



B. Bowen

The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

MAY 2013

Time to Celebrate

On May 19th we will celebrate Pentecost. On this day we remember the Holy Spirit filling the early church with new life.

Jesus had promised his followers an advocate, a life-giving presence that would be with them always. The Holy Spirit came like a rush of wind and tongues of fire appeared amongst the gathered. (*read Acts 2*)

Traditionally Pentecost has been celebrated as the birthday of the church. It was on this feast day that the church was given new life. This year here on Pentecost we will also celebrate new life given to Las Placitas Presbyterian Church.

On the day of Pentecost in 2005 our congregation dedicated our most recent building expansion which included our educational classrooms, church library, nursery and Mothers' Day Out space, accessible restrooms, church offices, and an expanded fellowship hall and church kitchen. Spaces like these had been dreamed about for years. The hard work and dedication of so many, along with the power of the Holy Spirit I trust, made this new growth possible.

On Pentecost 2013 we will celebrate the retirement of the mortgage that was taken on to build this church expansion. So many of you have made special contributions toward retiring this debt. I want to express my gratitude to each and every one of you for your generous gifts.

You and I were initially called together to strengthen the financial position of this church. Early on in our time together retiring this debt was identified as a significant and strategic step toward reaching that goal. As of May 2013 our congregation will be free of financial debt. We can



now engage all of our resources to fulfill and further the missions and ministries to which God is calling us.

Join us on Pentecost for a special celebration. On May 19th, we will have a single, combined worship service at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary. You are invited to wear red, orange, or yellow - the colors of fire. We will move out to the Memorial Garden following worship for a symbolic retiring of the mortgage debt. Afterwards, join us in Fellowship Hall for Las Placitas' famous enchiladas as we celebrate together this milestone. Special guests have been invited, and celebratory remarks will be given.

I look forward to celebrating together this special day of Pentecost. Please make your plans to be here on May 19th.

Peace, Drew

May Texts and Topics

May 5 - Sixth Sunday of Easter "The Spoken Word" Acts 16:9-15; Revelation 21:10, 21:22-22:5

May 12 - Seventh Sunday of Easter "Disturbance" Acts 16:16-34; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21

May 19 - Day of Pentecost "Fire" Psalm 104:24-34; Acts 2:1-21

April 28 - Trinity Sunday "Creation = Communion" Psalm 8:1-9; Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

SESSION Highlights



New Member

On Sunday, April 21, Session assembled in the Upper Room after 10:30am services for the purpose of sharing witness, personal experience, and membership opportunity with **Leslie O'**. I'm very glad to report to you that she is now our newest member! Oftentimes Leslie comes to church with her two older boys, Elijah and Walker, in tow and they attend Christian education class as Leslie worships with us. Look for the three of them, either before or after service, and get acquainted!

Pond Renovation

If you've wandered out in our Memorial Garden lately, you may have noticed that the pond is empty. Why? A concerned group of volunteers have undertaken a complete renovation which will include an upgraded electrical system, pump, filter, plus eco-friendly plant and fish life. This project will be completed prior to our Pentecost celebration on Sunday, May 19th.

End of story? Not quite, as the Session and this volunteer group face another issue and we urge reader input. We in Placitas are blessed with the wild horses. However the horses that range near the church use our pond as a water source. The challenge we are facing is how to protect the Memorial Garden pond and yet also consider the welfare of the horses. If you have a solution, please email me at: billlumm@peoplepc.com.

~Bill L, Clerk of Session

Children's Christian Education

The Easter sale of See's candy was a great success! Thanks to all who participated. Not only did the youth make enough money to send everyone who is eligible to Ghost Ranch, but they felt very encouraged knowing how much the congregation was behind their efforts. The net amount made by the sale was \$785.23.



The decorated egg auction was fantastic! So many beautifully decorated eggs which were auctioned off for \$1,020.50. Thank you to all who made the

eggs, all who bid on them and to Sue H for her astounding display!

Ghost Ranch Youth Week is June 17-23. The theme is "**Jesus-Who Do You Say That I Am?**" Youth in grades 6-12 will be eligible. There is a scholarship fund for anyone wishing to donate. At this time, there is enough money in the Ghost Ranch fund (\$2,501.73) to send all seven eligible people to Ghost Ranch! Thank you to all who helped make this possible.

If you missed the **Spaghetti Dinner** April 12th, you missed the premiere event of the month! The dinner was very well attended, the waitresses and waiters were very eager to please (in what other restaurant could you find that?), the ambiance was very real and the food was delicious! Thank you so much to all who made the event possible and to all who attended. The youth netted \$346.00 from the sale of tickets.

This summer's **Vacation Bible School** is planned for July 14-18 and the theme is: **God Calls Us: Around the World**. This promises to be loads of fun as children board the 'airplane' in the sanctuary every evening going to a different country each day. They will explore how Christians worship and celebrate Christianity in different countries. Volunteers will be needed to help with this event. Be on the lookout for more announcements about this in the near future!

~Meredith L

Children's Christian Education Committee

Attention Gardeners!

Bring your questions and concerns to the **Sandoval County Master Gardeners' Help Desk**. Stop by LPPC in Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 11th anytime between 10am and 2:30pm. Experts will be available to answer all your landscape and gardening questions.



~Chris M

Memorial Garden Committee

Earth Care Fellowship (ECF)

The Earth Care Fellowship had another great meeting in April. Our Summer Solstice gathering is

always a cause for joy, and so we began to plan yet another of these celebrations of this Good Earth.

We talked about some of the other projects we hope to develop:

~An energy audit for LPPC as a church down in Alabama has done that Pastor Drew knows.

~We are still discussing the possibility of an Ecological Literacy program at some time in the future. It may develop into the form of a group of seminars or a symposium or a series of monthly presentations about all things ecological in our Placitas area.

~We decided to do our next litter pick up along Highway 165 on May 4th. We'll meet at Mile Marker 4 near Ranchos at 8:00am. It takes about 2 hours. Bring water, gloves and a glowing heart.

The Earth Care Fellowship's next meeting is on Tuesday May 28th at 7:00pm. The ECF folks are having great fun and also doing good work. **Come join us!**

~Michael C

MEMBER PROFILE STEW F

Stew was born in Salem, Massachusetts while his Dad was stationed there during World War II working for General Electric. When Stew was two years old, the family moved back home to Westchester (home of the Los Angeles airport) in West Los Angeles.

After graduating from Westchester High School, Stew attended Purdue in Indiana graduating with a degree in mechanical engineering. He continued his education at Arizona State courtesy of a National Science Foundation Fellowship. In between earning his Masters and PhD, he met Karen at a Lutheran Student Association picnic at Canyon Lake. A year later when Karen completed her undergraduate degree, they married.

They moved to Indiana when Stew was offered a job with American Oil in their engineering research group. Four years later they moved to Idaho Falls where Stew worked on nuclear reactor safety at the Idaho National Engineering Lab. Stew and Karen loved the idea of being near the Tetons,

Yellowstone and Sawtooth Mountains, but the winters were too cold for Karen. Their two children were adopted while in Idaho.

During Stew's eight years in this job, they spent a year in Garching, Germany, outside Munich. Stew was invited to work in Germany because he was the principal author of a reactor safety computer code called RELAP. They just loved all the travel and diverse cultural opportunities they were able to experience and would have liked to stay longer. Stew was involved in consulting with Nuclear Regulatory Commission people during the emergency at Three Mile Island.

Their next move got them out of the cold winters – to New Orleans, where Stew worked at Middle South Utilities principally with the completion and startup of the Grand Gulf nuclear plant. They stayed in New Orleans for six years until Stew was transferred to Jackson, Mississippi with Entergy Nuclear where he was the oversight engineer for Waterford 3.

With another transfer to Arkansas looming on the horizon, Stew went job-hunting again. Fortunately Stew's Idaho boss called with a job offer at Los Alamos. They moved to White Rock, New Mexico. Stew loved working at Los Alamos! He worked on numerous reactor, facility and weapon safety problems – never a dull moment! There was a two-year break during his tenure at Los Alamos when the family moved to Maryland where Stew worked for the Department of Energy. This gave Karen a chance to earn her PhD in education at the University of Maryland.

When they moved back to NM, they moved to Santa Fe for several years. Then Karen and the kids' lives became centered in Albuquerque (Karen teaching at UNM, daughter Chrissy a teacher at Cochiti Elementary, son Geoff and daughter-in-law Crystal and grandkids Owen and Shelby living in Rio Rancho) so they moved to Placitas. Stew said the family passed by the exit to Placitas for twenty years before finally turning off to see what was here. They love it here. Stew commuted to Los Alamos for a while and then retired in 2004. Stew then accepted a consulting job in Amarillo for four years.

Stew's hobbies include: hiking, travel, snorkeling, photography and working with his investments. The Fischer's have had some wonderful and amazing trips. Stew's favorite was a trip to Namibia, especially the red sand dune area that had such



stark beauty. Other amazing trips were to Egypt to see the ruins, pyramids and Abu Simbel, followed by a trip to China and the Galapagos. They feel very fortunate to have seen so much of the world. Stew's bucket list includes traveling to Turkey, Patagonia and the Norwegian Fjords.

If Stew had to leave his house in an emergency, he would grab Phoebe Anne, Dusty, Rowdy, family photographs and his wallet. One thing Stew wished he had had the opportunity to do was to work at the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna, Austria. He would also like to become fluent in a foreign language and to hike the entire John Muir trail.

His four favorite things are: lattes, fruit pie, animals and the kitchen sink omelet at The Range. What Stew likes most about LPPC are: the camaraderie, fellowship, music, workdays and Casa Rosa. Other interests are UNM sports (baseball, basketball, including Lady Lobos), golf when he has time and volunteering at Tax Help of NM.

~Wendy I & Betty C

ISOTOPES BASEBALL!

Mark your calendars for LPPC's night at the **All Faiths Night** baseball game at Isotopes Park on **Sunday, July 21 – 6:05 p.m.**

Box seat tickets - \$11.50 each.

We'll have a great time singing "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," finding ball park food to eat, laughing with friends, enjoying the weather, touring the grounds, and, oh yes, watching the game.

Sign up on the sheet in Fellowship Hall, and pay for tickets by July 7th.

It's a tradition!

~Janice L



Habitat House

The building of the Presbyterian/Catholic Habitat House will be starting May 11. LPPC usually works one Saturday and delivers food on another Saturday (**however it could be the same Saturday**).



The days available at this time are June 8, 15, 29; July 6, 13, 20, 27; and August 3. We will pick one of these dates for working. Food is needed June 8; July 6, 20; and August 3. If you want to help in this fun and rewarding mission of LPPC please email Beth S as soon as possible through the church office. Thanks!

~Beth S
Mission committee



What an amazing choir year LPPC Music Ministry has had! I first want to say how happy I have been here worshiping with you all each and every Sunday morning. It is always a joy of mine to share the gift of music to the LPPC congregation.

In recap, the LPPC choir has done two major works this choir year: Ramirez's **Navidad Nuestra** (Christmas 2012) and **Fauré's Requiem** (Holy Week 2013). We also had a very successful fundraiser, **Night at the Opera** on December 1, 2012, when we brought in guest opera singers from the Albuquerque area to perform in our sanctuary. This leads me to our next fundraiser for Spring 2013.

On May 11 at 7:00pm, the Music Ministry will be having a fundraiser called **Magical Musical Moments**. This will be a night full of memorable musical numbers from shows such as **My Fair Lady, Secret Garden, Les Miserables** and much more. There will be singers from the Albuquerque theater area who have sung with the Adobe Theater, Albuquerque Little Theater, MTS, and even national tours. Tickets are \$15.00 per person and \$10.00 per student (with ID). Our fundraiser is to assist in growing our music library and bringing guest instrumentalists into our Sunday worship service. Tickets will be sold by the LPPC Choir members and also available at the door.

Come join the fun! Come join a group of friends! Come join the LPPC Choir!

~Andrew A
Choral Director

Membership News

The membership committee is sponsoring potlucks once again this summer so everyone can spend some quality time with one another. If you would like to host one of these, we would love to gather at your home! The host can either make it a true potluck or provide the main course (i.e., hamburgers, BBQ, etc.). The host would supply tableware, and nonalcoholic drinks. A member of the membership committee will help you. There will be signup sheets so you will know how many are coming. Please let Wendy I know if you would like to host a potluck this summer.



The choir sings on Sunday, May 26 before taking a break for the summer. Look for the sign-up sheet in Fellowship Hall if you'd like to provide special music on Sunday mornings during June, July and August. Check in with Andrew if you have questions about providing music.

The church office will be closed on Mondays, beginning Monday, May 26. Our Administrator, Cory, will be in the office Tuesday through Friday, 9am–1pm during the summer months. Pastor Drew will have office hours Tuesday-Thursday.



Coming in May on Mother's Day weekend (May 11 & 12) is the annual Placitas Studio Tour. Our local artists open their studios from 10am-5pm each day. The Chile Pepper Café will be open both days during the Tour. We will be serving breakfast burritos, beans, pulled pork sandwiches with cole slaw on Saturday and after church on Sunday. Please plan to enjoy lunch with us while also touring the home studios of our fine Placitas artists. Look for tour brochures in Fellowship Hall.

~Joan D
Fellowship Committee

**Combined
JUNE/JULY Newsletter deadline:
FRIDAY MAY 24th —noon**

LPPC Summer Schedule Begins

Our single combined Sunday worship service begins on Sunday, May 12 at 9:30am. Coffee and Fellowship follows this service.



The last Sunday School for our children occurs on Sunday, May 19, resuming in September after Labor Day. The nursery will be available throughout the summer.

**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**

MAY Calendar Highlights

- Wed May 1 Jardineros de Placitas, 9am-12noon
- Sun May 5 **Sixth Sunday of Easter**
Communion Sunday
Early service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, *Making End of Life Decisions*, 9:15am
Second Worship service, 10:30am
(Nursery provided; Sunday School)
Fellowship follows the service
- Mon May 6 Monday Adult Study, 7pm
- Sat May 11 **Placitas Studio Tour**, 10am-5pm
Chile Pepper Café is open
- Master Gardeners' Help Desk,
Fellowship Hall, 10am-2:30pm
- C & J Prayer Shawl, 10:30am in
Upper Room
- Magic Musical Moments***, 7pm,
Sanctuary
- Sun May 12 **Seventh Sunday of Easter**
Mother's Day
Single combined worship, 9:30am
(Nursery provided; Sunday School)
Fellowship follows the service
- Session meets to welcome new
members (10:45am)
- Placitas Studio Tour**, 10am-5pm
Chile Pepper Café is open
- Private Graduation party,
3-5pm, Fellowship Hall
- Mon May 13 Monday Adult Study, 7pm
- Fri May 17 Wedding Rehearsal, evening
- Sat May 18 Wedding, 4pm (Sanctuary &
Fellowship Hall)
- Sun May 19 **Pentecost**
Single combined worship, 9:30am
(Nursery provided; last Sunday
School for summer)
- Mortgage Retirement in Memorial
Garden
- Enchilada Brunch follows in
Fellowship Hall
- PAS Reception & Concert, 2-5pm
- Fri May 24 June/July newsletter deadline: noon
- Sun May 26 **Trinity Sunday**
Teacher Recognition
Graduate Recognition
Single combined worship, 9:30am
(Nursery provided)
Fellowship follows this service
- Mon May 27 **Memorial Day**
Church office is closed