



B. Bowen

# The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

## NOVEMBER 2013

### Handed Down

When I was a kid we sat in church with my paternal grandmother most every Sunday. GaGa used to carry rolls of Certs to hand out to her grandchildren up and down the pew. Our favorite flavor was Assorted Fruit. Wintergreen was a close second.

My father kept Breath Savers in his car, the kind with the blue or green filling in the middle. There was always an opened roll in the center console. You could count on finding a back up in the glove compartment. While my dad is no longer able to drive, I bet there are still Breath Savers in his car.

I now keep Ice Breakers in our Civic, the ones that come in the round disc-like containers. My children let me know their displeasure when I happen to buy the blue pack (only because there were no more green ones in the checkout line at the store). There are two different-sized openings on the top of the packaging. The smaller one is labeled "to share." The larger says "not to share."

This design always strikes me as a bit stingy. Some claim the package is made this way to keep others' germs out of your mints. I found a comment online by someone who works for the company that makes Ice Breakers. They said, "People wanted to limit their friends mooching." The second rationale probably holds more truth.

In one way or another, even the small things we hold on to were handed down to us. Mints were given to me. The very same people also gave me the faith foundation on which I stand. They taught me to be generous and to be grateful. I want "to share" the big openings in my life, not the small ones. How about you?

Peace, Drew



### NOVEMBER Texts and Topics

**November 3** - Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost — "Everything you Need" Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4

**November 10** - Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost — "Do not fear" Haggai 1:15b-2:9; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

**November 17** - Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost — *Reverend Dr. Rob Woodruff Preaching* Isaiah 65:17-25; Isaiah 12

**November 24** - Christ the King Sunday — "To give light and to guide" Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 1:68-79



### SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Rev. Ken Cuthbertson Presents

#### Overture

Granted privilege of the floor for the October 8<sup>th</sup> Session meeting, Parish Associate Ken Cuthbertson presented an overture to Santa Fe Presbytery concerning an Authoritative Interpretation on the Book of Order W-4.9000 to Affirm Pastoral Discretion in Performing Marriage Ceremonies.

#### Background

Existing Book of Order (2011/2013) language describes marriage, as follows: "Marriage is a gift God has given to all humankind for the well-being of the entire human family. Marriage is a civil contract between a woman and a man. For Christians marriage is a covenant through which a

man and a woman are called to live out together before their lives of discipleship. In a service of Christian marriage a lifelong commitment is made by a woman and a man to each other, publicly witnessed and acknowledged by the community of faith.”

Authoritative interpretations are official guidance offered by the General Assembly concerning the PCUSA constitution, essentially equivalent to a Supreme Court ruling in civil law. In presenting the rationale for the overture, recent changes in civil law concerning marriage across the country are noted, and the fact that many within the church have come to affirm same-sex marriage from a Christian perspective as well. This overture would allow ministers and church sessions to use their own discretion in choosing whether or not to perform same-sex weddings, where they are permitted by law, and whether such weddings may be conducted on church premises.

### The Overture

Worship is a central element of the pastoral care of the people of God (W-6.3001, 6.3010) in which a Teaching Elder’s discernment of the leading of the Holy Spirit is indispensable. The necessity of ensuring the exercise of freedom of conscience in the interpretation of Scripture (G-2.0105) in the planning and leadership of worship has deep roots in our Reformed tradition and theology. Because a service of marriage is one form of such worship, when a couple requests the involvement of the church in solemnizing their marriage as permitted by the laws of the place where the couple seek to be married, Teaching Elders have the pastoral responsibility to assess the capabilities, intentions, and readiness to be married of the couple (W-4.9002), and the freedom of conscience in the interpretation of Scripture (G-2.0105) to participate in any such marriage they believe the Holy Spirit calls them to perform. Exercising such discretion and freedom of conscience under the prayerful guidance of Scripture, Teaching Elders may conduct a marriage service for any such couple in the place where the community gathers for worship, if approved by the session; or in such other place as may be suitable for a service of Christian worship. In no case shall any Teaching Elder’s conscience be bound to conduct any marriage service for any couple except by his or her understanding of the Word, and the leading of the Holy Spirit. The Authoritative Interpretation of this section by the 203rd General Assembly (Minutes 1991, at 21.124-128), and the subsequent Authoritative Interpretations of the General

Assembly Permanent Judicial Commission relying upon it, are withdrawn and replaced with this Authoritative Interpretation.

An engaging Session conversation and question and answer period followed Rev. Cuthbertson’s presentation. After Session members ascertained a clear understanding of the overture and the process required\* for presentation to the General Assembly by the presbytery, **a motion was made for vote. The overture was approved by Session, with one “no” vote.**

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- \*1. Overture originates in one, or more, sessions in the presbytery.
  2. Approval from the voting members (commissioners) of the Presbytery of Santa Fe required.
  3. Vote scheduled during the February 7, 2014, presbytery meeting
  4. If approved, the overture becomes a voting issue at the 2014 General Assembly meeting. The overture wording must be the same as at least one other concurring presbytery for it to be considered.

~Bill L  
Clerk of Session



### **The Forum – *Enough: God's Blessings in Abundance* continues through December 8<sup>th</sup>.**

This 6-week study will explore dimensions of what it means to have *enough* through the parables of Jesus and other Biblical references. The insightful study helps participants to look at what is really most important to have in life—God’s blessings, which are in abundance, for us.

The curriculum comes to us from Laura Mendenhall, who in her ministry has served as a youth pastor, an educator, a missionary, a minister in four congregations, president of Columbia Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Georgia, and currently is part-time pastor to a young congregation while working full time for the Texas Presbyterian Foundation.

Please join us on Sunday mornings at 9:15am in the Upper Room. (There will be no forum on November 24<sup>th</sup>, however.)

~Ken Cuthbertson  
Parish Associate

## ADULT BIBLE STUDY

**CHANGE OF DAY:** Due to the upcoming holiday season, during November and December, join us on the first & third Wednesday of each month from 10-11:30am in the Upper Room for Bible Study (November 6 & 20; December 4 & 18). The Book of Genesis is the center of attention for the Fall. The group is facilitated by Karl G. The coffee is fresh and everyone is welcome at any time!

## CHILDREN

What's new in the Sunday School classrooms? Where's our choir director during the middle of the worship service? To answer the first question

just stop by our Sunday School classrooms and see the beautiful new area carpets! These colorful, comfortable, carpets make hearing stories of Elijah, Amos, Micah, Jeremiah, and Isaiah a little more fun.

To answer the second question you have to know that our wonderful choir director leaves in the middle of the service each Sunday to lead a Children's Choir. **Andrew Alegria** and the children will present "**Around the World: It's Christmas,**" **December 15<sup>th</sup>** during the **10:30am** worship service. We are all very excited that our children have this great opportunity to work with Andrew.

There are two very important dates for the children to remember. On **December 7<sup>th</sup>** we will have a **fitting of the costumes** during the **Hanging of the Greens** from **9am to 12noon**. On **December 14<sup>th</sup>** we will have a dress rehearsal, from **12:30 to 3:30pm**, which will include a break and small lunch. On December 7<sup>th</sup> along with the Hanging of the Greens the children will be baking and sampling cookies from around the world, making ornaments from different countries, decorating a children's



tree, trying on costumes, playing Christmas Bingo, and eating pizza. What fun!

This autumn semester is full and exciting! We want to thank our dedicated teachers: Elizabeth and Jeff D, Tom T, Meredith L, Dana H and Tamara H for all they do.

Looking forward to the spring, we would again like to invite anyone interested in working with children in any capacity to come check us out. We have opportunities at all levels and wonderful children to work with. As our program grows we will need more teachers.

Any questions? Please join us at our next Christian Education meeting on Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 worship service in the primary children's classroom. Thanks you!

~Sally G, Co-Chair  
Children's Christian Education

## CASA ROSA NEWS

The fall season is upon us and we are all busy putting things away for the winter and anticipating joyous times with friends and family during the holidays. This is my favorite time of year. I just love all the bright colors that God uses to paint our surroundings, in some way offsetting the ever-increasing hours of darkness that we encounter from now through Christmas.



Casa Rosa continues to be a nutritional, as well as social, focal point of our community. This mission of our church is vital to the health and wellbeing of this place we call home. Every Saturday, clients, volunteers and others gather to visit, exchange stories, concerns, joys and news of importance. Casa Rosa is the catalyst through which Placitas talks to itself. God gave us the gift of communication so that we may honor Him and each other, with the end results being peace and comfort.

Again this year, Casa Rosa and the Deacons of LPPC will be distributing Thanksgiving turkey dinner baskets to those who otherwise might not enjoy such a feast. A very generous Placitas resident is providing the turkeys and, through your

donations of food items and money, Casa Rosa is able to accumulate all the other ingredients so that every family can enjoy a Thanksgiving meal together. We are still in the process of putting things together, and can use your help. Between now and Thanksgiving Day, check the Sunday bulletin for information about items that are needed to complete every dinner basket. Financial donations are most helpful because Casa Rosa and the Deacons can increase value by buying certain items in bulk, and they also provide the flexibility to purchase those last-minute items to fill out each basket.

Please don't think that your contribution is insignificant or unimportant. This is a wonderful event in which we can all participate and every piece shares the love of our community. We are all blessed by God and chartered by Him to realize the joy of sharing. God told Abraham, "I have blessed you so that you may be a blessing to others." Now is the time for all of us to continue this wonderful tradition.

Thank you for all that you do!

~Tom L

LPPC Deacon and Casa Rosa Board Member



**Fellowship** will be hosting La Mesa Presbyterian Church officers on Saturday, November 2 from 9am to 3pm. Since they will be here for breakfast, I would love some volunteers to bake a breakfast bread. If you are willing to help, please contact Joan D through the church office. Any leftover items, we can freeze and sell at the **Placitas Holiday Sale** the weekend of November 23 & 24<sup>th</sup>.

During November, Fellowship will be preparing for the Holiday Sale as the Chili Pepper Café will be open daily. We will be making tamales sometime during the middle of the month. Please join our preparations in the kitchen on Thursdays and Fridays in November. Contact Joan for specific dates and more information.

We'll also need lots of brownies to sell during the Holiday Sale. All contributions are welcome. Please cut the brownies in 3" squares and wrap. If you want to bake them early, we can put them in the freezer until the sale.

We will also be working with the Catholic Mission Church again this year for **Blessings Day**. Names of the families will be distributed on Sunday, November 3. This is always a blessing to help families in our community. We need volunteers to help with the wrapping and the distribution of the gifts, food and clothing. The wrapping will be on December 14 in the afternoon at the Catholic Mission and the distribution from LPPC's Fellowship Hall will be on Saturday, December 21, for two to three hours in the morning.

Please contact Joan if you are interested in working with Fellowship during November and December.

Thanks for all your help. ~Joan D

## MEMBER PROFILE

### BOB H

Bob was born in Greeley, Colorado and moved to Denver for the last three years of high school. He graduated from Denver University, majoring in business administration. Bob enlisted in the Marine Corps and almost immediately after that the Korean War broke out.

When Bob went for processing, he found that he was among hundreds of young men all in lines to learn their assignments. He certainly didn't want to go to Korea and listened to each person in the long line ahead of him questioned about what they did in civilian life. No matter what their response was they all seemed to be headed to Korea. If someone responded that he was a ditch digger in civilian life, the Sergeant would tell him that they needed ditch diggers in Korea. When it was Bob's turn he responded by saying "I drive a tractor on a farm" thinking they might not need farmers there. Bob was then directed to another Sergeant who asked if he could also operate a back hoe. Bob convinced him that he could and was sent to El Toro Marine Base in California to build a golf course for Marine officers to play. That was as close to Korea he got but his love for golf started right there.



Bob's professional life in the field of golf is outstanding with many highlights. He was General Manager and Instructor at the PGA Learning Center in Port St. Lucie, FL, Director of Game Improvement and Instruction at the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs where he established a guaranteed golf improvement lesson program to reduce individual handicaps which achieved a 100% success rate. Another significant part of his career was when he taught paraplegics and amputees to play golf. He started the Colorado Open Golf Tournament with proceeds going to Craig Rehabilitation Hospital in Denver. That tournament is still hosted today. He was Director of Golf, overseeing four world-class private golf facilities during which he planned and directed the PGA Championship Tournament in Australia, followed by his favorite job, Director of Golf at Medinah Country Club outside Chicago for ten years. During this time he served on the Senior Open and US Open Planning committees.

Bob has four children: Dana is a golf pro in Farmington, NM, Russell is head of security/maintenance at Poudre Valley in Ft. Collins, Cynthia works in HR at Sandia here in Albuquerque and Noble works at Albertsons in Albuquerque. Bob and Sue have been married 49 years and have three grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Bob's favorite things to do now include: fitting golf clubs for people, coaching/teaching golf and being around people.

Bob was one of only thirteen golf professionals (out of over 20,000 at the time) to become a Master Professional (a doctorate in golf). This degree includes expertise in golf instruction, course design, construction and maintenance, financial control, membership sales, marketing, PR, staffing and training, golf shop merchandising, food and beverage operations and tournament and event planning. Quite an accomplishment! Another claim to fame is that he was Michael Jordan's golf instructor. He earned the Horton Smith award as an excellent golf instructor and teacher. He has also been the Golf Professional of the Year, won the Merchandiser of the Year award (from *Sports Illustrated*) and earned the award for having one of the 100 Best Golf Shops in America for nine consecutive years.

The person Bob would most like to meet would be Harry Truman (in his view, the best president ever).

His best trips were when he and Susan were transferred to Sydney, Australia and to Tokyo, Japan. In both cases the people were what made the place so special. The course outside Sydney had kangaroos and koalas on site.

Bob's bucket list still includes going to Wyoming and buying a horse farm. In case of a fire, he would grab their Don Quixote sculpture which is so special to them, his Western art and photographs.

His favorite things include: Jamaican Blue Mountain Coffee, mountain views, his two kitties, Tabasco sauce, two-day trips and finding creative ways to put Sue's ideas over the top.

Bob's favorite parts about attending LPPC are the togetherness of the congregation, Drew, and all the friendships that he has developed.

Bob says one of the best days of his life in Placitas is the day that Charles DeLara took him on a private tour of the historic places in Placitas and nearby towns.

~Wendy I



## WINTER SOLSTICE POETRY READING

The 2013 theme for the Candlelight Poetry Reading for the Winter Solstice sponsored by the Earthcare Fellowship will be **Luminous Night**. The reading will be on Saturday evening, December 21 at 7pm in the LPPC sanctuary. LPPC members and friends who wish to submit an original poem on the theme may send them to John G, Leland B, and/or Ken C, by November 15. Typically eight to twelve poems are chosen for the reading from among the submissions

**December Newsletter Deadline:  
Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at noon**

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It is very easy and we would like to show you how. Please see Russell M, Glenn I or Wendy I after church any Sunday and we would be happy to teach you.

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2.**

Before retiring on Saturday evening, be sure to set your clocks back one hour!



*Happy Thanksgiving*



**Las Placitas Presbyterian Church**  
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**Rev. Drew M. Henry, Pastor**  
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**Cory Franklin, Administrator**  
505-867-5718 ~ [lppcaa@lasplacitaschurch.org](mailto:lppcaa@lasplacitaschurch.org)

## NOVEMBER Calendar Highlights

Fri Nov 1 All Saints' Day  
Photography, 1pm, Upper Room

Sat Nov 2 La Mesa Presbyterian Session  
Retreat, 9am-3pm

Sun Nov 3 **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS**  
**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**Communion Sunday**  
Early worship service, 8:30am  
Adult Forum, 9:15am  
Confirmation, 9:15am  
Second worship service, 10:30am  
Nursery provided; Sunday School  
Stewardship Celebration follows  
this service

Mon Nov 4 Monday Night Adult Study, 7pm

Wed Nov 6 Jardineros de Placitas  
9am-12noon  
  
Bible Study, 10-11:30am, Upper Rm

Thurs Nov 7 Firewise Steering Group, Upper Rm,  
10am-noon  
  
Women's Prayer Circle, 7:30pm

Fri-Sun  
Nov 8-10 Middle High Youth Retreat at LPPC

Sun Nov 10 **25<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Early worship 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, Upper Room

Mon Nov 11 Monday Night Adult Study, 7pm

Fri Nov 15 Photography Group, 1pm

Sat Nov 16 Choir Rehearsal, 9am-3pm  
  
NM Direct Care Support Workshop,  
10am-noon, Fellowship Hall

Sun Nov 17 **26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
Early worship service, 8:30am  
Adult Forum, 9:15am  
Second worship service, 10:30am  
Nursery provided—Sunday School  
Fellowship follows this service  
  
PAS Reception & Concert, 2-5pm

Mon Nov 18 Monday Night Adult Study, 7pm

Wed Nov 20 Bible Study, 10-11:30am  
  
Homeowners Association, 7-9pm

Thurs Nov 21 Firewise Steering Group, Upper Rm  
10am-noon  
  
Women's Prayer Circle, 7:30pm

Fri Nov 22 December newsletter deadline: noon

Sat Nov 23 Choir Rehearsal, 10am-1pm  
  
Placitas Holiday Sale, 10am-5pm  
Chili Pepper Café open

Sun Nov 24 **Christ the King Sunday**  
Single combined worship service,  
9:30am  
Nursery provided—Sunday School  
Fellowship follows this service

Placitas Holiday Sale, 10am-5pm  
Chili Pepper Café open  
  
Night at the Opera, 7pm

Mon Nov 25 Monday Night Adult Study, 7pm

Thurs Nov 28 Thanksgiving

Fri Nov 29 Church office is closed

Sun Dec 1 **First Sunday in Advent**