



The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

MARCH 2012

Living Prayer

“When the church is no longer teaching the people how to pray, we could almost say it will have lost its reason for existence.”

- Richard Rohr



Last year I joined Las Placitas Presbyterian Church with a specific call to work together with you to strengthen the financial foundations of this congregation. I do believe this is a key and essential task, and I embrace it. Much of the work we've done so far is technical in nature. Other elements have a deep spiritual core rooted ultimately in God's generosity and our own. I am also convinced that strengthening the spiritual health of a congregation is a core aim we should continually keep before us. We have done so over the last year as we've explored some of the deep connections between faith and money in our lives. We will continue that exploration as we move into the future. With that being said, I am excited to broaden our focus during this season of Lent through centering together on our life of prayer.

I came across this Richard Rohr quote (above) in Jane Vennard's book *A Praying Congregation*. Vennard writes, “Praying congregations are lively places made up of diverse people who are longing to take prayer seriously. In these congregations members want to learn more about prayer, wrestle with hard theological questions, and learn from one another. They are offered the opportunity to explore their prayer lives at depth, and their experiences and ideas are listened to with respect.”¹

You have heard me say I believe we can become a model congregation in terms of stewardship and

finances. I'd also like to see us be known as a praying congregation, as a people who take prayer seriously. Join us during Lent as we experience what it means to be living prayer.

Peace, Drew

March Text & Topics

March 4 - Second Sunday in Lent “Praise”
Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Psalm 22:23-31

March 11 - Third Sunday in Lent “Fruits of Prayer”
Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19:1-14

March 18 - Fourth Sunday in Lent “Singing the Psalms”
Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

March 25 - Fifth Sunday in Lent “Confession”
Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12

SESSION Highlights

Wow, That's Great!

It seems the blessings just keep on coming. On Sunday, February 12th, Warren and Carol L became, by reaffirmation of faith, our newest church members. The Larsons ‘shopped’ other churches before deciding on LPPC, and I believe it is important to share with you, their reasons for deciding on us:

1. Warmth and friendliness of the congregation
2. The presence of Rev. Drew Henry as pastor
3. The spiritual location and attractiveness of our church
4. Our informal nature and commitment to Inclusiveness

If you haven't had a chance yet, please welcome Warren and Carol into membership.

¹ Jane E. Vennard, *A Praying Congregation: The Art of Teaching Spiritual Practice* (Herndon, VA: The Alban Institute, 2005), p. 1.



Who Does What? Session Committee Assignments for 2012

During the January Session meeting, Rev. Henry requested each ruling elder to list their choices in order of preference—first, second and third—the committees on which they'd prefer to serve. When the dust settled, these were the results:

Building/Property/Grounds: Leah A, chair

Christian Education: Anna H, chair

Finance: Mike P, chair; Martha R, committee member

Membership: Lauren S, committee member; Wendy I, chair

Mission: Nancy U, will co-chair with other committee members

Personnel: Nancy U, chair

Stewardship: Janice L, chair

Worship & Music: Betty M, chair

It's Automatic! LPPC's Water Purification System

Hats off to Debby B for managing this project to fruition! As well-water steward, Debby previously had to routinely test our church water and manually add chlorine, as necessary. Nowadays, it's all automatic! Certified and approved by the State of New Mexico's Department of Water, this system is up and running...the system, hopefully not the water!

~Bill L, Clerk of Session

CASA ROSA NEWS **Charlotte Moves to Oklahoma**



By now most of you probably know that Charlotte and Keith L have sold their home and are moving away. To say that we will miss Charlotte is a huge understatement. Charlotte has been the heart of Casa Rosa. She has been part of every aspect of the development of Casa Rosa.

Charlotte trained and developed her volunteers and board, creating job descriptions, structures and procedures that have made Casa Rosa into the robust, viable organization that it is today. Charlotte is not only a structure and organization person, but she is also a food person. She always has another idea for a recipe, a use for unfamiliar foods, another crock-pot creation of stew or soup, or a salad, or baked goods, or... or.... Charlotte has worked on the Casa Rosa building, supplied equipment, contacted people and organizations for support,

written articles, given talks, tirelessly advocating for our clients and their needs. Most of all, Charlotte has made a personal connection with each client, volunteer, and board member. She is a friend, mentor, role model, and treasure to each of us. Okay, I'm crying now.

So, how will we carry on? Well, we should be absolutely fine. Charlotte has trained us well! Sherrill C and I have already been co-chairs for nearly a year. Sherrill and I work very well together, talking and laughing often. We have a very strong board, each of whom add their considerable talents, time and ideas. We have support from other volunteers and community members who help us in many different ways. We need and look forward to your continuing support!

Good-bye Charlotte! We love you!

~Karen F, Co-Chair
Casa Rosa Board of Directors

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Thanks to all who helped make the selling of cinnamon rolls a big success. We have the freezer stocked with rounds, so stop by and buy a round of cinnamon rolls to enjoy.

Come help us celebrate St. Patrick's Day on Saturday, March 17 from 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm and enjoy fellowship, dancing and games with your friends. We will be serving Irish baked potatoes with lots of toppings and a salad and beverage. There will be a \$5.00 donation per person at the door. We look forward to seeing you all.

~Joan D
The Fellowship Committee

MEMBER PROFILE **BETHANNE B**

BethAnne was born in Los Angeles and lived there until she was 34. After high school, she attended Valley College for two and a half years and California State Northridge for one year. She has attended more than ten universities over the years as well as countless other art workshops, always wanting to learn more about art. When BethAnne was a preschooler she drew saloon doors on the hallway in their house after watching a western on TV! She



drew her first nude at the age of eight and was almost thrown out of her Catholic school! She was just drawing what she had just learned about Adam and Eve.

BethAnne has three children. Robert, who has two sons, lives in Manhattan and is a senior art director for Tribal Advertising. Burr is an ice sculpturer living in San Antonio. At first he didn't like his name, but now it is very appropriate! He travels all over the world entering ice sculpture competitions, one of which was the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. He has three children. Annalisa lives in Bernalillo and is the mother of Rob. BethAnne also has a foster daughter, Becky, who lives in Albuquerque and helps people find health insurance. She has two children.

BethAnne moved to Fredericksburg/Harper, TX from Los Angeles and lived there for fifteen years where she taught community education to adults and drove the school bus. In 1993, BethAnne started over here in Albuquerque because she was told her art would be recognized here when it wasn't in Texas. That was good advice. She started work immediately teaching art at Art Masters School (no longer in existence). BethAnne has been teaching art since 1979 until the present. She has students now who come to her house to learn. Eighty percent of her young students are Chinese. Most of her classes are semi private. She says she can teach anyone who wants to learn the technique, but cannot teach the passion in the heart.

BethAnne lived in the South Valley, Los Lunas, Albuquerque and now Bernalillo where she has lived since 2007. When Beth Anne needed spinal fusion surgery in 2007, her daughter purchased her a house so she could take care of her and be nearby.

Her hobbies besides art are: dancing (she takes classes at four senior centers), fishing (she belongs to the Meadowlark Fishing Club and they take people all over the state to fish) and hunting,

BethAnne has traveled to Germany, Amsterdam, Canada, Mexico, and throughout the United States, but still wants to go to New York City. She hopes to visit the Louvre one day. Her other bucket list trips include back packing in Australia and going to Mt Rushmore.

The item she would grab in case of a fire would be the cross that lay over her Mom's casket in 1979. It

is the first thing packed up in any move and the first thing to find a home when unpacking.

Her favorite things are her dogs, her camera and her art supplies.

What Beth Anne loves most about LPPC is "all of it." She knew she wanted to join the minute she entered Fellowship Hall.

~Wendy I & Betty C



Before you retire on Saturday, March 10th, set your clocks ahead one hour. Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 11th.

**APRIL newsletter deadline:
Monday, March 26th at noon**

Las Placitas Presbyterian Church
PO Box 768, Placitas, NM 87043

Rev. Drew M. Henry, Pastor
E-mail: pastor@lasplacitaschurch.org

Cory Franklin, Administrator
505-867-5718 ~ lppcaa@lasplacitaschurch.org

March Calendar Highlights

- Sun Mar 4 **2nd Sunday in Lent**
Communion is served
Alternative service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:15am
Family Worship service, 10:30am
Nursery provided; Sunday School
Fellowship follows this service
- Wed Mar 7 Jardineros de Placitas, 9am-12noon
- Wed Mar 14 Placitas Mobile Food Pantry
10am-12noon
- Sun Mar 11 **3rd Sunday in Lent**
Daylight Savings Time begins
Alternative service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:15am
Family Worship service, 10:30am
Nursery provided; Sunday School
Fellowship follows this service
- Farewell Luncheon for Keith
 & Charlotte follows 10:30 service
- Sun Mar 18 **4th Sunday in Lent**
Alternative service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:15am
Family Worship service, 10:30am
Nursery provided; Sunday School
Fellowship follows this service
- Mon Mar 19 Vernal Equinox Earth Vespers
Service, 7:00pm
- Sun Mar 25 **5th Sunday in Lent**
Alternative service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:15am
Family Worship service, 10:30am
Nursery provided; Sunday School
- PAS Reception and Concert, 2-5pm