



# The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

December 2016

## Sunday Worship Service

8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

**December 2: Friday, 6 p.m., Sanctuary**  
Contemplative Service of Evening Prayer

**December 4: Second Sunday of Advent**  
*Mighty God*  
Isaiah 9:6 & Mark 4:35-41

**December 11: Third Sunday of Advent**  
*The King's Birthday – Children's Musical*  
Luke 18:15-17

**December 18: Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
*Prince of Peace*  
A Service of Lessons & Carols  
Luke 2:14 & John 20:19

**December 21: Wednesday, 7 p.m., Sanctuary**  
*Autumn Gifts / Winter Treasures*  
Winter Solstice Poetry Reading

**December 24: Christmas Eve**  
7 p.m., Sanctuary  
Communion, Candlelight, & The Story  
Luke 2:1-20

**December 25: Christmas Day**  
Single Service 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary  
*Immanuel*  
John 1:1-14

**January 1: First Sunday after Christmas**  
Single Service 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary  
*Everything Praise*  
Psalm 148



## Prince of Peace

This Advent we are exploring four royal titles given in Isaiah 6:9. Christians have adopted these names for Jesus, perhaps most famously in Handel's Messiah. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and His name shall be called Wonderful Counsellor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."

Theologian Walter Brueggemann wrote an Advent study this year based upon these titles called *Names for the Messiah*. Our Sunday morning adult forum is using this study each of these weeks as our guide. Brueggemann ponders "each title and how the people understood it then, how Jesus did or did not fulfill the title, and how Christians interpret Jesus as representative of that title (today)."

I imagine each of us is drawn to particular aspects manifest in these titles of the God we know or need. In this Advent season of 2016, which of these titles speaks or calls out most to you? Are you looking for a Wonderful Counsellor, a Mighty God, an Everlasting Father, or a Prince of Peace? Which of these divine manifestations does our world need today?

As the days draw darker and the nights grow cold, I find myself looking for a Prince of Peace. Peace to me doesn't mean a lack of conflict. Peace however is a presence and a way of being that honors and pursues harmony for all and for the whole of God's creation.

I invite you to move into this Advent season with a prayer from Walter Brueggemann... *Prince of Peace, come again and organize world leaders to do the things that make for peace. Until then, empower your church to live your values and preach your peaceful realm to the world. Amen.*

Peace be with you,  
Drew

## Adult Forum in December

As Advent continues, the Adult Forum continues with the study series "Names for the Messiah" by biblical scholar Walter Bruggeman.

December 4 - "Mighty God"

December 11 - "Everlasting Father"

December 18 - "Prince of Peace"

December 25 - No class

January 1, 2017 - No class

The Adult Forum will resume gathering together Sunday on January 8, 2017. We meet in the Upper Room at approximately 9:15 a.m on Sunday mornings, following the early service.

~ Rev. Kenneth Cuthbertson

## Songlines Summer Dates

Pull out your calendar! Planning is well underway for our LPPC Songlines Summer events. Drew Henry will be on his own Songlines sabbatical from May 15 – September 15, 2017, and we have the support of the grant from Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Program for both Drew's summer and for ours as a congregation as well.

We are very excited about the schedule we have *so far* for our Songlines journey together this summer.

**Friday, May 20 – Sunday, May 22, 2017:** Don Saliers, author of *A Song to Sing, A Life to Live: Reflections on Music as Spiritual Practice*, whose book inspired the theme for our summer. Don has spent his life with all aspects of church music, and is an organist and lover of hymns. Weekend events will include a workshop for church musicians on Friday, a Community Hymn Sing on Friday night, a Songlines workshop for the congregation on Saturday, and Sunday worship also to be focused on the Songlines theme. See more about the book he wrote with

his daughter, Emily Saliers of The Indigo Girls: <http://www.abebooks.com/Song-Sing-Life-Live-Reflections-Music/14096939509/bd>

**Saturday, June 24 – Sunday, June 25, 2017:** Bill Carter, jazz musician, member of Presbybop and pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Clarks Summit. Bill will spend time with the congregation on Saturday, including a concert and Sunday. Listen to his music here: <http://www.presbybop.com/listen/>

**Saturday, July 29 and Sunday, July 30, 2017:** Carrie Newcomer, singer/songwriter and poet/author. Weekend events will include a workshop on Saturday, a concert on Saturday evening, and Sunday worship including a sermon called "Sharing My Songline." Listen to her music at: <http://www.carriewcomer.com/>

Tickets will be sold for her Saturday night concert next year to help pay for her trip to New Mexico.

**Friday, August 18 – Sunday, August 20, 2017:** Ana Hernandez, self-described "composer, author, and mischief-maker." Events will include a Friday night potluck and singing that will be open to the community, an extended music-related workshop called Heartsong: Building Communities of Practice (read more here: <http://anahernandez.org/workshops/>) on Saturday that will be open to the community, and our Sunday service.

**Saturday and Sunday, September 16-17, 2017.** Drew returns! Billy McLaughlin, an Emmy winning composer and accomplished guitarist who overcame a remarkable disability will be with us. There will be a workshop on Saturday morning, a concert on Saturday evening open to the community, and then worship with us on Sunday with our Pastor Drew fiddling along with Billy's guitar! Read more here: <http://www.billymclaughlin.com/>

Believe it or not, we have even more music activities in the works as well, including youth oriented activities.

## **We need your help to make all these events happen!**

In particular, we need several people to **donate frequent flyer miles** to arrange for transportation for some of our musicians. We will also need help with hospitality services, including refreshments for events, transportation for our guests to and from the airport, publicity, communications, and other activities.

**Questions? Want to become more involved?** Talk to any of the following individuals: Drew Henry, Carl and Jackie Allen, Doug Calderwood, Sally Curro, or David Scrase.

~ Doug Calderwood

## **Childrens' Christian Education**

Our children have had a busy fall, and December will be as well!

Beginning December 3rd, they'll gather at church from 9:00-12:00 for the annual 'Hanging of the Greens' activities.....program rehearsal, cookie baking, and a special craft activity.

The children's program will be Sunday, December 11th. Please plan to join us for this very special service!

Coming up on January 15th, we have an informative cooking class with our local chef, Diana Shephard. These will be sold after the main service to assist our kids with their Ghost Ranch experience! Don't miss it!

~ Charmaine Lawrence

## **Mothers' Day Out**

Our MDO munchkins are already so excited for Christmas! We were gobble, gobble, gobbling through November with handprint turkeys, pine cones with feathers, even turkey hats!

The families are again participating in the PAS/SFO concert on November 30th. We have several fun items that will be up for auction. Fingers crossed for an amazing night!

MDO has a couple spots still available on Tuesday or Wednesday. We are very thankful for our full enrollment!! Our MDO family is continuing to grow. We are so blessed to be able to provide a wonderful, loving space for our munchkins.

Merry Christmas and wishes for a joyful New Year!

~Debbie Stueber

## **Tip from Health Ministry Partnership**

The hustle and bustle of the holiday season can leave little time for taking care of yourself. Self-care does not have to be time-consuming! If you have 2 minutes...

- BREATHE AND STRETCH
- DOODLE OR DAYDREAM
- SPEND TIME WITH YOUR PET
- LAUGH
- ACKNOWLEDGE ONE OF YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- DRINK A GLASS OF WATER

## Member Profile

### Bethany (Beth) Sherwood

Beth was born in Norwalk, CT and lived there until she was 4 years old. Her family moved to Hagerstown, MD where she grew up. After HS, she attended Hagerstown Jr. College graduated with a certificate in office administration. Her first “real” job was in Gaithersburg, MD at the Bechtel Corporation in Administration. After several years there and working part time for Aspen System Corporation in Rockville, MD, she accepted a position full time with Aspen supervising the Word Processing Center. Beth was married for 9 years and they moved to Woodstock, GA. She started working for Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) in GA. They transferred her to McLean, VA and then she was transferred by SAIC to ABQ for a total of 23 years with SAIC.

She had visited friends in ABQ over time and was looking for a place to live. Her goal was to find a Trader Joe’s and the only one at that time was in Santa Fe. In looking for a place to live and accessibility to a Trader Joe’s, she was driving North on I-25 and saw the Placitas sign between ABQ and SF. She took the exit and saw open house signs, checked with a realtor about her needs and they said they had the perfect place for her. They took her to 9 Sage Hill, which had an apartment for her Dad – walked in and loved it. Beth lived there for 7 years! Her Dad came and moved in.

Beth continued working in various positions after SAIC and is now at NM Gas Co. full time. Her favorite job was at SAIC because of the people as well as giving her stability for 23 years.

Her hobbies are hiking, music and animals. She did more hiking in the mountains in the northeast but plans on doing more around this area. She wants to play the piano after retiring – she played several instruments – violin, viola, cello, but likes the viola best.

Beth’s 15 minutes of fame was in the late 80’s when she lived in Georgia. The TV series

“Moonlighting” was popular with Cybill Shepherd (spokesperson for the American Cancer Society) and Bruce Willis. She won a radio contest that flew her from Georgia to L.A. to tour the studios and met Cybill Shepherd at her house because she was not filming that day due to morning sickness from her pregnancy with twins. Beth received a picture with Cybill and signed copy from her of a script.

One person Beth would like to meet is Alan Alda because she has followed his career from MASH, other films and speaking engagements. She thinks it would be fascinating to have a conversation with him.

One of her memorable travels was backpacking from Georgia to Virginia on the Appalachian Trail. She decided to leave the hike in Damascus because she got “bored” with the walk but since she had taken off time from work, she decided to drive to places in the U.S. Beth plans to complete the trail when she retires and thinks it will be lots better on the remaining part of the trail. Her favorite trip was flying to Germany with no reservations and driving following suggestions from Rick Steves guidebook. She went to Austria, Switzerland and the Czech Republic staying in B&B’s recommended by the visitor centers in each city.

Beth’s bucket list includes some unusual things - traveling back roads and going through unusual towns such as the one that has the biggest ball of yarn in the world, and going to a Jazz festival in each state, and going to Iowa (the only state she has never been!)

If there were a fire she would grab Miss Molly (her cat) and special pictures. One of the things she would love to do is learn to fly airplanes, rent a villa in Greece overlooking the Mediterranean for at least a month and enjoy! Five things she can’t live without are coffee, chocolate, water, church and music.

The best thing about attending LPPC is the people, support and love of everyone.

~ Betty Closser & Wendy Ingram