



August 11, 2023

## Josh's Jottings

I'm pleased to announce that we have found a person to take over part of the Director of Communications position recently vacated by Nicole Creaturo. We are dividing the position into a Media Technology position - mostly focused on Sunday morning recording and management of hardware - and a Communication and Media Engagement position - focused on publications, social media outreach, and media management.

To manage the first role, I'm pleased that Gil Flores, the worship leader at the 9:30 Abide service, has stepped forward. Gil has served St. John's for several years now and is excited to step into this new role. He will continue to lead the praise band at 9:30 as well. We all are excited that Gil will bring his knowledge and experience, as well as his love and passion for St. John's, to this new role.

We are still looking for a part-time staff person to lead Communication and Media, and have a few promising candidates under consideration. Please keep praying for the right person to be selected. And if you know someone who might be a good fit at St. John's, perhaps help those prayers along and encourage that person to submit a resume.

I'm excited about our future as our church family grows and develops.

Best wishes this week.

-Pastor Josh



## Jazz Vespers on Saturday

Join us for Jazz Vespers this Saturday, August 12, at 5:00 p.m. Performers will include vocalist Dianna Hughes, pianist Robert Lah, guitarist Michael Anthony, bassist David Parlato, and drummer Cal Haines. Our preacher will be Rev. Josh Kouri. Join us live, or [click here to watch the livestream](#).

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## Mountain Cathedrals Hike this Saturday

The August Mountain Cathedrals hike will be Saturday, August 12, on the Embudito Trail and a nearby loop trail on the west face of the Sandia Mountains. This will be a fairly strenuous hike, with the precise route depending on the group's ability and consensus. It is likely to be around 4.5 miles long with a climb of 1600 feet (elevation range 6300 - 7700 feet). Amazing views of the Albuquerque area await. We'll meet in the St. John's East Parking Lot at 7:00 a.m. to carpool, or at the trailhead at 7:20 a.m. (Google Maps location Embudito Trailhead). Plan to be back at the church by about 2:00 p.m.

Romans 10 brings up some knotty thoughts about the Law and belief. How do we reconcile these? What governs our own lives? Contact: Mike Furnish, CLM, [mdfurnish@comcast.net](mailto:mdfurnish@comcast.net); 505-440-7292

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## Mobile Food Pantry August 19

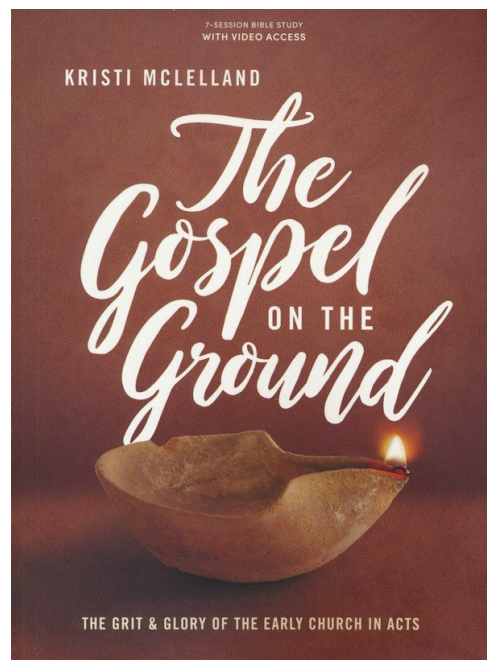
Our next Mobile Food Pantry is Saturday, August 19. Volunteers arrive about 9:00 a.m. and distribution begins at 9:45 - 10:00 a.m., depending on the time the RoadRunner truck arrives. We are usually finished by noon. I invite you to come and join this worthwhile ministry. For more information, please contact Debby Smith at 505-554-4238 or [dysmith0427@gmail.com](mailto:dysmith0427@gmail.com).

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## Women's Bible Study Gospel on the Ground by Kristi McLelland

Tuesdays, September 5 - October 17, 2023 (7 weeks), 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.,  
IN-PERSON, led by Shanlii Payment

Come along with biblical culturalist Kristi McLelland in this 7-session study as she unpacks the life of the early church in the book of Acts and shows us that the kingdom of God is always on the move, always looking outward to bring meaning and joy to a world searching for true fulfillment and hope. Explore the call of Jesus to His disciples then and to us today, see how God's Word can sustain us even in the most difficult of times, and embrace the transformative grace we experience as children of God in His kingdom of celebration.



## Memorial Service for Larry Oliver

There will be a memorial service held for St. John's Church member, Larry Oliver, on August 19 at 10 a.m. in our Sanctuary here at St. John's. All are invited to join in this

service of remembrance for Larry.

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## Memorial Reception for Ben McCarty

There will be a memorial reception held for St. John's Church member, Ben McCarty, on Saturday, August 19 at 2 p.m. in our Family Life Center. All are invited to join in this service of remembrance for Ben.



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## Family Spirit Class - study and discuss new book, *Signs and Wonders: A Beginner's Guide to the Miracles of Jesus*

Please join us during August and September 2023, as we study and discuss the lessons from the recently published in 2022 book by Amy-Jill Levine.

The Family Spirit Class will be discussing this book (Signs and Wonders) in August and September 2023. We will also make use of a DVD player to watch some instructional video clips from the author, as well. We can watch the video clip and then discuss it. The Family Spirit Class meets in person on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in room 257. This is a small group class. All adults are welcome to attend.

In *Signs and Wonders: A Beginner's Guide to the Miracles of Jesus*, Amy-Jill Levine explores selected miracles of Jesus in historical and theological context. For each miracle, she discusses not only how past witnesses would have understood the events, but also how today's readers can draw meaning from Jesus's words and actions. Quote below from Abingdon Press, [link here](#).

Watch this quick 90 second [video introduction](#) to the book, video by the author.

Click [this link](#) to read a free sample of pages 1-6 of the book, to see if you like this new book and want to buy it.

If you have questions about the Family Spirit Class, please contact: Brian A. Eagan, Coordinator, email: [eagan.brian@gmail.com](mailto:eagan.brian@gmail.com).

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## St. John's Book Swap

The Book Swap is starting over with empty shelves. Donations of books in excellent condition are welcome for people of all ages. DVD's that accompany Bible Study or Sunday School materials are welcome. Popular movie DVD's with no religious or moral value should not be donated. Please recycle your VHS tapes, cassette tapes and magazines elsewhere. For more information, please contact Debbie Eagan at 505.889.3774 or send email to [deborah.eagan@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.eagan@gmail.com).

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## Passing of St. John's Member

St. John's member, Charles Williams passed away on August 7. Charles was a long-time member since 1962. A memorial service will be held at St. John's Sanctuary on Saturday, August 26 at 11 a.m.

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## Media Communications Process

St. John's staff members are working together to continue the successful procedures established by our former Media Coordinator, Nicole Creaturo. We want to inform you of the current process for submitting items for the Disciple Connection. The Disciple Connection includes both the emailed E-Disciple on Friday and the printed Newsletter (containing the same information) on Sunday.

Please email your notices for the Disciple Connection to [communicate@stjohns-abq.org](mailto:communicate@stjohns-abq.org) by the new deadline of **noon on Wednesday** for them to be included in the weekly communications to our congregation on Friday and Sunday. Your message must include the date, time, and location of your event, plus the name and contact information of a person who can answer questions. Please contact Joy Heaviland at the Church Office (505-883-9717) if you want to schedule a meeting at the church. Disciple Connection notices will be published for a maximum of three consecutive weeks.

Proposed edits for the church's website will be considered by the new Media Coordinator after that position has been filled.

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## Social Concerns: ABQ Reads

If you have time during school hours, and would like to help children who are a little behind in reading, please consider volunteering as a part-time tutor at [ABQReads.com](http://ABQReads.com). There are a number of elementary schools where tutors are needed. You can volunteer for three sessions a week or just one. These sessions begin in early September, You could also volunteer to be a substitute, on an as-needed basis. Each session is about an hour and a half. During that time you'll help two children. There are children who are falling behind because there aren't enough tutors to help them. Please consider volunteering. Call Dennis Scherlacher, 505-918-5991, if you have any questions.

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## Please Help Host Family Promise Week in August

**We need your help for Family Promise host week August 13-20!** Family Promise is a national program that supports homeless families in cities across the United States including Albuquerque. For six weeks during the year, St. John's is responsible for meals brought to the Montgomery site. In addition, we are asked to stay on site for two hours to give relief to the permanent staff.

If you would like to pair up with someone to provide a meal and stay for two hours, please contact Jenn ([jennshields200@yahoo.com](mailto:jennshields200@yahoo.com)) and 505-450-9978) or Linn ([swimsew@comcast.net](mailto:swimsew@comcast.net)). [Click here](#) to sign up to volunteer online.

To see more information about Family Promise [click here](#).

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Sign-up sheets are outside the church each Sunday in August. Pie parties are still being held Tuesday evenings at 6:00pm, last one on August 22nd.

In-person training classes: Wednesday, Aug. 23rd & Monday, Aug. 28th upstairs in 245/257.

Many volunteer opportunities: WORKERS, BAKERS, STORING FROZEN PIES, HELP ORGANIZE PIES, HAND OUT PASSES, COUNT MONEY, DELIVER PIES...spread the word! If you can work shifts that are not on St. John's sign ups, please write down your availability and we'll ask around. If you have questions contact Jenn Shields 505-450-9978 or [jennshields200@yahoo.com](mailto:jennshields200@yahoo.com)



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## Collecting School Supplies

The Youth and children are collecting school supplies for Pajarito Elementary school, which serves children in the south valley and is in desperate need of school supplies. You may place your donations in the wire baskets in the Hospitality Center.

We are collecting the following:

- spiral notebooks
- composition notebooks
- pencils #2
- pink erasers
- color pencils
- water based markers
- crayons
- scissors
- glue sticks
- Elmer glue
- pencil sharpeners
- plastic folders with pockets
- boys' and girls' backpacks

Anything you can help with, will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Tiffany Hollums for more information, [thollums@stjohns-abq.org](mailto:thollums@stjohns-abq.org).

# PRAYER



## Prayer Quilt Recipient

Thora Jackson is the recipient for the prayer quilt currently on display in the Hospitality Center.

In lieu of tying knots, please pray this prayer (or your own prayer) for Thora: "Loving God, we know there is healing in your touch and we trust in your goodness. May Thora dwell within your gentle embrace as she heals from surgery. Amen."

# GIVING

## Zuni Weekend Meal Bag Project

Our St. John's Missions' focus for September is the Zuni Weekend Meal Bag project. We'll collect the following items: in single-serve sizes; shelf-stable white and chocolate milk, nut-free granola or cereal bars, nut-free cookies and oatmeal. You can place your donations in the bins in the Hospitality Center. We really appreciate you, St. John's, and all you do to help make this project possible. For questions, email [donnabruce@comcast.net](mailto:donnabruce@comcast.net)

## August Special Offering: Wesley Foundation at UNM

School is starting up again, and that means UNM and Wesley Foundation as well. The group continues to meet at Central UMC under the leadership of Pastor Lisa Baylock. There will be a fall kick off barbecue on August 21.

The old Wesley House is in the process of being sold to UNM. Sadly, given the condition

of its electrical, plumbing and heating systems, the Wesley Foundation Board believes this is definitely the right thing to do. Meeting at Central is a good fit for the group.

Speaking of the Board, there are a couple of spots to fill on the board of this very important ministry. What a wonderful way to help spread the gospel to the students at UNM! Contact Pastor Baylock at Covenant UMC if you are interested. We have the opportunity to generously support Wesley in the month of August as school begins.

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## Family Promise Needs

Family Promise is in a difficult position. The funding for the renovations is on a reimbursement basis - which will make it hard to cover day to day costs, once construction starts. Please go to the [link](#) to see the entire issue, and how to donate. Thank you. Linn Furnish, Family Promise Coordinating Team

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Our worship services are livestreamed so you can watch them from home. To watch a worship service live, click on the service that you would like to watch on Sunday morning at its scheduled time.

8:15AM Mosaic  
Worship

9:30AM Abide  
Worship

11AM Traditional  
Worship

Submission Deadline for Disciple Connections is noon on Wednesday for the Friday weekly edition. [Click here](#) to send your articles to the editor.

Visit Our  
Website

Give Online

### St. John's United Methodist Church

2626 Arizona Street NE | Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110  
Office Hours (call only): Monday - Thursday, 9a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

### Pastor 24-Hour Hotline | (505) 808-1624

Pastoral care is available for after-hours emergencies. Please send any congregational care needs to Pastor Tiffany at [thollums@stjohns-abq.org](mailto:thollums@stjohns-abq.org) as we all work together to love one another well.



St. John's UMC | 2626 Arizona Street NE, Albuquerque, NM 87110

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