



The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

January 2018

Thank you Delfina

Since early 2014 until December 22nd of 2017, Delfina Hernandez served as the Administrator of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church. Delfina occupied this role with gusto and commitment. Her work supported so many. Her dedication was laudable. A professional growth opportunity providing full time work and benefits led Delfina to move on. She loved this job and leaves the church grateful for her time here.

The Administrator of this congregation has a central role in the life and mission of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church. While it is difficult to comprehend the full scope of this position, the importance of our Administrator's role cannot be overstated. Delfina was a constant and supportive presence in our church office. She was a colleague and will be missed. As Pastor of this congregation, I thank Delfina for her service.

We are currently interviewing some excellent candidates for the now-open Administrator position. The job summary from the position description posted on our church website reads: *The primary responsibility of the Administrator of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church is to oversee and manage the office of the church. The Administrator serves as the central contact person for congregation members, community members, and partner organizations. He/she works closely with the pastor, church staff, congregational members and leaders to support the mission and ministry of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church. The administrator handles personal information and must maintain professional confidentiality at all times.*

Join me in thanking Delfina and in praying for discernment for our soon-to-be next Administrator. Cory Franklin was the Administrator when I arrived in 2011. Cory's faithful service was a support to me in my first years here. Delfina was an excellent work partner these last four years. I look forward to welcoming our new Administrator as we begin 2018 together.

Happy New Year & Peace,

Drew

January Worship Services Sundays @ 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

January 7 - Baptism of the Lord

The First Day

Psalm 29:1-3; Genesis 1:1-5

January 14 - Second Sunday after Epiphany

Beautifully and Wonderfully Made

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

January 21 - Third Sunday after Epiphany

Nineveh

Psalm 62:5-8; Jonah 3:1-5, 10

January 28 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

SOTC

Psalm 11,1, Mark 1:21-28

*Calling One and Calling All
Annual Congregational Meeting
January 28th @ noon
Bring a potluck dish to share*

Adult Forum in January

January Adult Forum - Please join us for an exploration of several major world religions, using a documentary series narrated by Academy Award winner Ben Kingsley, along with other resources. The Adult Forum meets in the Upper Room on Sunday mornings, shortly after 9:15 a.m., following the early service.

January 7 - Judaism

January 14 - Orthodox & Roman Catholic Christianity

January 21 - Islam

January 28 - Hinduism

February 4 - Buddhism

Children's Christian Education

We ended 2017 with our children's annual Christmas program. The elementary children along with the older youth told us, *What Christmas Means* and we got to hear for our wonderful musicians. We want to thank the teachers and the parents for their tremendous support in making this presentation a success. But most importantly we thank our wonderful children for their talent, enthusiasm and sharing their meaning of Christmas.

With our Sunday school program growing, we are looking forward to an exciting New Year! Our Sunday school classes will continue and we continue to look for more teachers to help support the spiritual education of our youth.

The gift of guiding our children as they travel their spiritual journey is a tremendous privilege and a heartwarming experience. We invite anyone thinking about joining our Christmas Ed to call Chantel Tarin at 505-379-9533 or the church office at 867-5718.

We want to thank our December teachers and assistants for another month of giving their time and talents to our children: Judie Hendry, Trio Jennings, Elizabeth & Jeff Dickson, Tamara Hudson, Karen Martinez, Leslie O'Hanlon, Steve Chewing, Delfina Hernandez, Ed & Sally Gosnell, and Chantel Tarin. A special thanks to Martha Richie for the Christmas Crafts donated to the youth and Cheryl Ferrell for the wonderful pies sold that will help support the youth's summer Ghost Ranch experience.

Children's Christian Ed

Chantel Tarin

Health Ministry Partnership

N stands for New opportunities

E stands for Exploring

W stands for Wondering

Y stands for Yearning

E stands for Eagerness

A stands for Aspiring

R stands for Rejoicing

The Health Ministry Partnership wishes your New Year be filled with adventure, excitement, joy and wellness!

Member Profile

Jackie Allen

Jackie was born in Flushing, Michigan and lived there for 21 years where she developed a love of the out of doors, travel, space and volunteering. Family and Girl Scouts helped nurture these loves. She graduated from Albion College in south central Michigan with a degree in Geology and a strong background in volunteerism. She married Carl 6 days after graduation. They met in Albuquerque the summer between Jackie's junior and senior year when she took classes at UNM and was active in Presbyterian College Youth activities. Camping with the college youth at Ghost Ranch was a highlight of the summer. They moved to Tucson for Carl's graduate studies where Jackie was a bank teller for a year and active in Desert Mountain Search and Rescue. Then they were off to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii while Carl was in the Navy and Jackie earned her Master's in Geology. Then back to Tucson for Carl's PhD. Jackie worked at the Lunar and Planetary Lab at U. AZ as a lunar crater counter and meteorite researcher. She worked part time, started raising their first child, and was active in Trinity Presbyterian Church, and the Smoking and Health Action Coalition. Next Carl's post doc took the family to Albuquerque where Jackie worked at UNMs Institute of Meteoritics doing rock sample preparation and research – her first work with lunar rocks!

Their second daughter was born in Albuquerque. Carl and Jackie were active with La Mesa Presbyterian Church, especially with sponsoring refugee families. After the post doc time was up the next stop of the wandering science gypsies was Richland, WA where they lived for 9 years. It was a great place to raise children and get very busy with Girl Scouts, soccer, volunteering at several schools, PTA, church and some part time work squeezed in. Jackie set up the thin section lab for radioactive and regular rocks at the Battelle Northwest Hanford Lab. As usual, she worked part time so she could take care of their

children and volunteer. Shutdown of the Basalt Nuclear Waste Isolation Project gave Carl and Jackie the impetus to move to NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston where they worked for 24 years. Jackie worked at JSC's Astromaterials Research and Exploration Science Division as an education outreach specialist sharing planetary science exploration, meteorites, Mars and Moon with educators around the country and world. She especially enjoyed going back to her Girl Scout Master Training experience as she was paid to teach basic space science activities to other GS Master trainers for 14 years over her JSC time. While in the JSC area, Jackie was a busy volunteer with Clear Lake Presbyterian and Webster Presbyterian Churches, serving on church and Presbytery mission teams, working with youth groups, going on mission trips, helping produce youth plays and dinner theater, building Habitat for Humanity homes and housing the homeless through Family Promise.

Carl and Jackie retired in Dec. 2014 and as soon as possible moved to their home in Placitas, which they had purchased in 2010. Jackie said she fell in love with NM before she fell in love with Carl! They visited Placitas six times looking for a home and attended LPPC each time. LPPC was part of their decision to choose Placitas.

Their oldest child is Ruth. She is a part time consultant for various international development organizations – mostly for the UN and Mercy Corps. Her two children, Elizabeth 5 and Allen 18 months, are a major focus for Jackie. They live in Somerville, MA with their mother and father and two cats. Joan lives in San Francisco with her boyfriend and cat, and works for the Service Employees International Union. She spends much of her time in Sacramento lobbying for health care workers.

Jackie's favorite job was training teachers and informal educators about planetary science and education. Her hobbies include being a Grandmother, helping at church, exploring and traveling both worldwide and locally, reading and crafts. Her favorite craft is marbling on paper and fabric – if only she would stay home long enough!

The person Jackie would most like to meet is Eleanor Roosevelt – an amazing woman!

Jackie and Carl have traveled extensively. Some of their favorite places are New Zealand (people and geology), the country of Georgia, Africa, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Patagonia, and the Galapagos.

Her bucket list includes exploring the four corners area to know more about the geology and cultural history of our region. She wants to visit as many tall mountains as possible and other interesting geological areas.

In case of a fire, Jackie would grab her husband, cats and photos, maybe some art if there is time.

The three things she would still like to do are to learn Spanish, exercise enough to keep playing on the floor with her grand kids, and get involved with environmental education. Myasthenia Gravis is slowing Jackie down a bit. It is an autoimmune disease that affects her eye muscles but doesn't keep her from hitting the trails with walking sticks! The six things she wouldn't like to live without, other than family and friends, are travel, dark chocolate, mountains, NPR news, books and the theatre.

She enjoys LPPC because of its spiritual and fellowship stimulation, the open and welcoming feeling, and the environmental activism.