



Worship Services

November 29 – First Sunday of Advent

"On the Way"

Psalms 25:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

December 6 – Second Sunday of Advent

"Prepare the Way"

Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 3:1-6

December 13 - Third Sunday of Advent

Children's Program

Philippians 4:4-9

December 20 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Lessons & Carols

Luke 1:39-55

December 24 – Christmas Eve, 7:00 p.m.

Communion & Candlelight

Luke 2:1-14

December 27 – First Sunday after Christmas

Christmas Hymn Sing

Luke 2:15-20

Delivering Gifts

One of my memories of the Christmas holidays as a child was delivering gifts to family, friends, and neighbors. My mother prepared and wrapped the gifts. She would then create lists of packages to be delivered. As children we would go out with my father and make the deliveries. My siblings and I would jockey over which one of us got to carry certain gifts to the door. When we ourselves were old enough to drive, Dad got some reprieve.

The trunk of the car was filled with festively wrapped packages adorned with bright bows and out into the December evenings we would go. I remember knocking on doors and sharing seasons greetings. Often gifts were exchanged. The air was celebratory, and the spirit warm. This delivering of gifts would go on for what seemed like weeks each and every December.

While we don't all continue the same holiday traditions we've inherited from our families, December is still a time to celebrate the gifts. The gift of time different. The gift of family, neighbors, and friends. The gift of the return of this special season. The gift of the Christ Child that keeps on giving.

What gifts will you deliver this Christmas season? There are numerous opportunities to share your gifts here through the church. We are currently collecting gifts for Blessings Day. You can help adorn the sanctuary at the Hanging of the Greens on Saturday, December 5th. The children would appreciate the gift of your support on December 13th when they bring the Good News. We need your help to set out luminarias on the 24th. You're regular presence in worship is part of your gift.

However you decide to deliver gifts this year, may you find joy and share joy with others this Christmas season. ¡Feliz Navidad!

Peace,
Drew

THE ADULT FORUM

“On the Road...”

For three Sundays starting November 29, the Adult Forum will feature presentations by Glenn Ingram on the Camino de Santiago – a pilgrimage route across the north of Spain. The first week will focus on the nature of a pilgrimage in historical and present times and include the route from St. Jean, France to Burgos, Spain. Week two will treat the roles of the Catholic Church and the Knights Templar in the region and highlight the magnificent cathedrals in Burgos, Leon, and Astorga. Finally, the third week will describe the journey’s end stage from Astorga to Santiago and on the Finisterre. Throughout will be opportunities to see the varied landscape and the multitudes of people who are today’s pilgrims on this journey of personal quest.

On December 20, there will be an Adult Forum presentation on the Las Posadas tradition of Mary and Joseph seeking a place to stay in Bethlehem. We will look at a version of the song used in Posadas processions.

The Adult Forum meets each Sunday in the Upper Room at approximately 9:20 a.m., following the early service.

- November 29 - Camino de Santiago:
Pilgrimage and Journey
- December 6 - Camino de Santiago:
Catholicism, Knights, and Cathedrals
- December 13 - Camino de Santiago:
Journey's End and Beyond
- December 20 - Las Posadas:
Welcoming Holy Strangers
- December 27 - NO CLASS
- January 3 - NO CLASS

~ Reverend Ken Cuthbertson

CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christmas Program

All our children and youth are getting ready for the celebration of God’s incredible love for us with the annual LPPC Christmas program. This will be presented to the congregation on December 13th in the 10:30 service.

The younger children will be performing a short play, *“Sweetheart’s Manger”*. The setting is a stable in Bethlehem just before the birth of Jesus. It is a look at the night Jesus was born through the eyes of the animals. This will be followed by the song *“In de Stable”*, lead by Judie Hendry.

Our mid high and high school youth will present a *“Reader’s Theatre: For Unto Us a Child is born”*. Fourteen of our youth will be sitting in the congregation dressed in Biblical robes, standing one at a time to read a piece from our spiritual ancestors that shows the fulfillment of God’s promises with the gift of the Christ child. At the end of the readings each will go up and place a candle around the manger.

Dress rehearsal will be December 5th during the “Hanging of the Greens” from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The younger children will decorate cookies, make Christmas decorations for our tree and paint while the youth group will be in the kitchen baking and putting together trays of Christmas cookies to sell after the 10:30 a.m. service December 6th. They are once again raising funds for the summer retreats and Youth Triennium 2016.

Once again we must thank all the wonderful people who make all this happen: Jeff & Elizabeth Dickson, Karen Martinez, Amy Dapolito, Trip & Mary Helen Jennings, Steve Chewing, Carolyn Mann, Beth Sherwood, Tamara Hudson, Joyce Thompson, Leslie O’Hanlon, Ed and Sally Gosnell. A big **THANK YOU** to Judie Hendry who leads us each week in song.

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

SESSION

New Member!

Members of Session climbed the stairs into the Upper Room after second Sunday services for the purpose of sharing witness, personal experience, and membership opportunity with a congregant interested in joining our church. Reverend Henry opened the meeting with prayer. On this day we were joined by Amy Dapolito whom, along with her sons, 14 year-old Jacob, and Christian, age 11, has been attending LPPC for over two years. Amy explained that their introduction to LPPC came as a result of Jacob and Christian becoming friends with Santiago and Paco Henry, our preacher's sons. Initially, Amy's kids joined their buddies for church/Christian Education and enjoyed it! Soon Amy began attending, finding our congregation so welcoming and friendly and the worship service meaningful, what was left but to join our church family.

A New Mexico native, born and raised in "the same house in Albuquerque until her marriage to husband David," Amy is very familiar with our church building. Both of her sons are "full term" graduates of our preschool program, Mothers' Day Out. Amy was raised in the Presbyterian Church and also attended others churches with her school friends. Stating that she has always believed in God, Amy is eager to strengthen that relationship and continue to raise her boys in and with a church home, so "they become good men."

When questioned by Reverend Henry, Amy energetically agreed to offer her time (possibly more time, as she already volunteers in our Christian Education program) talent, energy, financial resources, and commitment to make LPPC an important part of her life as well as her sons' lives. It is evident that is already happening...Welcome Amy, Jacob and Christian!

Columbarium

Reverend Henry stated that stone mason James Garcia has laid the last rock into the structure, the grouting is finished, and the columbarium project has been completed! Reverend Henry furthered by stating that the cost of a columbarium niche will be determined by totaling all of the construction costs,

and dividing that sum by 24, the total number of niches. When all of the niches are sold, sufficient funds will have been accrued to pay for the construction of a third columbarium. Pastor Henry also offered that plaques will be purchased and engraved with the names of congregants whose financial benevolence assisted in assuaging the columbarium construction costs.

CASA ROSA

Keep Smiling

Please do your online Amazon shopping at www.smile.amazon.com. When you select "Las Placitas Presbyterian", a portion of your purchase goes straight to Casa Rosa Food Pantry. Thank you for your support!

EARTHCARE

You are Invited
WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION
at Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

18th Annual Candlelight Poetry Reading
La Llegada del Niño ❁ Dec. 20, 2015, 7 p.m.

*We anticipate the arrival of El Niño with its
welcome moisture as well as celebrate
the traditional meaning.*

sponsored by the Earthcare Fellowship

WORSHIP COMMITTEE

Paraments

The Worship Committee has given its blessing to the creation of some new paraments for the sanctuary. Over the next couple of years a group of us will design and make some new liturgical art for the sanctuary. If you have an interest in such things, please contact Karl Gustafson for more information. His email address is: whollygabriel@gmail.com

MEMBER PROFILE

John Bullock

John was born and lived in Brooklyn, until age 20. He attended Brooklyn Tech H.S. Three months before finishing high school and at the friendly request of his mother and after having his long hair cut, he went to IBM to apply for a job. He was given an aptitude test and scored so high; they offered him a job immediately. He worked for IBM for over 35 years working in field service fixing computers.

However, his love of music was his passion. All his life, beginning at age 3, playing and singing “Davy Crockett” continuously on a broken Mickey Mouse guitar! His father, who was blind from birth, played the piano and sang, and, with his brother, had a successful radio show in the 1920’s and 30’s. John was surrounded by musicians at home all his life. He received an old guitar from one of his Dad’s friends and played rock & roll music after he became infatuated with the Beatles. All of John’s life has been involved in music in one way or another – he played in bands, wrote songs, sang backup, created a music program for the youth group at church in NY and even at IBM he provided music at meetings and conferences.

Before John was 22, he and Linda had met, married, built a house in Brentwood, NY and had two daughters. One daughter, Kristina, now sings in an L.A. Choir at St. James Episcopal Church as well as in a professional choral group. She has one daughter, Lorian. His 2nd daughter Sandra is the director of audience services for Lehigh University Box Office in Pennsylvania. She has two sons, Cole and Benjamin.

In the mid-70’s while watching PBS John heard the story of the Strauss Family and he was blown away when he heard classical music for the first time. He began self-study and also studied with college professors, in orchestration, counterpoint, etc. He also began using computers with music.

In 1993 IBM was downsizing and offered John a package too good to pass up. John and Linda decided this was their opportunity to follow their dream – their girls were in college and Linda had always loved the idea of NM. After taking a 2 week vacation to confirm that NM was the place,

they sold their house in NY, met with a realtor in Albuquerque and he directed them to Placitas.

In 1994, John became a Board Member of the Placitas Artists Series, and through PAS became involved in LPPC. He began composing for PAS and wrote four chamber pieces that have been performed at PAS and at NM Tech in Socorro. John now works exclusively on music in a solar house he and Linda had built.

John also works in a recording studio. Through one of their clients, John became involved with the NM Post Alliance, an organization of movie professionals. They were looking for people to help create a short promotional video and John was chosen to do the musical sound track. Also, through a contact at LPPC, John was introduced to a documentary filmmaker whom he will be working with. He is also working with the director of “When the World came to SF”, a docudrama – a song to which the director wrote the lyrics and John wrote the music will be in the movie, debuting in June.

John’s passion is music, music, music although he also loves the NY Mets. Has always been a fan and always will be!

John’s 15 minutes of fame happened when he was interviewed on the radio by Spencer Beckwith (KUNM) along with Willy for PAS in regards to a string quartet piece he wrote.

John would like to meet Beethoven and his Grandfather, who was quite a character! His favorite trip will be happening this summer when he and Linda will visit newly discovered cousins on his mother’s side in Bergen, Norway. Then they will take a cruise through the fiords and end the trip with a visit to a church built in the 1600’s where there are pictures of John’s relatives from that era as well as an altarpiece with their names engraved. This trip has been on John’s bucket list along with visiting Sicily to check out Linda’s ancestors. Also, writing music for movies.

John would grab his computer backup if there were a fire and his 5 favorite things are MUSIC, coffee, green chile, movies and a quiet environment.

John thinks the heart of LPPC is the people – wonderful diversity; don’t always agree on many things but that’s what makes them interesting.

~ Betty Closser & Wendy Ingram

December 2015

Tue	12/1	8:00am	Breakfast Discussion Group - Placitas Café Yoga, Upper Room	Mon	12/14	7:00pm	Adult Study Group, Upper Room
		1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall	Tue	12/15	8:00am	Breakfast Discussion Group, Placitas Café Yoga, Upper Room
		6:00pm	Personnel Meeting, Upper Room			1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		7:00pm	Finance Meeting, Upper Room	Wed	12/16	*	National Chocolate-Covered Anything Day
Wed	12/2	9:00am	Jardineros	Thu	12/17	1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
Thu	12/3	1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall			7:00pm	Choir Practice, Sanctuary
		7:00pm	Choir Practice, Sanctuary	Fri	12/18	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room
Fri	12/4	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room	Sat	12/19	9:00am	Blessings Day Distribution Casa Rosa Food Pantry Distribution
Sat	12/5	9:00am	Hanging of the Greens ECF Highway 165 Cleanup Casa Rosa Food Pantry Distribution	Sun	12/20		4th Sunday of Advent
Sun	12/6		2nd Sunday of Advent			8:30am	Early Worship, Upper Room
		8:30am	Early Worship, Upper Room			9:15am	Adult Forum, Upper Room: <i>Las Posadas: Welcoming Holy Strangers</i>
		9:15am	Adult Forum, Upper Room: <i>Camino de Santiago: Pilgrimage & Journey</i>			10:30am	Worship & Sunday School, Sanctuary
		10:30am	Worship & Sunday School, Sanctuary			7:00pm	Lessons & Carols Winter Solstice Celebration, "La Llegada del Niño"
		1:00pm	Placitas Sage Cohousing Karen Greene's Christmas Recital, - Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall	Mon	12/21	7:00pm	AA, Upper Room
		3:00pm	AA, Upper Room	Tue	12/22	7:00pm	Adult Study Group, Upper Room
Mon	12/7	7:00pm	Santa Fe Opera Holiday Concert & MDO Silent Auction			8:00am	Breakfast Discussion Group, Placitas Café Yoga, Upper Room
Tue	12/8	8:00am	Breakfast Discussion Group - Placitas Café Yoga, Upper Room			1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall			7:00pm	Mission, Earthcare, Worship & Music Meetings
		5:30pm	Deacons Meeting, Upper Room	Wed	12/23	7:00pm	MDO Winter Break
		7:00pm	Session Meeting, Upper Room			7:30pm	Choir Practice, Sanctuary Women's Prayer Circle, LPPC Library
Wed	12/9	10:00am	Bible Study, Upper Room	Thu	12/24	7:00pm	Candlelight Christmas Eve, Sanctuary
		6:00pm	Casa Rosa Board Meeting	Fri	12/25		Merry Christmas!
Thu	12/10	7:30pm	Women's Prayer Circle, Library				Casa Rosa closed for the holiday
Thu	12/10	1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall	Sat	12/26		1st Sunday after Christmas Day
Fri	12/11	7:00pm	Choir Practice, Sanctuary	Sun	12/27		Single, Combined Service
Fri	12/11	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room			9:30am	AA, Upper Room
		4:00pm	Susan Passell's Violin Recital, - Sanctuary	Mon	12/28	7:00pm	Adult Study Group, Upper Room
Sat	12/12	9:00am	Casa Rosa Food Pantry Distribution	Tue	12/29	8:00am	Breakfast Discussion Group, Placitas Café Yoga, Upper Room
Sun	12/13		3rd Sunday of Advent			1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		8:30am	Early Worship, Upper Room	Wed	12/30	*	National Bicarbonate of Soda Day
		9:15am	Adult Forum, Upper Room: <i>Camino de Santiago: Catholicism, Knights, & Cathedrals</i>	Thu	12/31	1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		10:30am	Worship & Children's Christmas Program, Sanctuary			7:00pm	Choir Practice, Sanctuary
		11:45am	Session Mtg, Welcome New Members - Upper Room	Fri	1/1	2016	Happy New Year!
		2:00pm	PAS Concert & Reception				
		7:00pm	AA, Upper Room				

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