



The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

April 2018

Awake & Arise

He is risen. He is risen indeed!

Easter season is upon us. For the first time in my ministry Easter Sunday falls on April Fools' Day. Gives a whole new meaning to the folly of the cross! Is it not foolishness to look to the place of death to find new life? Is an empty tomb actually transformed into a womb?

We all know death in our lives. It is indeed the great equalizer. All of us will be greeted by death, and before our own, we know the death of loved ones and friends. Death comes also in many forms that extend beyond our actual physical death - the death of dreams, opportunities, relationships, capacity, and good health, to name only a few.

The Easter Resurrection of Jesus points our vision through death to see the vitality present even amidst our suffering. New life is indeed before us, and nature teaches us that it comes through what appears to us as dying. Spring emerges from winter. Buds, blossoms, and new leaves come from barren branches. In Carrie Newcomer's song "You Can Do This Hard Thing," she sings:

*From the muddy ground comes a green volunteer.
In a place we thought barren new life appears.
Morning will come whistling some comforting
tune, for you.*

*You can do this hard thing. You can do this hard
thing. It's not easy I know, but I believe that it's
so. You can do this hard thing.*

Awake and arise! And may God bless you with just enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this ole world, so that you will go out and do those things that others say cannot be done. In doing so, you will find new life in those places in which others only see death.

Happy Easter and Peace,

Drew

April 2018 Worship Services

April 1 - Resurrection of the Lord
Mark 16

Psalm 118:14-24 & Mark 16

April 8 - Second Sunday of Easter
Mark 8

Psalm 133:1-3 & Mark 8

April 15 - Third Sunday of Easter
Mark 9

Psalm 4:1-8 & Mark 9

April 22 - Earth Day Sabbath
Care for Creation

Psalm 19:1-6 & Matthew 6:25-34

April 29 - Fifth Sunday of Easter
Mark 10

Psalm 22:25-31 & Mark 10

Join us for Holy Week!

April 1st, Easter Sunday Services

6:30am Sunrise Service

8:30am Early Service

10:30am Traditional Easter Service

Potluck immediately follows

Please bring a dish to share!

Ham & rolls provided

Easter Egg Hunt



One Great Hour of Sharing

On Easter Sunday, April 1st, we will be collecting the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. Please be generous in your giving.

A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. Let's be the hands and feet of Christ by serving others.

When we participate in One Great Hour of Sharing, we are making an impact for others through the ministries of:

*Presbyterian Disaster Assistance - works with communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human-caused disasters

*Presbyterian Hunger Program- Takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed

*Self-Development of People- Invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues

Upcoming Adult Forums

April Adult Forum – During the Easter Season the Adult Forums will primarily focus on “Other Christians” around the world, outside of the usual Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and Protestant bodies. Using the DVD series “A History of Christianity” by Oxford University’s Diarmaid MacCulloch, we will begin with the historic Syrian “Church of the East” that at one time stretched all the way to China, this will be followed by a look at the way in which Reformation-era Catholicism found new expression in Mexico, we will then consider some of the churches that arose from the Evangelical and missionary movements of the 19th and twentieth centuries, and wrap up with a look at the state of Christianity in contemporary Europe and the U.S. There will be a 1 Sunday break from the schedule on April 22 for a special Earth Day Sabbath presentation on the growing issue of plastics pollution in the world’s oceans, aquifers, and the food chain. The presentation from the Earthcare Fellowship will include a very brief video presentation, followed by a panel discussion on the issue and actions that each of us can take. The Adult Forum meets in the Upper Room on Sunday mornings, shortly after 9:15 a.m., following the early service.

April 1: EASTER: NO CLASS

April 8: “The First Christianity” – the Church of the East.

April 15: “Reformation” (part 2) – the Roman Catholic Reformation and Mexican Catholicism

April 22: EARTH DAY SABBATH: Panel Presentation (1) “Plastic Pollution in Our Water & Food”, (2) “Phytobiomes in Agriculture: The Plant as a Community”, (3) “Recycling in Placitas

April 29: “The Evangelical Explosion” – Christianity change and growth in America, Africa, and Asia.

May 6 (or, 13): “God in the Dock” – Euro-American Christian Decline, and Future Hope....

Children's Christian Ed

April is looking to be an exciting month for Christian Ed.

The Christian Ed Committee and the youth continue to work hard to reach their goal to fund this summer's Ghost Ranch retreat and the Mission Trip. Fundraising will continue with a Cinco de Mayo dinner! The youth will be serving tacos and enchiladas. Tickets will go on sale on Easter.

We are also looking for adults interested in chaperoning the youth to Ghost Ranch this year. This adventure will take place June 24-June 30. The theme will be, *Signs of the Times*. The youth will be hearing from Tully Flecher an Associate Pastor, Youth and Young Adult Ministry. The Zehnder Brothers will also be performing!

We are recruiting a congregation member to lead this summer's Vacation Bible School. We have many volunteers to help support this effort. We are just looking for a facilitator to lead the group. If you are interested please let a Christian Ed Committee member know.

Updates

Help the Deacons provide meals to those in need: The deacons could still use help from church members to provide meals. There is a signup sheet on the cork board outside the sanctuary. Thanks so much. Sue E. Hoff, Moderator of Deacons, 505-404-1705.

Thanks so much for all the box tops individuals are bringing in. There is an envelope on the cork board to put them in. I do check it and then get them ready for Drew to deliver to Menaul School. Drew recently took 205 box tops to the school. Questions see: Sue E. Hoff, Mission Committee Chair, 505-404-1705.

We could use **new members on the Mission Committee**. Some members are working with two or three of the groups we support. It would

be nice to spread these out a bit. Some of the groups we support are: BeadforLife, Cuba Partners Network, Lutheran Family Services, Rocky Mountains [Refugee & Asylee Programs], Rebuilding Together Sandoval County, Menaul School, Young Adult Volunteer Program, Valerie's Place. We sell bags, cut out by Mission Committee members & sewn by various church members, at the church and at the Holiday Sale in Placitas In November, to put toward one of the groups we support. We purchase coffee from Frontera De Cristo Coffee Project, & chocolate from Equal Exchange, then sell it the third Sunday of the month. Questions see: Sue E. Hoff, Mission Committee Chair, 505-404-1705.

Thank you to David and Diane! The Memorial Garden Committee would like to recognize and thank David Walker and Diane Shepard for their support, guidance and hard work. David and Diane, along with our paid garden helper, Manuel Macias, refurbished our aging irrigation system and added irrigation to the beds along the sidewalks on the east side of the garden. Repairs were needed this spring to assure that the garden will look its best for the Placitas Garden Tour, and Diane and David's endeavors saved the committee thousands of dollars and many hours of hand watering.

Fellowship

I want to thank all of the Fellowship Committee for all their work.

Fellowship thanks all who supported the Church by purchasing the rolls that the Fellowship committee made.

Don't forget the pot luck after Church on Easter Sunday. Please bring a dish to share.

Thanks for your continuing coffee donations as it helps to offset the Churches expense.

Member Profile
April 2018

Karen Martinez

Karen was born in Albuquerque and has lived there most of her life with her parents and her sister. When Karen attended Taylor Middle School as a “gifted” student, she interned at KOAT-TV following Joe Diaz around to see how things worked at the television station. Then, in the 9th grade at Cibola High School, she interned with Tom Joles at KOB-TV. Her job was to listen to the police scanners and then send out reporters to cover the stories. Occasionally during her junior and senior years at college, she did reporting in the KOAT-TV newsroom. Karen’s positions over the years at KOAT include: special project manager, sales manager and her position until Dec 2017 was account executive for sales. She became part owner in Ad House-Edit House Company in Rio Rancho. They specialize in advertising production and digital marketing. This move allows Karen more growth and learning opportunities.

She began her college career in California at USC with majors in Broadcast Journalism and International Relations. In her junior year she spent one semester in London and traveled in Europe. On a trip to Moscow, Leningrad (name at the time) and to the Soviet Union during a school break, the U.S. stock market crashed and she found it interesting how it affected the U.S. from their perspective. This was also post Chernobyl and she even thought she felt the depression there. She came away with the fact that the Russians were very nice and friendly.

Karen has a son, Zachary (“Zach”) who is the light of her life and an amazing young man who loves school, soccer, guitar and helping younger children with learning – he currently would like to be an attorney. He is introspective and Karen feels really blessed.

Her favorite job was a being a special project manager and coordinating community service projects at KOAT (such as the Coats for Kids drive). Karen’s hobbies include skiing at places

in Utah, swimming, and reading. Karen’s moment of fame came when she won the spelling bee in the 5th grade; however, she feels her fame is still yet to come.

The person Karen would have like to meet is Beryl Markham. She took the first transatlantic flight from London. Karen admires her determination to follow her dreams.

One of her favorite travels was with an exchange student from Brazil. Karen has a few places she would like to visit – Egypt, Asia and Europe, and take Zach to Barcelona for a soccer game.

If there were a fire, she has a piece of pottery that was given to her by friends while shopping in Santa Fe – it was the experience of the explanation of the pottery and the gift from the friends that meant the most. In the future, Karen would like to become a better photographer. Five things she could not live without are: music, literature, food and wine (loves wine pairings) and massages!

Karen likes LPPC because of the children’s program and watching the children grow – she came to LPPC because Zach had been invited by Jackson Skinner and they performed in several special holiday productions that brought her to see him perform. She loved the welcoming of the people and decided to come to church with Zach.

The LPPC community has helped her grow in faith and acceptance, encouraging her to use her talents.

Wendy Ingram

Betty Closser

TIPS FROM THE HEALTH
MINISTRY PARTNERSHIP

6 WAYS TO PRACTICE MINDFUL
EATING

Mindless Eating Mindful Eating

Eating past full and ignoring your body's signals	Listening to your body and stopping when full
Eating when emotions tell us to eat (i.e., sad, bored, lonely)	Eating when our bodies tell us when to eat (i.e., stomach growling, energy low)
Eating alone at random times and places	Eating with others at set times and places
Eating and multitasking	When eating, just eating
Considering a meal an end product	Considering where food comes from
Eating foods that are emotionally comforting	Eating foods that are nutritionally healthy