

The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

October 2015



Worship Services

October 4 – World Communion Sunday

"Plenty"

Isaiah 25:6-9; Mark 8:1-10

October 11 - Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

"Stories from L.A."

Psalm 90:12-17; Mark 10:17-32

October 18 – Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

"What do you want?"

Psalm 91:9-16; Mark 10:35-45

October 25 – Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

"Remembering Jan Hus"

Psalm 34:1-8; 2 Corinthians 4:7-18

Francesco

Jorge Mario Bergoglio became Archbishop of Buenos Aires in 1998. He was born in Flores, the same barrio where I studied theology. He is a lifelong fan of San Lorenzo de Almagro, a futbol club started by a Catholic priest to offer kids a place to play soccer off of the streets. ¡Dale Cuervo! As Archbishop, Bergoglio was known for his humble lifestyle and time spent with people living on the margins. He regularly rode public transit, cooked his meals, and returned his own calls.

On February 27, 2013, then Cardinal Bergoglio landed in Rome to attend the Papal Conclave tasked with electing a new Pope. He arrived, return ticket in hand, expecting his visit to the Vatican to be short. He has yet to return to Buenos Aires. On March 13, 2013, Bergoglio was elected by the College of Cardinals as the Bishop of Rome, a.k.a. the Pope. He chose Francesco as his papal name in honor of St. Francis of Assisi. Francis is the first Jesuit pope, the first from the Americas, and the first from the Southern Hemisphere.

Our media has been filled with stories of the Pope's recent visit to Cuba and the United States. His presence and his message were felt by millions. He addressed politicians and prisoners. He spoke to Bishops and the homeless. He met with Castro and Obama. He delivered an address to the United Nations, offered Mass in Madison Square Garden, and visited Ground Zero.

October 4th is World Communion Sunday. It is also the Feast Day of St. Francis. We will be remembering the Pope's visit and listening for his call to us all to live together in our common home as one human family.

Thank you, Francesco, for being a "servant of the servants of God."

Peace, Drew

THE ADULT FORUM

Loving Our (Muslim) Neighbors

Over the last few months various individuals in the congregation have said that, in light of all that is going on in the world, and the many different things that are said, that they wished they knew more about Islam, and about Christianity in relation to Islam. Beginning October 4, we will offer a seven-week series on Islam, and on Christian relations with Islam.

Our special guest for the first two sessions will be Birgitta G. Birgitta is the sister of Rev. Karl G. She is a reading teacher at Cesar Chavez Community School, a charter high school that serves at-risk students in Albuquerque. She received degrees in religious studies and world religions from New York University and Harvard Divinity School. She has worked as a Christian educator in Presbyterian, Methodist, and Episcopal churches. She worked as a technology technician and language arts teacher in Colorado for ten years before moving to New Mexico to be closer to family. She has taught classes on Islam in various church settings.

The series will continue with a DVD-based series: *The Jesus Fatwah: Love Your (Muslim) Neighbor as Yourself*. The series comes from LIVING THE QUESTIONS, which provided the following description: "Much of what passes as information about Islam is weed-like disinformation rooted in stereotype and watered by fear. In *The Jesus Fatwah*, Islamic and Christian scholars offer reliable information about what Muslims believe, how they live out their faith, and how we all can be about building relationships across the lines of faith." Seventeen Islamic and Christian scholars are featured, along with planned time for group discussion and reflection as we proceed.

The schedule is as follows:

October 4 - Birgitta G., part 1

October 11 - Birgitta G., part 2

October 18 - LIVING THE QUESTIONS, Session 1: *Islam 101: In Which We Tell You Some of What You Need to Know About Islam*.

October 25 - LIVING THE QUESTIONS, Session 2: *Misconceptions about Islam: In Which We Help You Adjust Your 'Malarky' Filter*.

November 1 - LIVING THE QUESTIONS, Session 3: *Islam in America: In Which We Introduce You to People Who Love America and Pray Towards Mecca*.

November 8 - LIVING THE QUESTIONS, Session 4: *Making Connections, Part 1: In Which Non-Muslims Make A Case*.

November 15 - LIVING THE QUESTIONS, Session 5: *Making Connections, Part 2: In Which Muslims Have Their Say*.

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

~ Reverend Ken C

SESSION

Columbarium Expansion

If you take a stroll through the Memorial Garden heading in the direction of the sound of running water, you will (hopefully) arrive at our beautiful water feature. This peaceful site also includes the columbarium. Built in 2001, this consecrated edifice has, long since, attained capacity.

Plans for columbarium expansion have been a topic of conversation in the Session get-togethers for a great while. Specifics of a previous Session conversation, extracted from the meeting minutes are as follows:

Rev. Henry stated that he was finally able to meet the contractor. The columbarium expansion plans were discussed and the contractor developed a quote to perform the work. That estimate for construction of the plaster columbarium vault is \$4,000 for a 12 niche capacity vault and \$8000 for a 24 niche structure.

Rev. Henry further noted that funds garnered from the sale of columbarium chambers will significantly offset the expansion costs. The price to purchase a niche is \$800, two or more niches priced at \$600 each. (The columbarium as it currently exists has twelve niches, all of which are either utilized or reserved). The new masonry structure will be built to accommodate twenty-four niches, with a twelve metal niche encasement initially being purchased. The metal encasement will cost LPPC \$4,000. A motion was made and approved by Session to begin construction of the masonry columbarium and promote availability/sale of the

niches. The selling of niches will provide additional funds to assuage the columbarium costs and purchase the initial 12 metal encasements. Over time, as sale of the niches increase, those funds in turn, become available to purchase additional encasements. **Note:** due to the benevolence of Memorial Garden financial supporters, the columbarium fund account balance is \$5,832.

The current news is that the stone mason has now been working on the columbarium vault for four weeks. My guess as to project completion, will be before the end of this year, but reservations can be booked now in the administration office. See our placement coordinator, Ms. Delfina Hernandez, at your convenience.

Yours truly,
Bill L. Clerk of Session.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Children's Christian Education is off and running!

We began with a video presentation of all the happy smiling faces of our children during the Youth L.A. Trip, the Ghost Ranch Retreat and VBS. Thank you to William J and Jeff D! Our children then served a **Pancake and Fruit Breakfast** to the congregation thanking them for the support that has made all the activities this summer and those throughout the year so successful.

We want to thank our leader and principle pancake flipper, Carmen D who kept everything running smoothly. We can't leave out Elizabeth & Jeff D, Trip & Mary Helen J, Tamara H, Judie H, Carolyn M, Amy D, Karen M, Leslie O, Delfina H, Tom T, Lauren S, Joan C and Ed G for their tireless support and donations. The biggest thank you goes to our delightful children who served the pancakes and happily cleared the tables.

Our Youth ended September with a **"Lock-in"** on the 25th, organized by Annabella M. Nine Middle school and High school youth had a great time under the care of Dana H, Shannon M and Tamara H. Into the very wee

hours of the night, they played games - *Sardines*, *Never Have I Ever*, and *Honey, you can't make me smile* - and watched movies - *Pitch Perfect II*. Our youth awakened to the aroma of pancakes, enjoyed by all. We thank the youth for their participation and especially the adults who donated a "night of sleep"!!

Sunday, October 11th our youth will share with the congregation their Presbytery of Santa Fe Sr. High Youth Mission Trip to L.A. experience. We will hear about their work teams and service assignments as well as their reflections of responding to God's call of loving others and responding to those in need.

What a blessing it is each Sunday to have nine adults working with our children! Once again, talented Judie H starts us off with song, we then break up into our four classes: High School, Mid High, 3rd-5th graders, and K-2nd graders. A huge thank you to our teachers and assistants: Jeff & Elizabeth D, Trip & Mary Helen J, Tom T, Tamara H, Karen M, Dana Hh, Leslie O, Sally G, Steve C, Amy D, Carolyn M, Crystal G, Carmen Ds and Delfina H.

With the increase in number of classes **we are in need of more teachers.** We like to give our teachers opportunities to attend the worship services where we are filled with the Good News of the Word. This keeps us fresh and ready to teach once again. We gladly offer private training sessions and guidance to anyone wishing to join us. Please call Sally G or Elizabeth D.

~Sally G & Elizabeth D,
Children's Christian Ed Co-directors

FELLOWSHIP

Fall is here

when you can smell the roasting of the green chilies, the making of Tamales and the **Fall Festival, Navajo Taco Dinner!**

1. **Set aside the date: October 31, 2015**
2. **Where: Las Placitas Presbyterian Church**
3. **Time: 5:00 PM till 7:00 PM**
4. **Price: \$10.00, no charge for children 5 and under**
5. **Tickets will be available in the office and from Fellowship Members.**
6. **This is a community event sponsored by The Fellowship of LPPC as a fundraiser for LPPC.**

There will be great entertainment with a cake walk during the evening, breaking of the piñata and great food and fellowship. There will be a \$1.00 charge for the cake walk.

A signup sheet will be available for those of you who would like to bring a cake for the cake walk. This is a time to practice your creativity. We already have a spider cake coming; let's see what other creative cakes we can get. It is Halloween!!

You can order your tamales now for the Holidays, also your apple pies, baked by Cheryl F. There will be a sheet by the fellowship signup sheet. Tamales and pies are \$15.00 a piece. Our Tamales are awesome this year as reported by our first buyers.

Fellowship can always use some volunteers to help serve and clean up. If you are looking for a committee to serve, we would be happy to welcome you to our group. We do work hard, at certain times during the year, but we are a great group and we make some awesome food!

~ Joan D, Fellowship Chair

MOTHERS' DAY OUT

Happy Fall!

I can't believe a new school year has started. August is a time of mixed emotions for me. My 5 year olds head off to Kindergarten!! Some of these munchkins have been in our MDO program for over 4 years. I have watched them grow through the "terrible twos" and potty training, to learning to write their names and being so excited to learn about everything in their world! This year had an extra tug to the heart because my grandson, Kaje, is one of the new Kindergartners! Phew, we both survived his time in MDO!! The 4 year olds now vie for "King/Queen of the Hill"! Fun times.

We enjoyed our days of summer by playing outside lots, blowing bubbles, swinging, spinning, playing Red Light/Green Light on the patio! We also took advantage of the acequia running with water this year by "wading" up and down and splashing our friends! We love our environment, thank you so much for letting our MDO munchkins be a part of this beautiful place.

We still have plenty of openings!! Any and all ideas for increasing our enrollment are welcome!

Have a great October!

~ Debbie S.

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

Katherine G.

Katherine was born in Richmond, VA. Her family moved to New Jersey when she was 5 years old. After high school graduation, Katherine attended Bryn Mawr College, Philadelphia, PA and received her Teaching Certificate in Economics and Math. After working for a number of years in business, government and human service jobs, she attended Marshall University in Huntington, WV where she received her Masters in Political Science/Data Analysis.

Katherine has taught for more than 20 years in Ohio, Maine and Massachusetts. She currently teaches math at Central New Mexico Community College in Albuquerque. She has had many notable memories in her teaching career – one was teaching homebound children who have a long-term serious illness and experiencing from them a positive, unwavering attitude and eagerness to be taught and learn. Another memory is from a class of a mixed age group of students – a woman of about 40 years of age silenced a younger man disturbing the class by saying to him “You need to be quiet – I am here to learn!” It worked!

One of Katherine’s memorable times was when she was on college staff at Ghost Ranch and met Karl. They have been married for over 40 years and have two sons, Erik and Mark. Erik and wife Jackie live between Boston and Morristown, NJ. Mark and wife Jaela live in Victoria, BC. Katherine and Karl have one grandchild – Kajsa born to Mark and Jaela January 2015. They enjoy visiting their sons and family as often as possible.

A few of Katherine’s hobbies are reading, biking, sewing and gardening (somewhat difficult in NM from other places she has lived.) She has harvested some lettuce and spinach this year – so feels she is learning more about the soil and challenge in NM.

The persons Katherine would most like to meet are authors – Alice Munro (writes short stories), Louise Penny (interesting mysteries), and Marilynne Robinson (wrote Gilead).

Her most interesting and unusual travel was with Karl and Mark for a week on a 90-foot wooden sail boat through Haida Gwaii, British Columbia visiting abandoned historical native village sites, visiting with members of the communities who shared their history and crafts, and taking in the wide range of natural beauty and wildlife of the area. They also saw a pod of Orcas dancing in front of the boat!

Katherine’s bucket list is exploring things nearby – Zuni, Carlsbad, Zion, Bryce Canyon, Arches and traveling through the Northwest Coast, and going to Scotland.

She would like to make a quilt someday. She helped make a scrap quilt when she lived in Minnesota and still has the quilt that was given to her and Karl when they left. It has wonderful reminders and memories because some of the scrap materials donated are pieces of her maternity dresses!

Katherine has several things she could not live without – gatherings with her sons and family, books, music, taking walks, making apple pies (recipe and memories from an aunt who taught her to cook and make delicious apple pies).

Katherine’s favorite part about attending LPPC is sharing in worship with LPPC’s community of faith and the beautiful drive to Placitas.

~ Betty C.

October 2015

Thu 10/1 1:45pm Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
 7:00pm Choir Practice, Sanctuary
 Fri 10/2 8:00am Yoga, Upper Room
 Sat 10/3 9:00am Casa Rosa Food Pantry Distribution

Sun 10/4  **19th Sunday after Pentecost**
 8:30am Early Worship, Upper Room
 9:20am Adult Forum, Upper Room:
Birgitta G – Part I
 10:30am Worship, Sanctuary
 Sunday School
 1:00pm Placitas Sage Cohousing, Upper Rm
 7:00pm AA, Upper Room

Mon 10/5 7:00pm Adult Study Group, Upper Room
 Tue 10/6 8:00am Breakfast Discussion Group,
 Placitas Café
 Yoga, Upper Room
 1:45pm Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
 6:00pm Personnel Meeting, Upper Room
 7:00pm Finance Meeting, Upper Room

Wed 10/7 9:00am Jardineros
 Thu 10/8 1:45pm Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
 7:00pm Choir Practice, Sanctuary
 Fri 10/9 8:00am Yoga, Upper Room
 Sat 10/10 9:00am Casa Rosa Food Pantry Distribution

Sun 10/11  **20th Sunday after Pentecost**
 8:30am Early Worship, Upper Room
 9:20am Adult Forum, Upper Room:
Birgitta G – Part II
 10:30am Worship, Sanctuary
 Sunday School
 3:00pm Stewardship Fireside Chat, Uppr Rm
 7:00pm AA, Upper Room

Mon 10/12 7:00pm Adult Study Group, Upper Room
 Tue 10/13 8:00am Breakfast Discussion Grp, Placitas
 Café
 Yoga, Upper Room
 1:45pm Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
 5:30pm Deacons Meeting, Upper Room
 7:00pm Session Meeting, Upper Room

Wed 10/14 10:00am Bible Study, Upper Room
 Thu 10/15 1:45pm Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
 7:00pm Choir Practice, Sanctuary
 Fri 10/16 8:00am Yoga, Upper Room
 Sat 10/17 9:00am Earthcare Highway 165 Cleanup
 Casa Rosa Food Pantry Distribution

Sun 10/18  **21st Sunday after Pentecost**
 8:30am Early Worship, Upper Room
 9:20am Adult Forum, Upper Room:
Islam 101
 10:30am Worship, Sanctuary
 Sunday School
 7:00pm AA, Upper Room
 Mon 10/19 7:00pm Adult Study Group, Upper Room
 Tue 10/20 8:00am Breakfast Discussion Group,
 Placitas Café
 Yoga, Upper Room
 1:45pm Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
 6:00pm Casa Rosa Board Meeting

Wed 10/21 1:45pm Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
 Thu 10/22 7:00pm Choir Practice, Sanctuary
 Fri 10/23 8:00am Yoga, Upper Room
 Sat 10/24 9:00am Casa Rosa Food Pantry Distribution

Sun 10/25  **22nd Sunday after Pentecost**
 8:30am Early Worship, Upper Room
 9:20am Adult Forum, Upper Room:
Misconceptions about Islam
 10:30am Worship, Sanctuary
 Sunday School
 2:00pm PAS Concert & Reception
 7:00pm AA, Upper Room

Mon 10/26 6:30pm Stewardship Fireside Chat, Upper
 Room
 7:00pm Adult Study Group, LPPC
 Classroom

Tue 10/27 8:00am Breakfast Discussion Group,
 Placitas Café
 Yoga, Upper Room
 1:45pm Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
 7:00pm Mission, Earthcare, Worship &
 Music Meetings

Wed 10/28 10:00am Bible Study, Upper Room
 7:30pm Women's Prayer Circle, LPPC
 Library

Thu 10/29 9:00am Heart Math Workshop, Upper Room
 Taco Dinner Prep, Kitchen
 1:45pm Kids Karate, Fellowship Hall
 7:00pm Choir Practice, Sanctuary

Fri 10/30 8:00am Yoga, Upper Room
 Sat 10/31 9:00am Casa Rosa Food Pantry Distribution
 5:00pm Navajo Taco Dinner, Fellowship

LAS PLACITAS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 P.O. Box 768, 7 Paseo de San Antonio, Placitas,
 NM 87043
www.lasplacitaschurch.org
 505-867-5718