embrace the love of God through pictures, songs, activities and more!

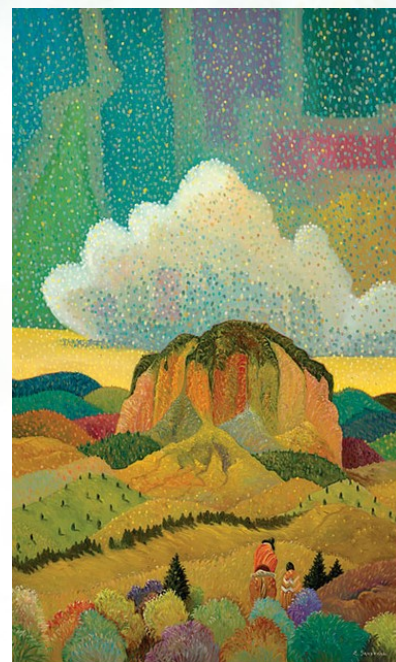
Questions? Call Patsy Wright, Multi-Age Sunday School leader at (575) 758-4648 or (865) 660-2290



Open to all teenagers and any pre-teens who “have sass”,  
as teacher Wolfgang Collins puts it.

Youth Sunday School meets during worship, at 11 AM on Sundays, in the back building. On the first Sundays of the month (Communion Sundays), youth will join us for worship in the Sanctuary.

Contact Wolfgang Collins for more information!  
(575) 770-1641



### First Presbyterian at the Fall Arts Festival!

This year, Taos First Presbyterian will participate in the Fall Arts Festival (September 22 - October 1, 2017) by opening our building for an art and craft fair and gallery. All are invited to participate, and all mediums are welcome. Along with displaying work by members of First Presbyterian Church, this year there will be a children's art space and an interactive station where you all may give expression to your creative nature.

Contact Blaine Rath (310-256-2107) for more information!



Jane & Hank Archuleta, Dulcie Romero, Gloria Mondragon, David Boles, Stephen Daniels, Eloi Mossman, Armani Abeln, Mike Pacheco, and the family of Don Bailey

*To add/remove a loved one from the prayer list, contact the Church Office at (575) 758-3124.  
To place a name on the prayer chain, contact Joan Doolittle at [jddoolittle@kitcarson.net](mailto:jddoolittle@kitcarson.net)*







**Men's Breakfast**  
1st Thursday of Each Month  
El Taoseño Restaurant 7:30 AM



**Deacon's Meeting**  
2nd Sunday of Each Month  
12:15 PM Lounge



**Worship Committee**  
1st Wednesday of Each Month  
4 PM Coffee Room



**Communion Service**  
1st Sunday of Each Month  
11 AM Service



**Session Meeting**  
3rd Tuesday of Each Month  
5 PM Lounge



**Presbyterian Women**  
Does not meet in the summer



**Property Committee**  
2nd Thursday of Each Month  
9:30 AM Lounge



- 4th - Jan Doak
- 7th - Justin Nylund
- 9th - Molly Weber
- 15th - Frances Trujillo,  
- Patricia Nylund,  
- Valorie Archuleta
- 16th - Carla McGinnis,  
- Joan Doolittle

- 17th - Stephen Daniels
- 18th - Susan Houser
- 24th - Tom Knapp
- 27th - Jerry Laughlin
- 28th - Gwen Oliver
- 31st - Lorie Weber,  
- AmyJo Clark  
- Patrick McGinnis



- 2nd - Craig & Michelle Simmons
- 4th - Jerry & Virginia Laughlin
- 12th - Bill & Cat Thompson
- 14th - Jerry & Becky Moody
- 17th - Gary & Patsy Wright
- 22nd - Robert & JoAnn Ortiz



- 1st - Edy Anderson,
- 3rd - Dulcie Romero,  
- Barbara Brenner,
- 11th - Randy Phillips
- 14th - Cecilia Southard
- 17th - Alex Clarence Padilla

- 18th - Roanna Carreño
- 19th - Bill Southard
- 21st - Becky Mossman
- 23rd - Mark Cardenas
- 27th - Mary Erickson



- 5th - Stan & Yolanda Padilla
- 6th - Bill & Cecilia Southard
- 16th - Jake & Becky Mossman
- 17th - Tom & Joella Knapp
- 18th - Merlin & Ada Randall
- 25th - Patrick & Carla McGinnis
- 30th - Larry & Betsy Wall



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Communion Sunday	3	4 Knitting Group 12-2 PM Marcia K Home  Independence Day	5	6 Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM El Taoseño  Book Club 5:30 PM Potluck 6:00 PM Fellowship Hall	7	8
9 Deacon's Meeting 12:15 PM (Lounge)	10	11	12 Shared Table 2-3PM Ranchos Church	13 Property Committee 9:30 AM Lounge  Worship Committee 4 PM Coffee Room	14	15
16	17	18 Knitting Group 12-2 PM Marcia K Home  Session Meeting 5 PM (Lounge)	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Shared Table 2-3 PM Ranchos Church	27	28	29
30	31					



# August

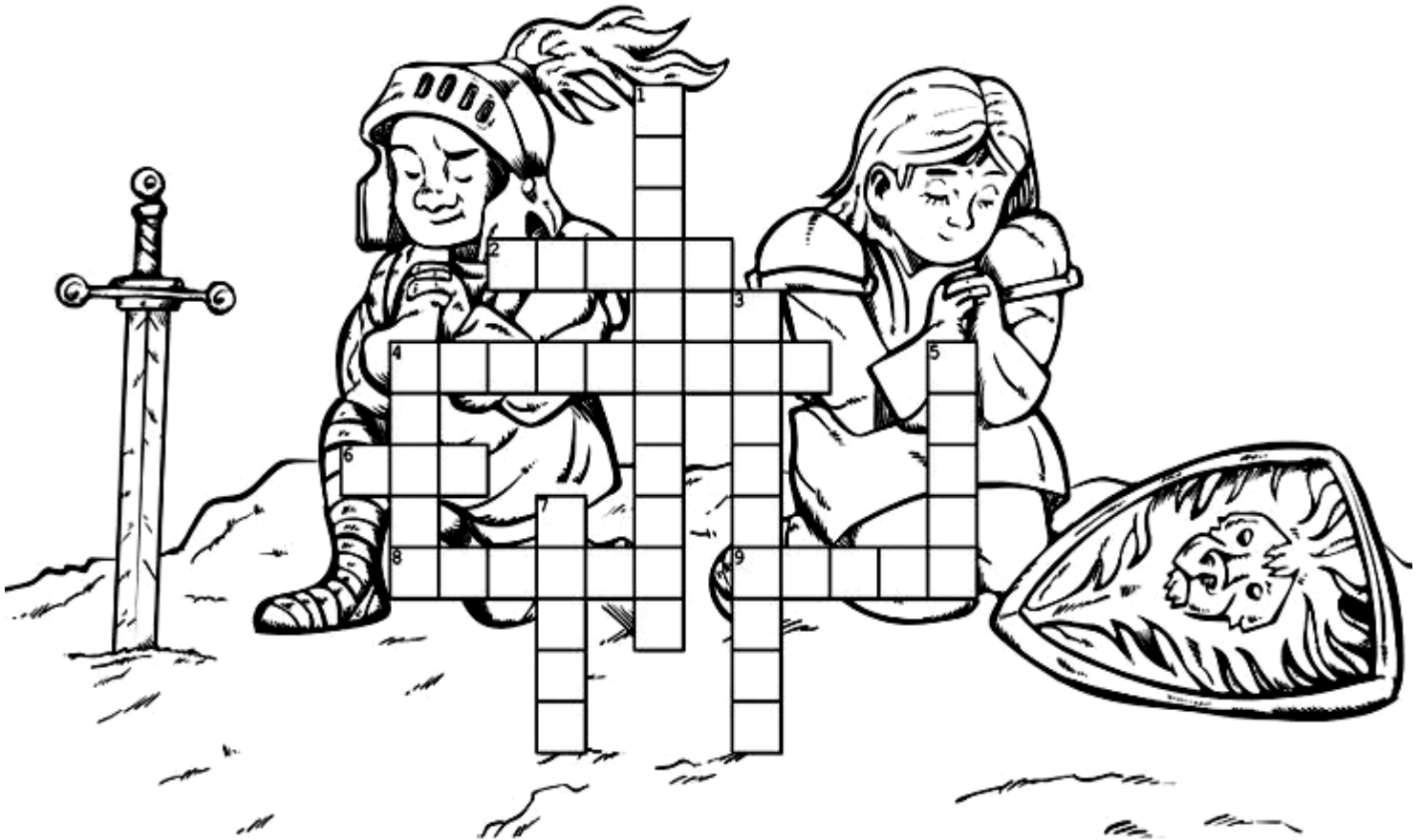


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> Knitting Group 12-2 PM Marcia K Home	<b>2</b> Work Group from Montana Arrives!  Worship Committee 4PM Coffee Room	<b>3</b> Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM El Taoseño Restaurant  Book Club 5:30 PM Potluck 6:00 PM	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Work Group from Montana Leaves	<b>9</b>  Shared Table 2-3 PM Ranchos Church	<b>10</b>  Property Committee 9:30 AM Lounge  PW Planning Meeting 10 AM Lounge	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  Jicarita Cluster Meeting 11 AM - 2 PM Camp Loma Verde
<b>13</b>  Deacon's Meeting 12:15 PM (Lounge)	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Knitting Group 12-2 PM Marcia K Home  Session Meeting 5 PM Lounge	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  PW Bible Study 10 AM Lounge	<b>23</b>  Shared Table 2-3 PM Ranchos Church	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Triennial Visit From Presbytery	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		



# THE ARMOR OF GOD

## Ephesians 6:10-17



### Across

2. There is a world we cannot see, where battles are won and lost between God and \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Because the battles are against invisible forces of evil, \_\_\_\_\_ armor is necessary.
6. Who provides us with the armor we need?
8. The sword of the \_\_\_\_\_, is God's living and active Word.
9. The belt of \_\_\_\_\_ clears confusion, exposes lies from the enemy, and reveals the invisible world.

### Down

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ guards the heart and soul from Satan's lies, and arrows of guilt and fear.
3. Wearing the helmet of \_\_\_\_\_ will protect you from weapons of discouragement. It will bring you assurance in God's promises and confidence.
4. In order for a warrior to stand firm and grounded in truth, he or she must put on good fighting \_\_\_\_\_.
5. God's soldiers bring the shield of \_\_\_\_\_, to deflect arrows of doubt, fear, and worry.
7. All the powers of Satan cannot take down one soldier who is protected with the whole \_\_\_\_\_ of God.



# Peter's Confession of Christ

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Matthew 16:15 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 16:13-20 (NIV)



I W H Q O X N F C T Z V D L M  
 P V V P O E U A Z F U I B O M  
 E R Y G V M S T S P S Y D R N  
 O X O A R J R H B M E G O O M  
 P P E P G E D E L G N T S C S  
 L H I I H E L R B I S P E K E  
 E K F R S E Y I K A V U V R U  
 U T E S W I T J J O P I M O W  
 M H E Y O E Q S E A A T N P I  
 T L C T S A J I Z R H J I G M  
 B A H Y P R P J S I E K O S L  
 X P R J N T F E J A D M A H T  
 I L I B U H D J L A J P I X N  
 J J S Y L A J G A T E S T A T  
 G L T E H U I S A C H U R C H

CHRIST	EARTH	SON	PROPHETS	PEOPLE
BLESSED	KINGDOM	CHURCH	GATES	BAPTIST
LIVING	ROCK	FATHER	HADES	ELIJAH
JOHN	HEAVEN	PETER	KEYS	JEREMIAH





First Presbyterian Church of Taos  
215 Paseo Del Pueblo Norte  
Taos, NM 87571



## First Presbyterian Church of Taos

July - August Newsletter



First Presbyterian Church of Taos - Organized in 1874  
215 Paseo Del Pueblo Norte Taos, NM 87571

Rev. Virginia Bairby  
Office Hours

Tuesday through Thursday

From 10AM to 3PM

Taos, NM 87571

Office: (575) 758-3124

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Office E-mail: [presbychurch@qwestoffice.net](mailto:presbychurch@qwestoffice.net)

Facebook: [Facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchofTaos](https://www.facebook.com/FirstPresbyterianChurchofTaos)

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