



The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

June/July

Agua de Vida

“It’s all about the water.” This was one of the first truths imparted upon me when I moved to New Mexico. I was also early on given the book *Mayordomo: Chronicle of an Acequia in Northern New Mexico* by Dixon, NM, resident and author Stanley Crawford. In this award winning book, Crawford beautifully shows how irrigation ditches are the lifelines of agriculture and daily life in rural New Mexico.

Las Placitas Presbyterian Church has been in the village of Placitas since 1894. We are intimately integrated into the life of this community. We are also members of Las Acequias de Placitas, and we have water rights on the village acequia system. While we do have a well for the water use in the building and as a back up for irrigation, our primary irrigation water comes from the acequia system that runs on the south side of the memorial garden along Paseo de San Antonio.

As you well know by now, this is going to be a difficult water year here in Placitas and across the state. The newsletter published this spring by Las Acequias de Placitas began: “**Don’t Waste a Drop**...should be our motto over the coming months. Throughout NM, we’ve received 10-20% of our normal snowpack this year. There’s no question spring flows are going to be low this summer, the question is ‘how low?’ First of all we want to thank all of you who are already conserving, we could be in a lot worse shape if we all used what the average American uses. However, if things get worse, we will need to work together as a community, because we may have to gradually reduce our water use to a fraction of our normal consumption in order to avoid rationing.”

Well, the rationing has already begun, and earlier than I ever remember in my time in Placitas. So I ask you to be extremely mindful of your water usage. We are taking measures to conserve water as much as we can here at the church. Please do so in your homes also. We are

all part of this community together. I ask that you pray for our neighbors in the village who are already experiencing water shortages before the summer has begun in full swing.

We find the fullness of God’s intention for us and all creation laid out in Revelation 22:1-2. “Then the angel showed me the river of life-giving water, shining like crystal, flowing from the throne of God and the Lamb through the middle of the city’s main street. On each side of the river is the tree of life, which produces twelve crops of fruit, bearing its fruit each month. The tree’s leaves are for the healing of the nations.”

We’re not fully there yet. Let us care for and conserve the water of life - el agua de vida - that is one of our most precious gifts.

Peace,

Drew

Water Saving Tips from Las Acequias de Placitas

1. Shorten showers, change shower head to a low flow.
2. Fix leaks
3. Put a bucket in shower or a pan in the sink as you’re letting the water warm up. This is clean water you can use this for watering plants, cleaning, etc.
4. Install low flow toilet if you haven’t already along with other efficient fixtures.
5. Turn off water while brushing your teeth.
6. “If its yellow let it mellow” may not work for everyone, but toilet flushing and showers are where the largest percentage of domestic water is used.

7. Don't run dishwashers or washing machines until they're full.
8. Install a rainbarrel, and hope for some rain.
9. Save gray water by putting buckets under your sink. Reuse gray water to water plants.
10. In general, think about the water as its flowing from your faucet, does it need to run full blast while washing your hands, etc? Think about what it takes to not waste a drop.

June/July 2018

Worship Services

REMEMBER: We have a single, combine worship service at 9:30am during summer months.

June 3 - Second Sunday after Pentecost
1 Samuel 3:1-20 & 2 Corinthians 4:5-12

June 10 - Third Sunday after Pentecost
1 Samuel 8:4-11 (12-15) 16-20 (11:14-15) & 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

June 17 - Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
1 Samuel 15:34-16:13 & 2 Corinthians 5:6-10 (11-13) 14-17

June 24 - Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
1 Samuel 17:32-49 & 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

July 1 - Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27 & 2 Corinthians 8:7-15

July 8 - Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10 & 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

July 15 - Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 & Ephesians 1:3-14

July 22 - Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 7:1-14a & Ephesians 2:11-22

July 29 - Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
2 Samuel 11:1-15 & Ephesians 3:14-21

Upcoming Adult Forums

Adult Forum will NOT meet over the summer, beginning in June. We traditionally resume the Sunday after Labor Day.

Updates

Muchas Gracias, Thank You.... What a wonderful amount we took in on May 6th & 13th, for Dori Kay Hjalmarson in Honduras. We took in \$107.00. I added \$3.00 to make the total amount \$110.00. I contacted Dori to see how we get the money to her & there are a couple of ways. Thanks so much! –Sue Hoff

Shop at Smiths & Support Refugees – use the Smith's Inspiring Donations Program & 0.5% of your total order will go towards their clients! 1. Simply visit: www.smithsfoodanddrug.com/inspire; 2. Register your Smith's Fresh Value card by creating a log-in. 3. Go to My Account on the right hand side of the login screen under "Welcome_____". 4. Scroll down to the bottom of the screen for the Inspiring Donations Program Enrollment. 5. Choose LFS as the organization you would like to support by finding their name or putting in their NPO number: EU963. There is no cost to participate in this program & you'll still earn fuel points while you shop. For more info email abq.contractor3@lfsm.org.

World Refugee Day – Saturday, June 23rd. Music, Dance, Food & Culture. Celebrate diversity! 4:30 – 5:30 Citizenship Ceremony. 5:30 – 7:30 Activities & Performances. Highland High School, 4700 Coal Ave. S.E., ABQ, NM

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.

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.

A Little Summer Treat...

Cold Strawberry Orange Soup



Recipe by Our Cookbook Collection from relish.com

- **Yield:** 6 servings

This recipe is a real winner — quick, easy and delicious. As a summer dessert that virtually everyone (even those who are watching their waistlines) can enjoy, it is perfect. And it is so satisfying that no one will think it's a "light" dessert.

Ingredients

6 (8-ounce, 250 mL) jars
4 cups hulled fresh strawberries (1 L)
1/2 cup confectioner's (icing) sugar (125 mL)
1 cup orange juice (250 mL)
3 tablespoons chopped fresh mint leaves, divided (45 mL)
1 tablespoon finely grated orange zest (15 mL)
1 teaspoon granulated sugar (5 mL)
1 tablespoon slivered almonds (15 mL)
1/4 cup plain yogurt (60 mL)
6 mint leaves

Instructions

1. In food processor fitted with the metal blade, purée strawberries. Add confectioner's sugar and process for 1 minute. Add orange juice and process for 1 minute. Add 1 tbsp (15 mL) mint and process for 1 minute. Transfer to jars, dividing equally, and refrigerate for 1 hour.
2. In a bowl, mix remaining mint, orange zest, granulated sugar and almonds. Add yogurt and mix well. Top each jar with a dollop (about 1 tbsp/15 mL) of the mixture, garnish with a mint leaf and serve immediately.

Tips:

1. Use a funnel to pour this soup neatly into the jars without making a mess
2. If you like this soup as much as we do, make it all year long, using frozen strawberries.



Member Profile
June/July 2018
COLLEEN RUST

Colleen was born in Houston, TX. She graduated from Memorial HS in Houston and later earned a BS degree in Geology with a minor in Geographic Information System (GIS) from Texas A&M University, followed by a Masters in Hydrogeology from Washington State University. She became a licensed Professional Geologist in the state of Washington while living and working in the Seattle, WA area. Colleen has worked as an Environmental Hydrogeologist/Project Manager consultant for federal, state and private clients in NM, WA, OR, and Alaska. Currently she works with the US Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District at Kirtland and Holloman Air Force Base among others. Her projects included groundwater and environmental evaluations; quantitative hydrogeology; environmental sediment and soil investigations; remedial investigations; large-scale hydrogeological studies on a regional and local scale. Her work history includes much more than there is room for here. Her specialty is working in remote settings and large watershed scale sites. The field logistics can be complex, such as flying in by helicopter and setting up an off the grid field base camp on the remote Alaska Prince of Wales Island for 2 weeks. She is also required to keep a long list of certifications and security clearances including Air Force Base Access, Artic Marine Survival Training, Bear Guard Training and 40-hour HAZWOPER (training through OSHA for Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response).

Colleen and Phillip met on the very first day of her undergraduate studies at an 8am Geology 101 class. They married between undergrad and grad school. They have 3 children: Liam, and twins Eva and Rose. Colleen shared that as the oldest of 3 children she was born 1 month early catching her parents off guard and lived in a suitcase for a while. Colleen's son, Liam was also 1 month early and lived in his car seat for a while which

was pulled out of the box in the hospital parking lot! The girls, Rose and Eva, are fraternal twins and completely different personalities since birth.

Colleen et. all found their way to Placitas when they wanted to be closer to family in TX and raise their young family in NM. They moved to an apt. in Albuquerque when she was 8.5 months pregnant with Liam and later bought their first home in Placitas in early 2013.

Colleen's hobbies include: being outdoors, camping, hiking and backpacking. She and Phillip started out their married life living out of their SUV for 8 months traveling the continental US. They hiked the Ouachita Trail (230 miles that stretches east west across Oklahoma and Arkansas) with no food or water drops. They set up a tent or just slept outside using the SUV to get from trail head to trail head. They hiked, camped and backpacked across the US and back again before starting graduate school in late summer 2003. Later their hobbies progressed to mountaineering and rock climbing to be able to summit Mt. St. Helens, Mt. Baker and Mt. Rainer with the Washington Alpine Club. Now that they are 'slowing down', they have started marking off the 50 highest points in the US with the kids in tow. They have completed 35 so far. They bagged 6 along the Appalachian Mountains this summer. Her more calm hobbies include; rock hounding, quilting, canning, cooking and reading.

The person Colleen would have liked to meet was Sacagawea who was one of the most interesting and powerful mothers in history. Not only did she serve as a woman interpreter and guide known for her help with the Lewis and Clark Expedition, but she did it as a mother with a new born in tow.

Colleen's bucket list includes completing either the Appalachian Trail, the Continental Divide Trail or the Pacific Crest Trail at one time.

Her most precious possessions are her experiences in life and photo albums of her children.

The 5 things she wouldn't want to live without are: the beauty of the great outdoors, New Mexico seasons, red wine and cheese.

As a Geologist, Colleen had the pleasure of getting to know Michael Crofoot and Mike Hermann, two fellow rock hounds, while learning about the local geology of the Placitas area. During one trip they collected some local treasures to share at the Placitas Rock Fest this past September.

Her favorite part about attending LPPC is the warm hearted welcome and church community feel she gets EVERY TIME she shows up with her young family. LPPC feels like family to her as it was there to support her when they first moved to Placitas and has committed to help raise their children in God's House. Because of this love, they baptized their children at LPPC. "Thank you for being part of our family and we look forward to the years to come".

Wendy Ingram

Betty Closser

June/July 2018