

### **A prayer in times of fire**

God of all the world,  
God for all creation,  
your children stand in need in so many places,  
your creation groans for so many reasons.  
Some we know.  
Some we do not.  
We pray tonight trusting  
that you are already at work responding to  
needs and groans known and unknown to us.  
We pray tonight trusting that your Holy Spirit  
is moving among us and within us  
and will inspire us to respond with compassion and justice.  
We pray tonight for northern New Mexico  
for people, fauna, and flora threatened by fire.  
We for people who have had to evacuate,  
or who prepare to evacuate,  
for animals that forced to flee,  
for plants and other elements of creation that cannot move.  
Provide strength. Extend safety,  
we pray for safety and strength.  
For those who work to put out the fires  
we ask for protection and success.  
For those who watch and wait  
as fires develop, we ask for courage and patience.  
We pray particularly for the people of Presbyterian Churches  
In Jemez Springs,  
Las Vegas,  
Chacon,  
and Mora.  
We pray for the people associated with Camp Loma Verde.  
And we pray for all the people, all your beloved children, all in harm's way.  
Grant the strength to persevere,  
the courage to act and endure  
and the grace to reach out to neighbors in need  
to the people of these congregations and communities.  
Lead the people to care for one another and your creation.

Guide and bless the efforts of  
first responders and firefighters,  
guide and bless the efforts of individuals and organizations  
that reach out to offer love and care:  
the Presbytery of Santa Fe, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and more.  
Inspire people around the country to respond  
with prayers, through financial gifts, and in material ways.  
May all who are, or may be,  
affected by fire in Northern New Mexico  
and all who respond to the fire,  
know your presence and guidance.  
In Jesus' name we pray.  
Amen.

*Written by Rev. Mark Koenig, Internal Communications Specialist at PC(USA)  
serving in Louisville. This prayer was written in consultation with the Rev. Takako  
Terino, chaplain of Santa Fe Presbytery.*