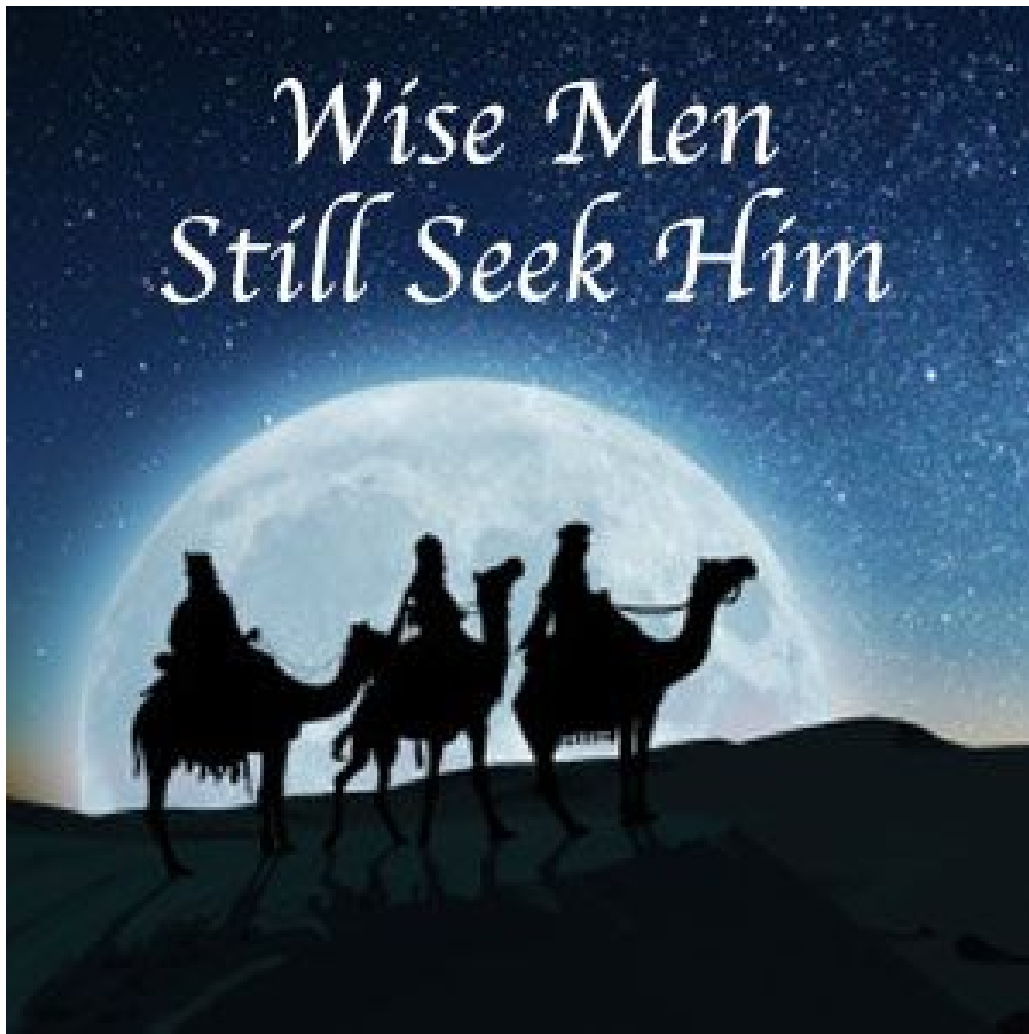


# **The FPC Herald**

**The Monthly Newsletter  
of  
First Presbyterian Church  
Roswell, New Mexico  
January 2024**



## **Reflections**

**Happy New Year!**

Happy New Year! A greeting or reflection we hear at this time of year once Christmas has come and gone. It is usually followed up with the question: did you make any New Year resolutions? Lose weight, exercise more, eat healthier, learn a new hobby?

Fireworks, toasts with champagne and countdowns to the new year are held at countless parties and gatherings as the last day of the year comes to an end. We watch as the ball drops in Times Square in New York City, with revelers dressed in festive hats and glasses outlined in the shape of the new year numbers. As the clock strikes midnight, it is traditional to sing Auld Land Syne:

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And never brought to mind?  
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,  
And auld lang syne.*

Chorus:  
*For auld lang syne, my jo,  
For auld lang syne.  
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne.*

According to [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com), auld land syne is derived from the Scottish language and means “old long since,” or practically speaking “old times, especially times fondly remembered.” The expression was first recorded in the 1660–1680-time frame.

The version that is most common and known to us was written by Robert Burns, the national poet of Scotland. According to the website, Burns wrote the lyrics in 1788 and they were published in 1795. It was from the remnants of folk songs/poems that he put his version together. Typically, only the first verse is sung, with the chorus sometimes being repeated several times.

One can argue that the first verse encourages us not to forget longtime friends to whom we have not talked to or thought of recently. Especially those friends with whom we shared good times. I am sure you have run into an old friend at the grocery store or elsewhere and said that you should get together for lunch.

To share memories with old friends of old times. You may be like me – retelling the same stories over and over again. These are good memories that you have that are worth repeating.

As we all are familiar, the song is traditionally sung at the end of the year to remember things past. We naturally reflect about events that have occurred in the year just past. The media helps us with these remembrances starting the week after Christmas. Lists are generated highlighting those who have passed in the preceding year, as well as major events that have occurred.

It is easy to think about events that have occurred. We remember the good times, but also the not so good times. We hope the new year will be better. Less wars, less famine, less homelessness, less despair, less hate. We can all hope. We can all resolve.

*We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,  
For auld lang syne.*

Happy New Year!

Amen

## **January 2024 Calendar**

Monday, January 1st - New Year's Day Holiday,  
Church Office Closed

Sunday, January 7th - Communion Sunday, Worship Service, 10:00am

Monday, January 8th - Prayer Group - noon, Parlor

Tuesday, January 9th - Mission Committee Meeting, 2:00pm

Wednesday, January 10th - Wednesday Evening Dinner, 6:00pm

Sunday, January 14th - Worship Service, 10:00am

Monday, January 15th - Martin Luther King Holiday  
Church Office Closed

Monday, January 15th - Prayer Group - noon, Parlor

Thursday, January 18th - Session Meeting, 5:15pm

Sunday, January 21st - Worship Service, 10:00am

Monday, January 22nd - Prayer Group - noon, Parlor

Friday, January 25th - Community Kitchen Ministry, 9:30am

Sunday, January 28th - Worship Service, 10:00am

Monday, January 29th - Prayer Group - noon, Parlor

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## **January 2024 Scripture Readings**

### **Saturday, January 6th - Epiphany of the Lord**

Isaiah 60:1-6 and Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12

### **Sunday, January 7th - Baptism of the Lord**

Genesis 1:1-5 and Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

### **Sunday, January 14th - Second Sunday after Epiphany**

1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20) and Psalm 139:1-6,13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20;  
John 1:43-51

### **Sunday, January 21st - Third Sunday after Epiphany**

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 and Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

### **Sunday, January 28th - Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

[Read the Scripture passages here.](#)

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## **Serving in January**

### **Week of January 7**

Liturgist: Margy Barbour  
Service Elder: Deb Prince  
Camera Operator: Bob Kurtz  
Moment for Young Disciples: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspirational Phone Message: Mary Hubbard

### **Week of January 14**

Liturgist: Wayne Bevers  
Service Elder: Bill Wolf  
Camera Operator: Betty Young  
Moment for Young Disciples: \_\_\_\_\_  
Inspirational Phone Message: Wayne Glass

### **Week of January 21**

Liturgist: Betty Young  
Service Elder: \_\_\_\_\_  
Camera Operator: Lynn Karnes  
Moment for Young Disciples: Dietta Hitchcock  
Inspirational Phone Message: Anna Maria Matteucci

### **Week of January 28**

Liturgist: Wayne Bevers  
Service Elder: \_\_\_\_\_  
Camera Operator: Betty Young  
Moment for Young Disciples: Dietta Hitchcock  
Inspirational Phone Message: Wayne Glass

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## **Communion Sunday** **Sunday, January 7th!**

Come celebrate the Feast of the Lord!

Join us for the celebration of the Sacrament in person or online. If you join us online, you are welcome to prepare bread and cup for your participation in the Sacrament.

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## **Worship Live Streaming**

We continue live streaming worship services to the church's [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) (go to YouTube.com and search for John Gardiner – First Presbyterian Church) or go on the First Presbyterian Church [Facebook page](#). You may join us at 9:55am (or later) for worship as it happens, and a link to the worship recording will remain on [the church's](#)

[website](#) after the live stream is done.

The worship bulletin (order of worship), hymn music and lyrics, and weekly announcements can also be found on that webpage, [fpcroswell.org](http://fpcroswell.org), before worship every Sunday. Those who join the live stream can check in and make comments throughout worship using the chat columns in both Facebook and YouTube.

Join us for "live" worship or check out the recordings afterwards!

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### **Coffee Fellowship is Happening!**



You are invited to join us for coffee and cookies served after Worship Service in the narthex! There is a signup sheet on the desk in the narthex if you would like to volunteer to bring cookies one Sunday.

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### **Giving to God Electronically Through Our Church**

You may give to God through our church via the church's [online giving portal](#). You may specify a one-time or recurring gift using your checking account or credit card. You may also specify a donation to the church's General Fund, Deacons' Fund, or Pastor's Assistance Fund.

Thank you for your faithful stewardship of God's abundant resources!



### **January 2024 Notes on Worship Bob Entrop, Worship Chairman**

As Christmas winds down we want to thank so many people who contributed to our wonderful worship services. Music Director Wayne Bevers and Church Organist Carola Spreacker brought us delightful performances from duet, quartet and choir ensemble, with about ten singers contributing their time and talent. And let's not forget the liturgists, readers, service elders, camera operators, chancel guild and all the others who work to make our worship so special. Oh yes, Dietta Hitchcock and Margo Fullinwider brought us our children's messages and Dietta even took her turn at the pulpit. Bravo!

On January 7, Rev. Jim Bignell will lead worship and holy communion. Rev. Maurice Geldert will be at the pulpit on January 14, and Jim Bignell will be back January 21 and January 28. Our deepest gratitude and kindest wishes to all!

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## Daily Inspirational Phone Message

Start your day with an inspiring message.  
Sit back, relax, and listen to words of peace, hope, and joy  
to brighten your day and life!  
Dial (575) 622-4923.



### Prayer Requests

Please relay prayer requests to the church office at (575) 622-4910 or e-mail at [office@fpcroswell.org](mailto:office@fpcroswell.org).

### The Pastor Nominating Committee

The Pastoral Nominating Committee continues to review applications and interview for our Pastor position. Please pray for the PNC Committee as they diligently search for a permanent pastor. If you have any questions, contact the following members of the PNC Committee. The Pastor Nominating Committee now includes:

Dietta Hitchcock, Chairperson

Paula Grieves

Ross Robertson

Bob Entrop



### Happy Birthdays in January!

2nd - Stephanie Mervine

3rd - Ron Miller

7th - Martha Mayer

9th - Sally Anderson

10th - Bob Kurtz

12th - Richard Van Winkle

15th - Mary Hubbard

20th - Bob Carroll

22nd - Gene Gligorea

24th - Sally Gligorea

25th - Fred Yates

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**FEATURED PC(USA)  
MISSION WORKER for  
January 2024**

## **Sarah Henken**

**Mission co-worker in Colombia**

Serving as Accompanier for Peace Initiatives, Diaconal Service, and Sustainable Development with the Presbyterian Church of Colombia and as the site coordinator for the Young Adult Volunteer program in Colombia.



Sarah has served as a mission co-worker since 2010. After six years serving as regional liaison for the Andean countries of South America (Bolivia, Colombia, Peru and Venezuela), in 2017 her ministry shifted to a key focus on peace initiatives with the Presbyterian Church of Colombia (known as the IPC after its Spanish name). Sarah works in collaboration with the peace commission of the IPC as the church strives to help all Colombians build a new future and bring an end to over 50 years of armed conflict.

A lifelong peace advocate, Sarah helps develop educational materials and programs for the promotion of peace and reconciliation within churches and communities. She engages in diaconal ministry with groups of campesino farmers displaced by the violence as they seek new land to farm and strive to sustain their families. Sarah also coordinates the Young Adult Volunteers who serve alongside the IPC in a variety of ministries. Her home base is in Barranquilla, on Colombia's Caribbean coast, and she visits churches and communities throughout the country.

[Read more about Sarah's work...](#)

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**Worship Highlights!**

**Sunday, December 3rd!**



**Rebecca Johnson, Darwin, Erica, Olivia, and Evelyn Entrop-Martinez light the First Advent Candle!**



**Dietta Hitchcock taught the Moment for Young Disciples!**

**The Ensemble Choir sang!**



**Amy Fisher preached on Sunday, December 3rd!**



**The Ensemble Choir sang on Sunday, December 10th!**





**Bob Entrop brought the Message on Sunday, December 10th!**



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**The Ensemble Choir sang on Sunday, December 17th!**



**Dietta Hitchcock brought the Message on Sunday, December 17th!**



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**Wayne Bevers and Bob Entrop sang at the Christmas Eve Service - December 24th, at 5:30pm!**



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**Christmas Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall, Sunday, December 17th!**





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### **Congregational Contact Ministry**

Please continue to work with the Deacons and pastor to maintain contact by phone, text, email, and US mail with all of our saints. Thanks for your help with this important ministry.

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### **Please Pray for Our Church!**

Please pray for Christ's church in all of its variety in our city, nations, and the world. and...

For the revitalization and renewal of the First Presbyterian Church of Roswell, as we are led by God's Holy Spirit.

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December 2023

5084  
First Presbyterian Church  
400 W. 3rd St.  
Roswell, NM 88201

Dear Friends,

As we continue to live the message of Advent, we want to take a moment to express our deepest gratitude for your incredible support and generosity. During this season, your support is a beacon of hope, a source of peace, a cause for joy, and a demonstration of love. We are sincerely grateful for your commitment as we continue to embody the message of Matthew 25 through this ministry of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

**Hope:** Disaster brings so much sorrow and despair. With the days come the questions and the fear, but then, a hand is extended, a call is received, a need is attended, and hope, in many ways, emerges through the darkness. Your contribution brings a glimmer of hope to our mission and so many in despair. Like the first Advent candle, your support lights the way for a brighter future, instilling hope, and expectation in the hearts of those we serve.

**Peace:** The peace your contribution brings is both tangible and profound. Families, once burdened with uncertainty and fear, find solace in the support they are receiving. Your generosity is vital in alleviating the immediate hardships, allowing individuals to focus on rebuilding their lives and communities. Beyond the material assistance, your donation has fostered a sense of unity and solidarity among those affected. Knowing that a community of believer's cares for them surely brings peace to the soul.

**Joy:** There is an overwhelming feeling when, in the middle of any of our emotional and spiritual training, we get to hear laughter and expressions of joy from leaders and members of communities who have experienced trauma. Joy during chaos is achieved through the Spirit and by providing spaces of resilience and accompaniment. The joy that your donation brings is akin to the third Advent candle. Thanks to your donations we continue to provide emotional and spiritual care to those in need, to renew the joy in their lives.

**Love:** There are many ways to show love. Our volunteers from all over the United States have discovered this thanks to the volunteer host sites available through PDA. By helping to repair a home, sorting through donations, or working in the restoration of a community garden, our volunteers have been able to share the love of God and the church with many impacted communities. It is thanks to your donations that they can embody the essence of the fourth Advent candle – love.

Through your gift of \$800.00 on 11/27/2023 for DR000148 Disaster Relief--General Relief & PDA Support, you have demonstrated hope, peace, joy, and love. May the blessings of hope, peace, joy, and love also to be abundantly present in your life this Christmas and throughout the coming year.

With gratitude and peace!

The Rev. Edwin González-Castillo  
Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

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## **First Presbyterian Church**

### **Deacons**

Connie Wolf  
Ross Robinson  
Joy Kurtz  
Bob Kurtz  
Isaac Hubbard  
Ellen Jo Williams  
Ann Ruback  
Caroline (Candy) Reynolds  
Lucy Tucker  
Jacque Allen

### **Session**

Bonnie Montgomery  
Bob Entrop  
Dietta Hitchcock  
Doug Lunsford  
Lynn Karnes  
Jim Bloodhart

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[PHONE: (575) 622-4910]  
[E-mail: [office@fpcroswell.org](mailto:office@fpcroswell.org)] [WEBSITE: [fpcroswell.org](http://fpcroswell.org)]

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First Presbyterian Church | 400 West Third Street, Roswell, NM 88201

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