



B. Bowen

The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

APRIL 2014

We Belong to God

Our Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s Brief Statement of Faith begins with a profound affirmation. "In life and in death we belong to God."

We began our Lenten season here with those very same words.

On the evening of Ash Wednesday, I shared with those gathered how the messages of mortality that come with this season are ever the more strong for me this year given my father's illness and decline in health.

That night each worshipper's forehead was marked with the sign of the cross, the very same sign with which we are marked in our baptism. As we are initiated into the Christian faith, we are sealed with water or with oil. Each year on Ash Wednesday, that mark is retraced in the dark lines of the cross made visible through ashes. These ashes come from the branches burned from last year's Palm Sunday procession.

The cycle is about to begin again as Palm Sunday is just a few weeks away. While it was not my original intention, my Lenten discipline seems to have been centered around caring for my father, both in presence and in prayer. I am grateful to all of you for supporting my being away last month to take time to be alongside my father, mother, and siblings.

I am touched by my father's faith which he has shared with me and so many others. I admire the gratitude on which he grounds himself at this point in his life. I am grateful for the witness he gives to the closing words of our Brief Statement of Faith which come from Romans 8.

"With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Peace my friends. Easter is coming!

~Drew



Note received from Ted and Dèbe Henry:

"Dear Ones: It meant so much to have Drew home with us last week. Thank you for the love and understanding. We appreciate your prayers for all of us. You are indeed wonderful people. Our love, Dèbe and Ted"

APRIL Texts and Topics

April 6 - Fifth Sunday in Lent "The Story of Lazarus" Psalm 130; John 11:1-45

April 13 - Palm Sunday "Who is this?" Psalm 118:19-29; Matthew 21:1-11

April 17 - Maundy Thursday "Do you know what I have done to you?" Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19; John 13:1-17, 31-35

April 18 - Good Friday "It is finished" John 18:1-19:42

April 20 - Easter Sunday "Go and Tell" Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24, Matthew 28:1-10

April 27 - 2nd Sunday of Easter - Earth Day Sabbath - "A Community of Refugia" with Sister Joan Brown

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

LPPC Slated for Triennial Visit by the COM

So what's the COM? The Commission On Ministry serves the presbytery and in our case the Presbytery of Santa Fe. It is comprised of eighteen members-pastors, commissioned ruling elders, and ruling elders from many churches within our presbytery. Among many



other responsibilities, the COM is tasked with building and maintaining relationships between the presbytery and its churches. As a part of facilitating relationships, a COM “team” of three members visit the sessions of each of the forty-two churches within the Presbytery of Santa Fe. These visits generally occur in three year (triennial) intervals. This being “our year,” the LPPC Session selected Tuesday, May 13th, as the desired date to host our COM visitors.

Stay tuned for follow-up information that I will provide in the June newsletter.

We’re Big on Acronyms

This COM article got me thinking about all the acronyms for which we Presbyterians seem to have such an affection. Here are a few more:

- CIF.....Church Information Form
- CLC.....Church Leadership Connection
- CLP.....Commissioned Lay Pastor
- CNC.....Church Nominating Committee
- COGA.....Committee on the Office of the General Assembly
- CPE.....Clinical Pastoral Education
- CRE.....Commissioned Ruling Elder
- EP.....Executive Presbyter
- HR.....Honorably Retired
- OGA.....Office of the General Assembly
- PC.....Presbyterian Church
- PIF.....Personal Information Form
- PNC.....Pastor Nominating Committee
- RE.....Ruling Elder
- TE.....Teaching Elder

Be the first in your pew to learn them all!

~Bill L
Clerk of Session

CASA ROSA NEWS

The Casa Rosa Food Pantry enters the Spring season with renewed energy and new initiatives. While we are sad to say goodbye to several committed board members, we welcome new members to share the load. Retiring board members are Sherrill C, Jack C, and Gordon Z.



New members are Mike C, Mike C, Sally C, Bessie G, and Mark V.

Road Runner Food Bank has a new Mission Statement to “permanently end hunger in New Mexico.” In sync with this broadened new focus, Casa Rosa is now exploring how we might provide limited health care and legal and dental counseling to clients regarding availability of local resources.

Another networking opportunity for Casa Rosa leadership was a Hunger 101 Forum held at First Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque on February 23rd. At a presentation to the Interfaith Coalition to End Hunger in New Mexico, more than fifty organizations representing different faith communities in the area were represented. Three Casa Rosa board members participated and reported back to the board:

- 1) New Mexico ranks #1 in the country for hungry children.
- 2) Private organizations such as Casa Rosa provide 20% of resources to “food insecure” New Mexicans while 80% of aid is provided by public resources.
- 3) Children are of special concern, particularly during summer months when fewer programs are available.

Rabbi Flicker of Congregation B’nai Israel closed the forum with the observation that in Genesis 2:7-9 immediately after “the Lord God formed man,” He “planted a garden [and] made to grow every tree that is pleasant to sight and good for food.” Priorities!

Our attendees came away with the feeling that Casa Rosa is indeed fortunate in having solved common problems of storage, refrigeration and distribution of a nutritious variety of foods to its clients. We are also exploring what local services are available to Placitas children in need and what role Casa Rosa might play in the future.

Casa Rosa continues to look to its future with its new visioning task force chaired by Tom L. He will be reporting on its work soon. Watch this space!

Thank you to all LPPC members and friends for your continuing support for this important mission.

~Sally C
Casa Rosa Board Member



ADULT FORUM—April

Norris, Gustafson, and Brown

The upcoming Adult Forum schedule for April will be varied and colorful...kind of like spring flowers, or Easter eggs.

April 6 - The final session in the series "Embracing a Life of Meaning" featuring Kathleen Norris

April 13 - Karl Gustafson will guide us in examining selected Holy Week and Easter texts and then look and reflect on how they have been portrayed in art.

April 20 - No Adult Forum

April 27 - Sister Joan Brown will be our special guest, sharing information with us on the work of New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light.

The Adult Forum meets in the Upper Room at 9:15am on Sunday mornings.

Earth Day Sabbath at LPPC

Sunday, April 27, will be the celebration of Earth Day Sabbath at LPPC's 10:30am service. The service is being planned by the Earthcare Fellowship. Our special guest for the day will be our long-time friend Sister Joan Brown (see bio). Her theme will be "A Community of *Refugia*." Ecological *refugia* are areas that have escaped climatological changes occurring elsewhere, providing places where threatened species can survive. Sister Joan will also be the presenter at the Adult Forum on April 27.

Joan Brown, osf is a Catholic Franciscan sister from the Rochester, Minnesota community who serves as the Executive Director of New Mexico Interfaith Power & Light. Her Kansas farm background, passion for the Sacred Earth Community and many years of experience in the non-profit and social justice sector inform her work.

She holds a Master's Degree from California Institute of Integral Studies where she studied with Brian Swimme, Joanna Macy and others. Fr. Thomas Berry and Teilhard de Chardin inspire her work for the long haul in helping people come to a sense of wonder at the marvelous world we have been given and are called to take care of for the future of all beings.

~Ken Cuthbertson
Parish Associate

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study continues on the second and fourth Wednesdays, 10-11:30am in the Upper Room. We continue our lively discussion of Genesis. Everyone is welcome at any time!



CHILDREN

We're getting ready for an *Egg-citing* Easter—April 20th.

Our Sunday School classes are listening to the stories of Matthew, recounting the final days of Christ's life while anticipating the joy of Easter and God's goodness. Teachers are busy planning Easter activities which include an Easter Bingo game, Egg-relay, and Easter Egg Hunt for all the little ones through fifth grade. Children up to five years old will hunt for their eggs in the Children's Playground while older children-age six through fifth grade-will hunt in the Memorial Garden. ***We want to remind all children to have an Easter basket and a parent nearby.***

Our Mid-High and High School Youth will be "Treasure Hunters" going on a Scavenger Hunt where they read Scriptures related to Holy Week and receive items or "treasures" related to those Scriptures. After they have collected the twelve treasures they will know of the one great "Treasure" given to us on Easter Sunday.

This summer our Youth Group is again planning to attend Ghost Ranch Youth Week: ***Fruits of the Spirit in our World Today*** lead by Claudio Carvalhaes, June 23-29. They have just concluded their See's Easter Candies fund raising campaign. Thank you for the tremendous support of orders and donations!

We now are planning a **Spaghetti Dinner to be held on Friday evening, May 16.** Fellowship Hall will be transformed into LPPC Ristorante Italiano. Your servers will gladly take your orders while you relax to the Italian music and décor. (Time to be determined soon.)

Thank you to Beth S for sponsoring Annabella M and Missy H. They attended the Senior High Retreat at Ghost Ranch and all had a wonderful time. Also a huge "THANK YOU" to all our wonderful teachers who keep Christian Ed exciting and fun for our children: Jeff & Elizabeth D, Meredith L, and Tom T. There's always a lot going on in Christian Ed. Come join the fun! Any questions? Call Sally G.



Easter Lilies

Lilies will decorate the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 20th. If you would like to dedicate lilies to someone or for a special occasion, they are \$15.00 each. If you are writing a check, please note "lilies" on the memo line. Look for the order form which will be in the Sunday bulletins on April 6 and 13. Place it the offering plate or drop by or mail to the church office (867-5718) by Monday, April 14th.



Please join us at, and invite your neighbors and friends to come to, Placitas Community Center Saturday, April 5, 10am-noon to celebrate the Coronado Soil & Water Conservation District's successful pilot thinning project.

The Fair will have cake, coffee & fruit punch; activities for kids like "fishing" in the Placitas Fire Department's drop tank "pond" and face painting; different tables with government officials, yard work and thinning contractors, Red Cross staff, and others you can speak with about wildfire risks and scenarios; evacuation; firewise methods, experiences and plants; emergency preparedness and to respond to your questions.

For those of you who haven't seen a SimTable presentation, there will be a continuously running video of the December 2013 simulation of different Placitas wildfire possibilities.

We look forward to celebrating with you.

~Vicki G, Firewise Placitas
Steering Committee Chair



FALLS

- Falls are expected to increase by 30% in the State of NM by 2020 - that is one fall every 2-3 seconds!
- A bill designed to address Fall Prevention was passed by the 2014 NM State Legislature and has been signed by the Governor - the appropriations will support fall prevention classes at Senior Centers.
- Falls are NOT a natural process of aging and can be prevented.
- If you do not challenge your balance, it will not improve.

Simple Things You Can Do

- Clear pathways in your home
- Use a nightlight
- SLOW DOWN
- Practice standing from chairs without using your arms
- MOVE - spend less time sitting!
- Start a walking program - any distance is fine to start with - gradually lengthen each week

RESOURCES

- The LPPC Health Ministries Resource Packet will be available at the church and will soon be on our LPPC website to access online.
- You can also access Sandoval County Health Resources by going to their website which is:

<http://www.sandovalcounty.com/departments/community-services>.

Blessings for a Healthy Spring!

~THE HEALTH MINISTRY
PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

Sally G

Sally and her twin brother, Ross, were born in Lake Charles, Louisiana. Her family soon moved to Texas



as her dad was a geophysicist working in the Louisiana-Texas area. She and her four siblings received many geology lessons growing up. She thinks of her dad every time she sees the foot-long Permian Basin trilobite in her backyard given to her by her dad. Sally grew up in West Texas mostly in the Lubbock and Midland area. After high school Texas Tech was her logical choice for college where she majored in Elementary Education and met the love of her life, Ed. (Best decision she ever made was saying “yes” to Ed!)

They married in March of her senior year while Ed was working on his Master’s degree in Math. He had a small job teaching freshman Math and Sally soon got a Kindergarten position. Ed’s first job took them to Holloman Air Force Base in Alamogordo where they lived for three years. Sally taught in an “Open Space” concept school where walls were removed and children’s work individualized. This is where she really learned how to teach, the value of the individual child and the importance of involvement with each one. They moved to Albuquerque in 1975 when Ed received a job offer from PNM as a programmer. Sally continued teaching and earned her Master’s degree at UNM in Elementary Education with an emphasis in teaching children with learning disabilities.

One of the very best days in Sally’s life was the day she and Ed got a call from the New Mexico Adoption Agency that they could pick up an infant baby girl, tomorrow! Marie is named after Sally’s grandmother, a woman Sally always loved and admired. Ed and Marie were part of the Indian Princess organization (like Girl Scouts but is father and daughter). One of the Princesses lived in Placitas. Ed fell in love with Placitas then, but they waited until 1995 to purchase their lot and built their home during Marie’s senior year.

Their daughter, Marie, also a Texas Tech graduate, is married and living in Indianapolis where she is a stay-at-home Mom to daughter Kenzie. She loves being a mother and is the happiest she has ever been. Marie is expecting their second child this June and Sally can hardly contain her excitement for another grandchild to love and spoil! Sally’s son-in-law, Matt, is a one of her favorite people in

all the world. She loves how he loves their daughter and takes care of his family.

Sally taught school for 35 years. She ended in fifth grade and decided they were her favorite (however her favorite was usually whichever grade she was teaching). She liked knowing she could make it a good year for her students and families. Nothing was more exciting to her than to see a child learn and grow in confidence as well as in academics. Her proudest moment was when her fifth graders gave her a standing ovation on the last day of school!

Sally’s favorite passions now are: her family, children, bridge, golf, antiques, hiking, gardening, reading and attending the Lobo basketball games.

Her 15 minutes of fame was winning the blue ribbon for the best chocolate chip cookie at a church sponsored “Chocolate Festival” – she is more than willing to share her recipe (Betty and I were treated during our profile meeting!)

The person Sally would most like to meet would be Peter Borah who is an ancestor on her Mom’s side of the family. Sally is a ninth generation Borah and is named after his wife Sarah. In 1750 Peter lived in Alsace Lorraine. He came to the United States as an indentured servant settling in Philadelphia. He worked in the Elizabeth Furnace making canons for the Revolutionary War. Her dad’s side of the family settled in the colonies in the early 1700’s. Many of her relatives are active in the DAR. History is a passion of Sally’s and she loves telling stories of her ancestor’s adventures to all the nieces and nephews. Her great grandfather settled in Mexico establishing silver mines during the Poncho Villa era until the government took over the mines and ran them back across the border to Laredo, Texas.

Sally’s most memorable vacation was the one to Italy. Her favorite spot was the Cinque Terra area where they hiked from town to town enjoying the ocean views, the olive groves and the Italian cuisine.

Sally wishes that she could sing – but there is no hope!

Her five favorite things are: her faith in God and the Bible, children, chocolate and wine together, PBS and books.

In case of a fire, she would grab her daughter's watercolor portrait that was painted when Marie was seven years old.

Sally's favorite parts about attending LPPC are working with our wonderful children and listening to Drew's sermons. She feels at home here and loves the genuine closeness that our congregation has for one another. LPPC is a special place!!

Wendy I
Betty C

It is with sincere regret that we announce Cory Franklin's retirement as LPPC's Church Administrator. We will miss her cooperative spirit, her capable skills, and eager willingness to serve our members and greater community. At the same time we are happy for Cory as she shifts toward actively exploring new opportunities, creative and interesting projects and redirecting her energy.

To that extent, we want to reach out to the membership and solicit resumes from within our congregation or from friends or acquaintances who might be interested in applying for this position that oversees and manages the church office. This part-time morning position serves as the central point of contact for the congregation and the greater Placitas community to support the mission and ministry of the church.

The Personnel Committee is asking that resumes with cover letters be submitted electronically to: susanhlppcper@gmail.com by Monday, April 7, 2014. The administrator position description is available on our website: www.lasplacitaschurch.org with a link to "Available Position."

~Susan H
Personnel Chair



The Westside Concert Chorale will present their annual spring concert: ***A Tapestry of American Music*** on April 26 and 27. Under the direction of Jerrilyn Foster and accompanied by Cheryl Wadin, the performances will celebrate the rich heritage of American Choral Music.

The first performance will be at 7pm on Saturday, April 26 at LPPC! Rio Rancho Methodist Church (1652 Abrazo Rd, NE—west of Unser) will host the second performance at 3pm on Sunday, April 27.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$7 for students and seniors and can be purchased at Joe's Pasta House (3201 Southern Blvd in Rio Rancho), from chorale members—our own Warren L on Sundays, or at the door.

The varied repertoire includes classical, popular, folk sacred, jazz and musical theater.

**May Newsletter Deadline:
Friday, April 25th at noon**

Las Placitas Presbyterian Church
PO Box 768, Placitas, NM 87043

Rev. Drew M. Henry, Pastor
E-mail: pastor@lasplacitaschurch.org

Cory Franklin, Administrator
505-867-5718 ~ lppcaa@lasplacitaschurch.org

APRIL Calendar Highlights

Thurs Apr 3 Women's Prayer Circle, 7:30 pm,
Upper Room

Sun Apr 6 **Fifth Sunday in Lent
Communion**
Early worship service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:15am, Upper Room
Second worship service, 10:30am
Nursery provided; Sunday School
Fellowship follows this service

Mon Apr 7 Monday Night Adult Study, 7pm

Wed Apr 9 Bible Study, 10-11:30am,
Upper Room

Sun Apr 13 **Palm Sunday**
Early worship service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:15am, Upper Room
Second worship service, 10:30am
Nursery provided; Sunday School
Fellowship follows this service

Session meets to welcome new
members, 11:45am, Library

New Beginnings, 12-2pm, Upper
Room

Mon Apr 14 Monday Night Adult Study, 7pm

Thurs Apr 17 **Maundy Thursday** service, 7pm

Fri Apr 18 **Good Friday** service, 7pm

Sun Apr 20 **EASTER—Communion**
6:30am Sunrise service, Memorial
Garden
8:30am Early service, Upper
Room
10:30am Traditional service

Easter Dinner immediately follows this
service. Ham & rolls provided; bring a
dish—casserole or salad to share.

Easter Egg Hunt—K-5th Graders
Easter Scavenger Hunt—Older Youth

Mon Apr 21 Monday Night Adult Study, 7pm

Wed Apr 23 Bible Study, 10-11:30am,
Upper Room

Sat Apr 26 Westside Chorale Concert, 7pm

Sun Apr 27 **Second Sunday of Easter
Earth Day Sabbath**
Early worship service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:15am
Second worship service, 10:30am
Nursery provided—Sunday School
Fellowship follows this service

Mon Apr 28 Monday Night Adult Study, 7pm

Join us for Holy Week Services!

April 13: Palm Sunday ~ Traditional Palm Sunday procession begins outside at 10:15 am, followed by Worship with Communion

April 17: 7pm—Maundy Thursday Service with Communion

April 18: 7pm—Good Friday Service with Haydn's "Seven Last Words of Christ"

April 20: Easter Sunday Services ~ One Great Hour of Sharing Offering will be received.

6:30am Sunrise Service with Reaffirmation of Baptism

8:30am Early Service with Communion

10:30am Traditional Service with Communion

Easter Dinner immediately follows this service.
(Ham & rolls provided; bring a dish—casserole or salad—to share.)

Easter Egg Hunt ~ K-5th Graders

Easter Scavenger Hunt ~ Older Youth