



B. Bowen

The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

MARCH 2013

Holy Week

I often get comments back from you about how much you enjoy the benediction I regularly share at the end of our worship services. I learned that piece from the Rev. Eugenia Gamble, a colleague of mine.



A piece that I enjoy as much, which I also learned from Eugenia, is naming this day as holy. "The communion and the power of the Holy Spirit are with us this holy day, and forever. Amen."

There is a transformative power in claiming a day as holy, and I am convinced that power is not limited to any one day of the week or the year. Each day of our lives is holy, and our days are made so by the power and the presence of God that permeate the whole of existence.

During this month of March we move towards that week in our tradition that we call holy. We will begin with Palm Sunday on March 24th, as we move in the direction of Easter which we will celebrate on March 31st this year. We will observe Maundy Thursday as we often do, and we will add a new evening service on Good Friday where the choir will offer *Fauré's Requiem* as a central piece of our meditation that night.

I do love the services of Holy Week, and I encourage you to participate in them as fully as you are able. I also invite you to consider how all of your weeks are holy. The season of Lent is a good time to expand our awareness of God's presence with us. Be it through prayer, contemplation, or simply stopping long enough to be aware of how God is working in your life and in the world, I encourage to claim and name all your days and weeks as holy.

Peace, Drew

March Texts and Topics

March 3 - Third Sunday in Lent "Manure"
Isaiah 55:1-9; Luke 13:1-9

March 10 - Fourth Sunday in Lent "Lost and Found"
Joshua 5:9-12; Luke 15:11-32

March 17 - Fifth Sunday in Lent "Nardo"
Isaiah 43:16-21; John 12:1-8

March 24 - Palm Sunday "La Entrada"
Psalm 118:19-29; Luke 19:28-40

March 28 - Maundy Thursday "Nuevo Mandato"
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; John 13:1-17, 31-35

March 29 - Good Friday "The Passion"
John 18:1-19:42

March 31 - Easter Sunday "I will answer"
Isaiah 65:17-25, John 20:1-18

Keep your LPPC library in mind when you are here for worship services or during regular office business hours (9am-1pm, M-F).



There are plenty of books to enjoy. When you find a book that you would like to check out of the library please pull the information sheet from the book, sign your name and a contact number, and place it in the acrylic stand. Borrowing a book is on the honor system; however, please return it at your earliest convenience so that it may be enjoyed by someone else. Any questions call our Librarian, Vicki, at 867-5718.

SESSION Highlights



2013 Committee Personnel Are Named!

Early every new year, Session members are assigned to a church committee, either as a chair or committee member. Rev. Henry has a democratic method of determining the assignments. Each Session member lists their top three committee choices, in descending order, on index cards along with the committee least preferred. This year everyone received their top choice:

<u>COMMITTEE</u>	<u>ELDER</u>
Building	Martha R
Grounds	Leah A
Christian Education	Beth S (committee member)
Finance	Mike P
Personnel	Wayne U
Stewardship	Janice L
Worship & Music	Betty M

Other committee chairs are:

Deacons	Betty C & Jeannine P
Earth Care	Leland B
Fellowship	Joan D
Membership	Wendy I
Mission	Pat T & Nancy U

Refer to the weekly church bulletin for meeting days and times and join in. You are needed and welcome!

~Bill L Clerk of Session

EARTHCARE FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK



On Saturday March 2 the LPPC Earthcare Fellowship (ECF) is hosting a potluck at 6pm at the church for members and friends who are interested in the activities of the ECF. The program will include a re-introduction to LPPC's Earthcare

Covenant, a review of the activities of the Earthcare Fellowship, discussion of how the ECF might revitalize and re-engage participation, and a brief closing worship.

This gathering will be in place of the usual Earth Vespers for the Spring Equinox, though we hope to include some of that emphasis in worship on March 17.

We invite those coming to the potluck to consider sharing a favorite vegetarian dish, and we encourage those who are able to bring their own table service (plate, utensils, cup) to reduce the amount of paper products we will need to use.

It would be helpful if you would RSVP, but not required. Please send RSVPs to Ken through the church office (867-5718). We hope you can join us on March 2.

~Ken C
for the LPPC Earthcare Fellowship

March 16 at LPPC: About getting *Firewise* in Placitas



Our church, in cooperation with the Placitas *Firewise* Steering Committee, is hosting half a day of presentations on Saturday, March 16 about wildfire vulnerability in the Placitas area and what we can all do to become more protected from catastrophic wildfire. The workshops go from 9am to 12:30pm.

The Placitas Volunteer Fire Brigade will have their two thousand gallon water tender and other firefighting equipment parked out front of the church as participants arrive. Imagine you need their help. Can the equipment get to your house; is there enough turnaround space? Members of the Fire Brigade will be available to answer questions.

At 9am in the Fellowship Hall, the U.S. Forest Service will use a vivid three-dimensional computer simulation to show how quickly wildfire could spread into Placitas given different starting points and wind variables.

At 10am in the Sanctuary, retired forester George Duda will give an informative and engaging presentation on the hazards of wildfire and what homeowners can do to reduce vulnerability to dangerous wildfire conditions on their property,

such as thinning and pruning juniper trees, removing brush, and some common sense *Firewise* projects to help protect their homes.

Mr. Duda worked for the U.S. Forest Service and N.M. State Forestry Division for many years and currently acts as the Forest Health Program Assessor for the Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District.

Please join us at the church for Mr. Duda's presentation. Following his remarks, he will lead a field workshop from 11:30am to 12:30pm at a property in the Village to show what can be done to reduce wildfire risk around a home.

It is just so great that our church can sponsor important events like this in our beautiful Placitas area. For further information check out the article in this month's *Sandoval Signpost*: at: http://www.sandovalsignpost.com/html/public_safety.html.

~Michael C

Children's Christian Education in March

Chocolate lovers—our youth group will be selling **See's Easter Candies** in March.

Don't buy your Easter candy any place else!

Join us on Easter Sunday following the 10:30am worship service for the traditional "**Easter Egg Hunt**" in addition to some extra fun activities.

We are raising funds for a *Ghost Ranch Youth Week*, June 17th-23rd, "**Jesus-Who Do You Say That I Am?**" We are all very excited about this great opportunity for our children 6th-12th grades. To raise the \$350 needed per child, besides the Easter candy, our youth will host a spaghetti dinner. We will also set up a scholarship fund for anyone wishing to help sponsor the group. Six nights at Ghost Ranch for our youth! What a great adventure they will have!

None of this could be possible without all the wonderful teachers and assistants in the classrooms and on the committee. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Sally!

~Sally G

Children's Christian Education Co Chair

Monday Night Adult Study

The Monday Adult Group began a new book study on February 25th: **Simpler Living, Compassionate Life** edited by Michael Schut.



Jim Wallis—Editor of **Sojourners**—writes, "In a society where 'I shop, therefore I am' results in a deep spiritual poverty, this book, **Simpler Living, Compassionate Life**, provides a gospel-based antidote. This wonderful collection of essays on money, time, environment, community and related topics offers a compelling alternative vision of a healthy, whole and balanced life.... It will stimulate honest reflection and discussion about how much is enough."

Join us on Monday nights at 7pm in the Upper Room. This is a 12 week series and all are welcome! Copies of the book are available to participants at our cost of \$18.

Sunday Adult Forum

Our adult forum through Sunday, March 24th, will explore "An Acceptable Fast: An Adult Lenten Study." This study written by scholar and teacher Patricia Tull focuses on the Old Testament readings for each Sunday of Lent. The themes covered will include: voice gratitude, take the long view, choose well, accept responsibility, welcome the future, and trust God in times of conflict. The leadership for this class which meets on Sunday mornings at 9:15am in the Upper Room will be shared by Drew Henry, Ken C and Tom T.

MEMBER PROFILE VICKI D



Vicki was born in Las Vegas, NM and lived there until she was five. The family moved to Kankakee, IL until Vicki was in grade six when they all moved to Kerrville, TX. Vicki was raised by her grandparents [Richard J C (died January 2008) and Genevieve S (A) C (died May 2012)] who she refers to as her "mom and dad." Her dad loved to hunt exotic animals in Texas and that was a big focus in Vicki's childhood. Vicki's grandparents divorced and she moved to Albuquerque with her

(Grand) Mom to join her Mom's family just before her senior year in high school.

Vicki inherited her dad's four-wheel-drive, Zebra striped Toyota Land Cruiser that he had used during his hunting days. She loved to go four-wheeling all over the undeveloped foothills west of Tramway and as far north as Placitas and up to the area around Las Huertas Creek.

In 1980, Vicki's Mom was seriously injured during a shooting at the Seven Eleven where she worked. Vicki became her main caregiver. Other family members sometimes stepped in to help.

Vicki met John D while Country-Western dancing. John was playing the pedal steel guitar. They began dating and married in 1985. John adopted Vicki's daughter, April, in 1986. They lived in Rio Rancho and often visited Placitas because they both loved the area. Vicki and John bought a 1-1/2 acre lot from Willie and Francis E in 1987. They designed and built their home, as well as a separate house for Vicki's Mom on their property.

Vicki and John have three children. April is married and living in Rio Rancho. She is going to school. Jackson is attending CNM majoring in business and Gage has just started UNM and is interested in biology. They both like laying adobes with John.

Vicki feels she is the queen of part time jobs! Her favorite career job was as a legal billing consultant working with Timeslips, a time-management billing program. In 1996 she created her own company mostly doing monthly billing for law offices, selling the program and training staff to do their own billing.

Vicki's stained glass hobby was influenced as a child by picking up broken colored glass pieces she found while walking along the railroad tracks across from her Grandma Toni's house in Las Vegas, NM. John's Aunt Lily B was also a big influence. She now is doing stained glass creations that she sells by word of mouth (mostly custom work). She also loves photography and swimming. This past summer, she worked at the Rio Rancho Aquatic Center teaching swimming to youth and became a certified lifeguard – her favorite non-career job. Vicki spent a lot of her youth at the YMCA where her dad was the Aquatic Director.

Vicki is proud to have been a Mile Marker (#107) Captain east of Grants, NM for "Hands Across

America" in 1986 to take a stand against hunger and homelessness in America. Millions of Americans formed a continuous human chain from New York's Battery Park to RMS Queen Mary Pier, in Long Beach, California (4,142 miles – raised \$34 M). At a certain time, there was a continuous human chain connection of hands across the U.S. for fifteen minutes all singing the "Hands Across America" theme, "We Are The World" and "America The Beautiful."

The two people that Vicki would have liked to meet are: George Washington since she is fascinated by the creation and layout of Washington DC and Oprah Winfrey because of all the people she has met worldwide.

Vicki and John have traveled to Juarez, Mexico many times (all the tile and light fixtures in their house came from there). In 1985 they took a belated honeymoon to Europe. One memorable incident was sharing a lively conversation and lunch at the Munich train station with individuals from Germany, Poland and a Pierre Cardin salesman from Copenhagen. Last June they enjoyed their second trip to Jamaica and were reminded that the Jamaicans are amazing people.

Vicki's bucket list includes taking a European river cruise, rafting the Grand Canyon, taking the Orient Express while reading the book, going out on a range to herd cattle and researching her family history.

Her most prized possession is her little dog, Casey – a mini dachshund.

Her favorite things are: her health (staying fit), coffee, New Mexico chile, her camera, paper and pencil.

She is most comfortable in her boots and jeans.

Vicki's favorite parts about attending LPPC are many. She loves that she was part of its history having worked as church secretary for both Revs. Jim Anderson and Jane Harmes; Navajo Taco dinners; and MDO (both her sons attended and Vicki still volunteers). When Vicki first started work at LPPC the first friends she met were: Elsie D, Vivian G D, Anna H, Leah and Jeanne A. After twenty years, they are still her friends.

~Betty C& Wendy I

Easter Lilies

Lilies will decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, March 31st. If you would like to dedicate lilies to someone or for a special occasion, they are \$15.00 each. If you are writing a check, please note "lilies" on the memo line. Look for the order form which will be in the Sunday bulletins on March 10th & 17th. Place it the offering plate or drop by or mail to the church office (867-5718) by Monday, March 25th.



Before retiring on Saturday, March 9th, set your clocks ahead one hour. Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 10th.

MARCH Calendar Highlights

- Sat Mar 2 Earthcare Fellowship Potluck, 6pm
- Sun Mar 3 **3rd Sunday in Lent**
Communion Sunday
Early service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:15am
Second Worship service, 10:30am
(Nursery provided; Sunday School)
Fellowship follows this service
- Mon Mar 4 Monday Adult Study, 7pm
- Wed Mar 6 Jardineros de Placitas, 9am-12noon
- Sat Mar 9 Special Choir Rehearsal, 10am-3pm
- Sun Mar 10 **4th Sunday in Lent**
Daylight Savings Time begins
Early service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:15am
Second Worship service, 10:30am
(Nursery provided; Sunday School)
Fellowship follows this service
- Session meets to welcome new members (11:45am)
- Mon Mar 11 Monday Adult Study, 7pm

- Sat Mar 16 *Firewise* Community Program, 9am-1pm
- Dinner & Dance, Fellowship Hall, 5:30-8pm, (Tickets—\$5 at the door)
- Sun Mar 17 **Fifth Sunday in Lent**
Early service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:15am
Second Worship service, 10:30am
(Nursery provided; Sunday School)
Fellowship follows this service
- Mon Mar 18 Monday Adult Study, 7pm
- Sat Mar 23 Special Choir Rehearsal, 10am-1pm
- Sun Mar 24 **Palm Sunday**
Early service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:15am
Second Worship service, 10:30am
(Nursery provided; Sunday School)
Fellowship follows this service
- 'Eggs-traordinary' Easter Egg Hunt follows in Fellowship Hall
- PAS Reception & Concert, 2-5pm
- Mon Mar 25 Monday Adult Study, 7pm
- Thurs Mar 28 **Maundy Thursday**, service, 7pm
- Fri Mar 29 **Good Friday**, service, 7pm
- Sun Mar 31 **Easter Sunday**
Sunrise service, 6:30pm
Early service, 8:30pm
Traditional service, 10:30am
- Easter Dinner follows this service
Easter Egg Hunt

**April Newsletter deadline:
Monday, March 25th—noon**

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