



### *Worship Services*

January 4<sup>th</sup> - Second Sunday after Christmas

Psalm 147:12-20 John 1:1-18

*The Word Became Flesh*

January 11<sup>th</sup> - Baptism of the Lord

Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11

*Baptism*

January 18<sup>th</sup> - Second Sunday after Epiphany

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 John 1:43-51

*You*

January 25<sup>th</sup> - Third Sunday after Epiphany

Psalm 62:5-12 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

*Trust*

### *A Place to Remember*

It is hard to believe that we are beginning our fifth year of ministry together. With over 130 years of presence in this village, I am cognizant that five years represents a small percentage of the life of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church. I find it humbling to be a part of this congregation's history, and I am honored to serve as your pastor. We are all but threads woven into a much larger tapestry that is both complex and beautiful.

The rhythms of congregational life marked this past year. Baptisms and weddings were celebrated. We gave witness to the Resurrection and celebrated the lives of loved ones who died. We worshipped through another cycle of the seasons of the church year. We welcomed a confirmation class. Various projects and initiatives were completed.

In 2014 we also said goodbye to significant members of our staff and welcomed talented new ones. We engaged in a season of congregational discernment called New Beginnings. We worked on plans to expand the columbarium in our memorial garden, literally adding places to remember loved ones and friends. That expansion will be realized in 2015.

It comes as no surprise that the past year for me personally was shaped in large part by the continual decline and eventual death of my father. I am so grateful for his life and for the opportunity to have walked with him through his death. You have seen me working through my grief. I continue to do so. Again I appreciate your support and understanding.

A New Year is upon us now. As we move into 2015, may God bless us with just enough foolishness, to believe that we can make a difference in this world, so that we can do those things that others say cannot be done.

Peace, Drew

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

### *Happy New Year!*

Our beautiful and talented children presented our faith community with a beautiful (and humorous!) version of the Christmas Story on December 14th. There were 28 kids, including the infant angels who flew in just for the event! The highlight of the presentation was the song "Mi Burrito Sabanero" sung by all in Spanish and with a fantastic rhythm section! A huge thank you to all the kids who dedicated weeks of practice, Annabella M., Director, Judie H., Music Director, and all of the adults who helped with the rehearsals, costumes, snacks, and practice! Thank you all for sharing the magic of the story of the birth of Jesus with everyone.

Families of our Youth, mark your calendars! Presbyterian churches in the greater Albuquerque area are planning a faith and sexuality retreat "God's Gift of Sexuality" the weekend of January 30 - 31, 2015. The 24-hour retreat will start at 6:00 on Friday evening and go overnight until the about 5:00 on Saturday. Middle school students will be at Covenant Church and high school students will be at First Presbyterian. Pastors and adult leaders will guide the youth in an open, safe, and thoughtful dialogue about sexuality and their relationship with God using the "Our Whole Lives" curriculum. For more information, come to the Parent's Q&A night, Thursday, January 8th at 6:30 at First Presbyterian Church (dinner and childcare available), or ask Elizabeth D. or Drew.

If you are interested in volunteering to help teach Sunday School with the younger elementary (K-2), older elementary (Grades 3-5) or the Youth (grades 6-12), please contact Sally G. or Elizabeth D. We would love your help and more importantly, the kids want you there too!

~ Children's Christian Ed Co-chairs  
Sally G. & Elizabeth D.

## COMFORT & JOY PRAYER SHAWL CIRCLE

### *Help Wanted*

The Comfort & Joy Prayer Shawl Circle needs a volunteer to help with the following administrative non-craft tasks:

- Photograph shawls received by knitters and crocheters and print record sheets using established format.
- Organize and maintain shawl inventory located in basement closet storage boxes.
- Select and wrap shawl gifts in response to requests from Pastor and Deacons (materials provided).
- Record and maintain records, meeting notes, and annual reports.
- Lead quarterly meetings to receive shawls and gift requests, bless shawls and facilitate information exchange.

Interested persons please contact:  
edaw@comcast.net or closserb@earthlink.net

## ADULT FORUM

### *Back to the Bible for Dummies*

The Adult Forum meets on Sunday mornings at about 9:20 a.m., following the early service, in the Upper Room. On January 11, we will resume our study of the book THE BIBLE FOR DUMMIES, beginning with the chapter on Joshua, Judges and Ruth. Some loaner copies of the book are available. The schedule is as follows... subject to change if we get too fascinated:

January 4 - No class

January 11 - Chapter 8: "An Experiment in Theocracy: Joshua, Judges, and Ruth" (Part 1)

January 18 - Chapter 8 (cont'd)

January 25 - Chapter 9: "The King and I AM: 1&2 Samuel" (Part 1)

~ Rev. Ken C.

## HEALTH MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP

### *Life File Chapter 3 - About Your Final Wishes*

Happy New Year from your Health Ministry Partnership. A New Year with new beginnings. What better time to also think about the details of endings. As we all know, part of living is the ending process before we go to be with the Lord. We humans don't deal well with endings. We just want things to go on and on, we don't want that movie to end, nor that great book we're reading. The reality is, though, that all good things come to an end, and sometimes those endings can be very burdensome to family and friends.

Life File Chapter 3 can serve to lighten that load on your loved ones. Now is the perfect time to get your thoughts together about your wishes for your own ending process, and write them down so that your family doesn't have to guess about your wishes.

Chapter 3 provides an organized list of the things you may want to have done, the preparations you have already made and the arrangements to be made on your behalf. Chapter 3 asks you to think about such things as what you would like for a memorial service....or not.... do you have a place prepared, a cemetery plot, a place you definitely DO NOT want to spend eternity? So many details, and it's time right now to get them organized.

Please contact Tom L. or Pat T. if you have any questions or comments regarding the Life File.

~ The Health Ministry Partnership Committee



## MESSAGE FROM GHOST RANCH

### *Ghost Ranch Round-up*

Ghost Ranch is having a Round-up Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup>, from 2-3:30pm at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church. Executive Director Debra Hepler will update us on the state of Ghost Ranch, its relationship to the Presbyterian Church (USA), and what the future plans are. We look forward to visiting with you! RSVP [shcraignm@gmail.com](mailto:shcraignm@gmail.com)

~ Rob & Sharon Craig, Jim & Beth Dillow.

## EARTHCARE FELLOWSHIP

### *Winter Solstice Poetry Celebration*

We cried and laughed and sighed. If you were not there, you missed some inspirational poetry. Delfina has a few chapbooks available if you would like a hard copy or we have placed a digital copy of the chapbook on the church website that you may download. You can find it at [www.lasplacitaschurch.org/announcements](http://www.lasplacitaschurch.org/announcements) We hope you enjoy these poems written by our church members:



~ Ruth W.

## *Winter Solstice*

~ Martha R.



When all things become silent and still,  
Indifferent are creatures to the sun's warmth.  
Negation of activities against their will,  
Time's movement is slow and relentless.  
Enter a quietness and a stillness of the soul,  
Remembering last season's exacting toll.  
  
Still with the renewed hope of passion and reason,  
Opens the longing, the desire for another season.  
Luring back days of indifference in time's  
magnitude,  
Shifting events with which once you were imbued.  
Trajectory changes, of the bright, shining sun,  
Internal to nature that has forever been done.  
Circumscription of winter's season soon to be past,  
Energy renewed to activate you, to a change at last.

## *Cycle of Purpose*

~ Jeff D.



Cold darkness  
Enveloping me  
Covers all  
Escape not needed  
Natural change  
Growth taking a break  
Hibernate  
Cycle to refresh  
Meditate  
Ways to improve self  
Contemplate  
Bring new beginnings  
Courage sprouts

## *Yet Another Wintry Doomsday Poem*

~ Michael C.



It does feel like the WINTER  
has come to us once again,  
the joyous and glad and

cold and fearful

Winter...

As if we were having yet another winter of  
discontent and terrible awe in our own lands of  
enchantment

This really does feel like WINTER is here like the  
joyous and fearful and cold and happy gladness all  
around us is here, amongst us here yet again this  
very winter solstice.

You know what I am talking about- the cold and the  
fearful WINTER and  
the freshness of newly fallen pure cold snow

and the danger and fear that comes from our Loves  
that are sometimes  
just grown too Large, yes - our loves that are grown  
just too Large  
for our own safety  
for our own good  
for all this sorrow and loss  
and the coming hard days that are here already  
and sometimes, even yet more, we are exactly  
where we are all meant to be. Welcome!

The opposite of love is not hate, the opposite of  
love is not hate - the opposite of love is fear.

My heart... my heart is breaking... my heart is  
breaking... my heart is breaking, breaking Open...  
to the dying and terrible beauty all around us, the  
growing and dying beauty and love and substance in  
how our good and holy earth holds us in her hands  
ever-growing and dying and changing and it  
is all good, right?

## MEMBER PROFILE

### *Jim Q.*

Jim was born in Los Angeles 3 months prematurely during a WWII blackout. His parents had to drive to the hospital with no headlights. He grew up in the L.A. area and graduated from San Jose State with a degree in Communications. He worked for Northrop Aircraft (now Northrop-Grumman) after college before being drafted and joining the Air Force. The Air Force sent him to University of Northern Colorado for his Masters in Human Factors (studying aviators problem solving skills, stress management skills, etc. to help determine why so many planes were going down due to human error). Jim went thru the 120- day Officer Training School at Lackland AFB in San Antonio and was commissioned as a second lieutenant. After 1 year of pilot training, his fighter assignment was changed to B-52's, where he underwent training at Castle AFB in Merced, CA. Then, he was stationed at Carswell AFB in Ft. Worth where he met Pat, who was an Air Force nurse. In less than a year, he had gotten himself reassigned to the F-100 Fighter, and a training stint at Luke AFB in Phoenix, followed by a combat tour at Bien Hoa Air Base in Vietnam. His follow on assignment was to RAF Lakenheath, England. He had 2 months of leave to use in the States first, so he returned to Ft. Worth and proposed to Pat. They secretly married with a Justice of the Peace so Pat's transfer and their move together could be processed quickly. Then they drove to Tennessee where Pat's parents could put on a proper wedding. They lived in England for 4 years.

Jim was in the Air Force for 10 years, the Air Nat'l Guard for 10 years and the AF Reserve for 10 years. He was stationed in Las Vegas, Tucson, and Hampton Roads, VA. He was transferred to Warner Robins, GA, where he was Director of Safety for the AF Reserve for 7 years and finally Kirkland AFB where he was hired by the USAF Safety Center to develop human factors safety programs. He and Pat started a company in Albuquerque called Human Performance Technologies specializing in behavioral safety. They ran it for 8

years. Jim is currently Chief of Staff for the Civil Air Patrol SW region.

Both their children live in Albuquerque and both sell industrial hardware. Shana works for Baker Utilities as an estimator and Steve works for SW Fasteners selling building construction hardware.

They ended up in Placitas because they had a builder friend who was constantly promoting Placitas. In 2007 they purchased their lot and this friend built their home.

Jim's favorite job was flying fighter planes in the Air Force. His first solo flight was in a jet trainer. It was such a high, plus his landings were the best of his career!

If he could meet anyone in history, it would be President Eisenhower. Eisenhower's decision making skills as a military leader and all the steps he took to bring the country together as President in regards to the transportation infrastructure were monumental!

Jim's hobbies now are golf, fishing, gardening and his foundation work with the "Folds of Honor". Jim and Pat chair a fundraising golf tournament each July here in Albuquerque. 97% of the proceeds go to scholarships for spouses and children of veterans. The need is larger than the proceeds thus a bigger event is being planned for July 2015. Jim is very involved in his community. Jim is on the board of the Sun Country Golf Association which manages the amateur golf program in New Mexico and West Texas. He's also a Trustee for the Pacific Coast Golf Association and is Regional Chief of Staff for Civil Air Patrol. They meet for 10 days every 10 months.

Jim and Pat's favorite trip taken so far was their 30 day vacation to the north and south islands of New Zealand. The wonderful people, many varied sights, great food and beautiful scenery are beckoning them to return. They also want to return to Florence, Italy. They arrived during a museum workers strike and all their favorite sights were closed.

In case of a fire, Jim would grab his laptop because it contains all the family photos and history. His 5 favorite things are food, water, religion, sunsets and sunrises. His favorite parts about attending LPPC are: Drew's sermons and the choir.

# January 2015

Thu	1/1		New Year's Day Church office is closed
Fri	1/2	9am-1pm	Church office is open
Sat	1/3	9:00am	Casa Rosa Food Pantry
<b>Sun</b>	<b>1/4</b>		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Christmas</b>
		8:30am	Early Service, Upper Rm
		9:30am	Adult Forum, Upper Rm
		10:30am	Second Service with Choir, Sanctuary ~Nursery is provided. ~Sunday School
		7:00pm	AA, Upper Room
Mon	1/5	7:00pm	Adult Study Group, Upper Rm
Tue	1/6	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room Breakfast Discussion Grp, Placitas Café
		6:00pm	Personnel Meeting, Upper Rm
		7:00pm	Finance Meeting, Upper Rm
Wed	1/7	7:30pm	Women's Prayer Circle, Library
Thu	1/8	1:30pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		7:00pm	Choir Practice, Sanctuary
Fri	1/9	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room
Sat	1/10	9:00am	Casa Rosa Food Pantry
<b>Sun</b>	<b>1/11</b>		<b>Baptism of the Lord</b>
		8:30am	Early Service, Upper Rm
		9:30am	Adult Forum, Upper Rm
		10:30am	Second Service with Choir, Sanctuary ~Nursery is provided. ~Sunday School
		11:00am	Session – New Members
		1:00pm	Placitas Sage Cohousing Mtg
		7:00pm	AA, Upper Room
Mon	1/12	7:00pm	Adult Study Group, Upper Rm
Tue	1/13	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room Breakfast Discussion Group, Placitas
		1:45 pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		5:30pm	Deacons Mtg, Upper Room
		7:00pm	Session Mtg, Upper Room
Wed	1/14	9:00am	Jardineros
		10:00am	Bible Study, Upper Room
Thu	1/15	1:45 pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		7:00pm	Choir Practice, Sanctuary
Fri	1/16	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room
Sat	1/17	9:00am	Casa Rosa Food Pantry

<b>Sun</b>	<b>1/18</b>		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b>
		8:30am	Early Service, Upper Rm
		9:30am	Adult Forum, Upper Rm
		10:30am	Second Service with Choir, Sanctuary ~Nursery is provided. ~Sunday School
		2:00pm	PAS Concert & Reception
		7:00pm	AA, Upper Room
Mon	1/19	7:00pm	Adult Study Group, Upper Rm
Tues	1/20	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room Breakfast Discussion Grp, Placitas Café
		1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		6:00pm	Casa Rosa Board Mtg
Wed	1/21	7:30pm	Women's Prayer Circle, Library
Thu	1/22	1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		7:00pm	Choir Practice, Sanctuary
Fri	1/23	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room
Sat	1/24	9:00am	Casa Rosa Food Pantry Placitas Sage Cohousing Mtg
<b>Sun</b>	<b>1/25</b>		<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b>
		8:30am	Early Service, Upper Rm
		9:30am	Adult Forum, Upper Rm
		10:30am	Second Service with Choir, Sanctuary ~Nursery is provided. ~Sunday School
		1:00pm	Placitas Sage Cohousing Mtg
		7:00pm	AA, Upper Room
Mon	1/26	7:00pm	Adult Study Group, Upper Rm
Tue	1/27	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room Breakfast Discussion Group, Placitas Café
		1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		7:00pm	Mission, ECF, Worship & Music, Upper Room
Wed	1/28	10:00am	Bible Study, Upper Room
Thu	1/29	1:45pm	Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
		7:00pm	Choir Practice, Sanctuary
Fri	1/30	8:00am	Yoga, Upper Room
Sat	1/31	9:00am	Casa Rosa Food Pantry
<b>Sun</b>	<b>2/1</b>		<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b>
		8:30am	Early Service, Upper Rm
		9:30am	Adult Forum, Upper Rm
		10:30am	Second Service with Choir, Sanctuary ~ Nursery is provided ~ Sunday School
		7:00pm	AA, Upper Room