

# The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

August 2015



## *Worship Services*

### **August 2 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost**

"Bread from Heaven"

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15; John 6:24-35

### **August 9 - Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

"Ruach in Song"

Psalms 96:1-3, 10-13; Romans 15:13

### **August 16 – Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost**

"Ruach in the Valley of Dry Bones Revisited"

Ezekiel 37:1-14

### **August 23 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

"Ruach in the Church of Today and Tomorrow"

Isaiah 61; Acts 20:22-24

### **August 30 – Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

"Ruach in My Life"

Job 33:4

## *Y'all Come Now, Ya Hear*

I would like to begin thanking Janice Langdale, Nancy Ullery, and Nancy Walker for the incredible work they have done with our new year-round approach to stewardship here at Las Placitas Presbyterian Church.

Last fall, when they normally would have been putting together an annual 4 to 6 week long stewardship campaign, Janice, Nancy, and Nancy took on the challenge of changing the way we have historically done stewardship work here in the congregation.

Together, we envisioned a plan of one-time meetings of small groups of different members from the church each month. While you are asked to attend only one of these "Fireside Chats," Janice, Nancy, and Nancy have participated in almost all of these meetings.

Working together they came up with a narrative budget for the congregation that helps to show the impact of our ministries and mission both within the church and in the wider community and beyond. Your generosity makes possible all that we do together. Our goal is that we each have a better understanding of the difference that our giving and commitment regularly makes.

I want to ask everyone, therefore, to be a part of one of these stewardship meetings. The time commitment asked of you is 90 minutes. To date, almost half of our families who regularly give to the church have participated. We would love to finish the year with 100% participation. That means we need you to say "yes" to the invitation if you have not already done so.

The innovation of our stewardship committee is already showing positive results. Members have enjoyed getting to know one another better, many now have a better grasp of our finances, and we have seen an increase in giving to support the life and the work of our congregation. Thank you!

Peace, Drew

## STEWARDSHIP

### *Your friendly neighborhood Stewardship Committee ...*

is not asking you to attend a sit-down dinner or register for a free trip to the Bahamas in order to hear the spiel for buying a time-share condo or register with a financial planner.

No, all we are asking is that you attend a 'Fireside Chat' to find out where your pledge dollars to LPPC go to help the church fulfill our mission of extending the love of Christ. (But you may get a tidbit to eat also.)

The Stewardship Committee - Janice Langdale, Nancy Ullery, and Nancy Walker—has created a narrative budget to show congregation members and friends the impact of our giving. We have hosted monthly meetings, our Fireside Chats, and we encourage all of you to give a 12-month pledge to our church.

Here is the Stewardship statistical information for the first half of 2015:

<b>Total Pledges as of 6/30/15</b>	<b>23</b>
Number—increased pledges	11
Number – same as 2014	6
Number—new pledges	6
Number of <i>Fireside Chat</i> attendees, January - June	52 people 34 households
Amount pledged through December	\$49,080.00
Additional special pledges	\$ 6,719.00
Total 12-month pledges received	\$61,867.00

Our remaining 2015 Fireside Chats will be held on the following dates:

August 18, Tuesday morning, 10:30

September 27, Sunday afternoon, 3:00

October 26, Monday evening, 6:30

November 17, Tuesday morning, 10:30

If there is a time that is especially to your liking, see Janice, Nancy U. or Nancy W. to register.

~ Stewardship Committee

## DEACONS

### *A Call to Service*

The Deacons would like to identify individuals willing to prepare dishes for our members and families in need during a crises, illness or death of a loved one. If this is something you would be able to do, please contact Anna Howarth (867-3143) or Pat Thorpe (867-5325) Fortunately, this need does not present itself often, but having such a list when it does occur would greatly benefit the work we do.

Thank you,  
Pat Thorpe, Deacon's Moderator

## CASA ROSA

### *Casa Rosa Food Pantry to Celebrate 7 years on August 29*

Casa Rosa opened its doors on August 30, 2008 and will again be holding an annual celebration in August. This year's celebration will be on Saturday August 29 - starting during client distribution hours (9-11am) and continuing after distribution is over. In the courtyard behind Casa Rosa, food will be plentiful—with a grill producing hamburgers and hot dogs to accompany the many side dishes and desserts—and children will have a special activity. Supporters of the Food Pantry are very welcome at the celebration, **and a special invitation is being extended to members and friends of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church.**

The Volunteers and Clients of Casa Rosa look forward to seeing you on August 29.

~ Sherrill Cloud  
Chair, Casa Rosa Board of Directors

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### *What an exciting summer!*

In June, five youth and two chaperons experienced “**Wild Grace**” at **Ghost Ranch**. They spent the week connecting with the Earth and learning how our faith is a part of that connection. Each day was full of physical activities from Archery to Tae Kwon Do, spiritual services with daily community worship, and time for sharing the experiences of the day. Our youth had a week of growing together, experiencing decision making, time management and independence. Once again we thank the generous support of LPPC congregation for this gift of growing spiritually and physically in the beauty of Ghost Ranch.

In July, **VBS was a huge success!** Elizabeth Dickson, Tamara Hudson, and Leslie O’Hanlon guided seventeen children back in time to learn about the Good Samaritan, designed kindness gifts for Casa Rosa, and made a movie about how they can apply the lessons of kindness and empathy to a modern day event of bullying. The smiles and dancing at the end of each evening showed pure joy! This couldn’t have happened without the support, love and prayers of everyone at LPPC. Thank you! In particular, we want to acknowledge and thank our volunteers: Nancy Walker, Christine Mink, Anna Howarth, Norma Martinez, Joan Chewing, Elizabeth and Jeff Dickson, Tamara Hudson, Drew Henry, Leslie and Larry O’Hanlon, Dana Howarth, Karen Martinez, Judie Hendry, Geri Escarcida, Cheryl Ferrell, Katherine Gustafson, Russell Mink, Ruth Wheeler, Trip Jennings, Mia Archibeque, and Jessica Bossier. And our youth volunteers: Dana Douglas, Annabella Mayorga, Santiago Henry, Rachel Richter, Xavier Hernandez, Katherine and William Jennings. Muchas gracias!

As this newsletter is going out, three of our high school youth are returning from a **mission trip to L.A.** where they supported the work of helping the homeless and those in great need. What a life changing experience for our youth to grow in the love and caring for others as they continue in their

faith journey. From the bottom of our hearts we thank Beth Sherwood for supporting this trip as the LPPC chaperon and the financial support from our wonderful congregation.

August will be a time of organizing the “**Sunday School 2015-2016 Year**”. We invite anyone interested in teaching to contact Sally Gosnell or Elizabeth Dickson. New exciting curriculums are being ordered that will guide the teacher through each step of the lesson. We have the most wonderful children and they will touch your heart.

~Sally Gosnell & Elizabeth Dickson,  
Children’s Christian Ed Co-directors



### *All Are Safe - Flooding Destroys Some of Our Favorite Workshop Areas*

A sudden storm raged through Ghost Ranch around 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 7th. Brief yet violent, it brought destructive waters sweeping down through the arroyo, annihilating everything in its path. The force of the 20-foot wall of water that roared through was so strong it snapped mature trees in half and carried buildings away.

This week, in the aftermath, we exalt at the fact that no one was hurt... truly a miracle. We are just so grateful to God for the safety of our guests, volunteers and staff.

We lost the Box Canyon aqueduct, Pot Hollow, Short House, Pole Barn, the Low Ropes Course and equipment shed, and further on down the arroyo, the brand new Fiber Arts Studio. Classes held in these areas have all been relocated. Aside from limited access to the Box Canyon hiking trail and closing part of the Matrimonial Mesa trail, Ghost Ranch is fully operational.

The National Weather Service is investigating the storm as there has not been an event like this in

their records and they are surveying to assess how to forecast such an event in the future.

For aid and funding to rebuild we're working with the Risk Management staff at the Presbyterian Church (USA), the New Mexico Governor's Office, the Department of Homeland Security, the Rio Arriba County Emergency Management Office/Rural Events Center/Extension Office, the National Resource Conservation Service and Santa Clara Pueblo.

We've also engaged the help of the Presbyterian Disaster Services, American Red Cross, FEMA, National Weather Service, Presbyterian Healthcare Services, PC(USA) Management and Communications Staff, our Governing Board and National Ghost Ranch Foundation.

Many of you inquired how you can help. At this time, the damage is too extensive and the areas are very dangerous to be working in, so we do not have volunteer and staff work crews in the destroyed areas. We have insurance but it comes with a hefty \$100,000 deductible. Your help today is needed.

We will rebuild. And although it may seem obvious, we will not rebuild in the same areas.

While the devastation and loss are extensive, we are blessed with wonderful guests, donors, friends, and staff. You are all so awesome! God bless you for your love and encouragement! THANK YOU all SO much for the outpouring of generous offers of financial assistance and help in our recovery.

Immediately after the devastation from Tuesday's storm, a double rainbow appeared over the Mesa – the promise of God's love and hope times two!

During these days of assessing the damages, more signs of hope are emerging – a beautiful robin rebuilding her nest in a beam left on the Pottery structure, a road runner skipping across the arroyo, sun, rain and more sun, and best of all, our guests enjoying the abounding beauty and the community of the Ranch, singing, painting, laughing, praising, caring. What joy!

We are so overwhelmed at the outpouring of prayers, financial support, offers of volunteer time, and many words of encouragement. You are all awesome!

With love and gratitude,

Debra Hepler, Executive Director

<http://www.ghost ranch.org/support/donate-now>



## HEALTH MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP

*Save The Date!*  
*September 20th is "Healthy Sunday"*

Your Health Ministry Partnership presents The Second LPPC Health Fair on Sunday, September 20. Fellowship Hall will be the venue for booths full of information on healthy living, medications, diet, activities, emergencies, health services (both government and non-government) and much more.

The Adult Forum will host a noted speaker who will talk about Resiliency. Even the Sunday School will have a healthy activity for the kids.

This is one Sunday you won't want to miss! Everyone deserves to enjoy good health and well-being in order to enjoy life to its fullest.

See you there!

~ Tom Luley, HMP

## MEMBER PROFILE

### *Warren Larson*

Warren was born in Waukesha, Wisconsin and he lived in Pewaukee, WI through high school. He moved to Milwaukee to attend the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee where he earned his BFA degree with a teacher's certification for grades K-12.

Warren and Carol met while attending UWM. Carol was a piano major and Warren was a vocal major in the music department. He and Carol moved to Fond du Lac where he taught vocal music for 33 years. Warren received his Master's Degree in education from Marion University in Fond du Lac. They first retired to Hurricane, Utah near Zion National Park where they built a house. Then 3 years ago they moved to Rio Rancho to be closer to their daughter and family who live in Los Alamos.

Warren and Carol have been married for 44 years and have 2 daughters. Erica and her husband, Miles live in Los Alamos and both work at the Lab. His son, Rigel is a senior and hopes to attend the Naval Academy next year. Rebecca lives in Lake Geneva, WI where she is a French teacher at Badger High School and also choreographs the school's musicals. She has 2 children: Alexandre age 6 and Gisele age 4. Rebecca's husband, Ramon, is a school principal in the Delevan, WI School District.

Warren has loved his career in music and after working with students for 33 years there is a special feeling that he hopefully has had a positive influence in their lives.

Warren continued his involvement in music after he retired. He managed the Fond du Lac Children's Chorale, taught voice lessons and was musical director for many of Fond du Lac's Community Theater productions. He was happy that some of these productions included his family's participation. He is currently the Assistant Director of the Westside Concert Chorale as well as choir director at LPPC. His other hobbies include: photography, hiking, woodworking, traveling and exploring our diverse state.

The person he would most like to have met in history would be Ronald Reagan. He was such a charismatic leader and speaker. His respect increased after a visit to his presidential library.

Warren's most amazing trip was when he took his high school choir on a tour of Italy and France during Easter week of 2001. There were 99 students, 10 chaperones and 140 companion tour people who spent 10 days in Rome, Venice, Florence, the Principality of Monaco and Nice. They performed in all these cities with the most special performance being in Monaco where they sang in the Cathedral where Princess Grace was buried. The choir also performed a piece that Carol composed.

His bucket list would include satisfying his interest in history. He would like to visit England, especially London and to return to Paris for another visit.

In a fire, he would grab his camera and memory cards so that the thousands of memories would be preserved.

The one thing on his list of things he always wanted to do but never did would be rafting the Grand Canyon. The 5 things he wouldn't want to live without are: food, clothing, shelter, camera/cards, a car, piano, books and some money.

Warren and Carol did a lot of exploring in the area and discovered Placitas on one of those journeys. They love the Spanish influence and fell in love with LPPC when they saw it. They attended LPPC the following week and never found another church that they enjoyed as much. They love the quaint, classy and homey feeling of the church itself and the warm and friendly people. Of course, the people in the choir hold a special place in his heart.

Aug. 2015  
Wendy Ingram

## August 2015

Sat	8/1	9:00am	Casa Rosa Food Pantry	Mon	8/17	*	
		11:00am	Placitas Trails HOA	Tue	8/18	8:00am	Breakfast Discussion Grp, Placitas Café
<b>Sun</b>	<b>8/2</b>		<b>10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>			10:30am	Yoga, Upper Room
		9:30am	Single Combined Service, Sanctuary			1:45pm	Stewardship Fireside Chat
		7:00pm	AA, Upper Room			6:00pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
Mon	8/3	*				7:30pm	Casa Rosa Board Meeting
Tue	8/4	8:00am	Breakfast Discussion Grp, Placitas Café	Wed	8/19	7:30pm	Women's Prayer Circle, Library
			Yoga, Upper Room	Thu	8/20	1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall	Fri	8/21	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room
		6:00pm	Personnel Meeting, Upper Room	Sat	8/22	9:00am	Casa Rosa Food Pantry
		7:00pm	Finance Meeting, Upper Room	Sun	8/23		<b>13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>
Wed	8/5	9:00am	Jardineros			9:30am	Single Combined Service, Sanctuary
		7:30pm	Women's Prayer Circle, Library			1:00pm	Placitas Sage Cohousing, Upr Rm
Thu	8/6	1:45pm	Kids Karate on break			7:00pm	AA, Upper Room
Fri	8/7	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room	Mon	8/24	*	National Waffle Iron Day
Sat	8/8	9:00am	Casa Rosa Food Pantry	Tue	8/25	8:00am	Breakfast Discussion Group, Placitas Café
<b>Sun</b>	<b>8/9</b>		<b>11<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>			1:45pm	Yoga, Upper Room
		9:30am	Single Combined Service, Sanctuary			7:00pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		1:00pm	Placitas Sage Cohousing, Upr Rm				Worship & Music Committee Mtg
		7:00pm	AA, Upper Room	Wed	8/26	*	
Mon	8/10	*	Mothers' Day Out re-opens!	Thu	8/27	1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
Tue	8/11	8:00am	Breakfast Discussion Grp, Placitas Café	Fri	8/28	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room
			Yoga, Upper Room	Sat	8/29	9:00am	Casa Rosa Anniversary Celebration
		1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall			6:00pm	LPPC Potluck, Thomas household
		5:30pm	Deacons Meeting, Upper Room			7:30pm	KUPR Benefit Concert, Los Martinez, Fellowship Hall
		7:00pm	Session Meeting, Upper Room	Sun	8/30		<b>14<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>
Wed	8/12	*	Back to School Tomorrow!			9:30am	Single Combined Service, Sanctuary
Thu	8/13	1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall			7:00pm	AA, Upper Room
Fri	8/14	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room	Mon	8/31	*	Labor Day is next week! Stay tuned for schedule changes.
Sat	8/15	9:00am	Casa Rosa Food Pantry				
<b>Sun</b>	<b>8/16</b>		<b>12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost</b>				
		9:30am	Single Combined Service, Sanctuary				
		7:00pm	AA, Upper Room				

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