



The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

March 2017

The Great Ends of the Church

The Season of Lent is upon us. On Wednesday, March 1st, we gather at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary for an Ash Wednesday service of worship. The Sundays following, Ken, Karl, and I will preach a sermon series exploring the *Great Ends of the Church*.

The Great Ends of the Church have been foundational to a variety of Presbyterian denominations in our country since the early 1900's. While their language reflects that era, their principles remain true today. *The Great Ends* are found in the *Foundations of Presbyterian Polity* (F-1.0304) defining The Mission of the Church as:

the proclamation of the gospel for the salvation of humankind;
the shelter, nurture, and spiritual fellowship of the children of God;
the maintenance of divine worship;
the preservation of the truth;
the promotion of social righteousness;
and the exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the world.

Joseph Small, former director of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Office of Theology and Worship wrote in his introduction to *Proclaiming the Great Ends of the Church* (Louisville, KY: Geneva Press, 2010):

"With an economy of words and a surplus of meaning, the church has six great aims to direct our life together, six basic works of the church that are foundational to who the church is and what the church is called to do. The Great Ends of the Church should not be seen as a laundry list of disconnected items, for they are intended as a wholistic vision for the church's life. The church cannot be faithful to the intention of the great ends by emphasizing some while neglecting

others. All six of the church's great purposes are integrally related."

We look forward to exploring these Great Ends with you as we grow together in Lent.

Peace, Drew

Welcome Dana!

It feels strange to welcome Dana Howarth to Las Placitas Presbyterian Church, however we are indeed welcoming Dana as our new Youth Ministry Coordinator. This part-time position was created this year to help support and strengthen our ministry with youth and their families.

Dana is a child of this congregation. She was baptized here and has at her own initiative reaffirmed her baptismal covenant in worship just this past year. Dana grew up as one of a few youth in her teenage days at LPPC. She is excited to see the growing number of young people who are now a part of our congregation. Dana was one of the adult chaperones to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium this past summer. She graduated in 2013 from UNM with a degree in Family Studies. Currently Dana's primary work is as a Program Assistant for the New Mexico Direct Caregivers Coalition whose office is in Bernalillo.

We have asked Dana to do youth ministry *with us and not for us*. She will be coordinating our youth activities and will need all of our support as we fulfill our baptismal vows to help our children grow in their Christian faith. Please help me in welcoming Dana and committing to support and partner with her as we work together with our amazing youth. They are the present of the church. Let us walk together with them into our common future.

Welcome Dana!



Sunday Worship Services
8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

March 1 - Ash Wednesday @ 7 p.m: Sanctuary
2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2
Lenten Sermon Series
The Great Ends of the Church

March 5 - First Sunday in Lent
*The Proclamation of the Gospel for the
Salvation of Humankind*
Luke 4:16-21 & Ephesians 2:1-10

March 12 - Second Sunday in Lent
*The Shelter, Nurture, and Spiritual Fellowship
of the Children of God*
Ephesians 4:11-16 & 1 Peter 2:1-5

March 19 - Third Sunday in Lent
The Maintenance of Divine Worship
Psalm 95 & John 4:5-42

March 26 - Fourth Sunday in Lent
The Preservation of the Truth
Isaiah 59:14-15 & John 18:28-38

Adult Forum in March

Psalms of the Season - During most of Lent the Adult Forum will be looking at selections from the Psalms, considering both their background and their devotional and spiritual meaning for people of faith now. Lent is a time for introspection, and for recalling the journey of Jesus and his companions to Jerusalem and the experiences of Holy Week. Week by week the selected psalms will help to guide us in self-reflection, and in meditating on the spiritual journey to the cross and on to the empty tomb.

On March 19, the Health Ministries Partnership will be presenting Part 1 of a two-part focus on Falls Prevention, led by Pat Thorpe. Part 2 will be presented on April 30.

The Adult Forum meets in the Upper Room on Sunday morning, at approximately 9:15 a.m., following the early service.

March 5 - Spiritual Longing and Repentance
Psalms 42-43, & 51

March 12 - God Knows (Psalm 139)

March 19 - Health Ministries Presentation by Pat Thorpe: *Falls Prevention: Reducing Your Fall Risk, Part 1*. This will be held in the Sanctuary.

March 26 - Psalms On the Way to Jerusalem
(selections from Ascent Psalms 120-134)

April 2 - A Cry from the Cross (Psalm 22)

April 9 - Sing Alleluia (*Hallel* Psalms 116 & 118)

~ Rev. Kenneth Cuthbertson

Children's Christian Education

Christian Education is very excited to welcome Dana Howarth as "**Youth Coordinator**"! This new position at LPPC will give new opportunities for Christian growth to our youth while engaging with their friends and having a great time together. Dana is off and running! After a successful planning meeting with the parents and youth, LPPC Youth will now have regular meetings twice a month. Once a month they will gather after church for lunch and activities and then another monthly gathering will be hosted in the homes of the congregation. The building of a new program like this is energizing and will result in a stronger youth ministry. When thanked for her willingness to devote this time to our youth, Dana said she was "honored". How fortunate we are to set off on this new adventure.

Diane Shepard has once again offered to give our youth a **cooking class**. This time we will be learning to make "Tortillas". Several adults will be joining us for the class. Everyone loves homemade tortillas! Please let her know if you would like to attend. The congregation will then be the happy recipients of our baking talents. Instructions will begin before church at 9:00 a.m. and tortillas will be sold after church for \$1 each. Come join us Sunday, March 19th.

It takes many hearts and hands to keep Christian Ed strong. Please let us know if you would like to experience the delight of working with our children.

~ Christian Ed

Health Ministry Partnership

"Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving."

~Albert Einstein

FACT: Falls are on the increase in New Mexico.

FACT: An older adult falls every second. Less than half of them are reported.

FACT: The NM Department of Health reports NM fall related injuries are the 3rd leading cause of injury-related hospitalizations, emergency room visits and deaths for seniors ages 65 and older (behind poisoning and motor vehicle accidents).

For these reasons, The Health Ministry Partnership 2017 focus will target FALL PREVENTION.

Our very own Pat Thorpe, a Licensed Physical Therapist, will be offering a FREE community service at the Placitas Community Center. This program is entitled **BALANCING ACTS: REDUCING YOUR RISK FOR FALLS** and will begin Monday, April 3. The class is a modified version of the Otago Exercise Program; an evidence-based program from New Zealand. It has been validated to prevent falls in high-risk, community-dwelling older adults with noticeable impairments in balance and has been embraced by the NM Department of Health. If you have questions or would like to register for this program, please contact Pat Thorpe.

**Upcoming Adult Forums sponsored by HMP
Presenter Pat Thorpe:**

***March 19** in the Sanctuary-Fall Prevention I (Presentation on preventing falls and information about **BALANCING ACTS**.)

***April 30** in the Upper Room-Fall Prevention II (Interactive Class)

Songlines Renewal – Save the Dates!

Exploring Our Songlines - how music can and has influenced our secular and spiritual lives!

Las Placitas Presbyterian Church (LPPC) invites our congregation and the Placitas community to spend the summer of 2017 exploring music in many ways — guest artists, musical workshops, concerts, hymn sings, Vacation Bible School, campfire sing-alongs, and of course in worship.

The church received a Lilly Endowment Inc. grant for clergy and congregational renewal. This grant will enable our pastor, Rev. Drew Henry, to complete a sabbatical this summer focusing on fiddle music and his connections to music in his home state of Alabama, in New Mexico, and other areas. The grant also made it possible for our church to bring in six guest artists who we know will inspire and entertain you all summer long right here in Placitas.

Dr. Don Saliers, a musician, theologian, pastor, and professor emeritus, will be our first guest artist during the weekend of May 19-21.

In the book *A Song to Sing, A Life to Live*, authors Don and Emily Saliers express, “Music shapes how we feel about life; and if we allow music in, it will continually open us up to new people, new experiences, new sounds.”

Don Saliers will guide a community wide hymn sing, “Singing Faith in a Difficult World” on **Friday, May 19 at 6:00pm at Las Placitas Presbyterian Church.**

He will work through the history of song as a means to address and cope with matters of justice in regional and global society. We encourage everyone to participate in this sing-along. From verses of praise taken from Psalms, to mournful spirituals, through traditional hymns and modern folk tunes this gathering will lift your spirits, provoke reflection, and inspire hope for our combined ability to resolve troubling issues of the present day. Dr. Saliers will also lead our Sunday Worship on May 21. All are welcome.

In June, the Presbyterian jazz musician Bill Carter will join us for an evening concert on Sat. 24 and worship on Sunday 25. We encourage the

Placitas community to participate at LPPC, so invite your friends and neighbors.

There are two special guest artists appearing in July. On July 16, northern New Mexico musician and musicologist, Dr. Cipriano Vigil, will kick off Vacation Bible School at LPPC by teaching the children to play special cigar-box guitars. VBS is open to all children from the community.

Sat. evening July 29 nationally known musician and songwriter, Carrie Newcomer will present a special community concert. She will also present her "songline" at Sundayworship on July 30. Tickets for her concert will go on sale for our LPPC congregation on April 2 at both services.

Ana Hernandez, gifted composer, arranger and workshop facilitator will conduct workshops and worship the weekend of Aug 18-20.

Sept. 16-17 heralds the return of Pastor Henry and also the visit of his friend, famed fiddler Billy McLaughlin.

Save the dates!

Come celebrate the music in you with Las Placitas Presbyterian Church and the Placitas Community! There will be many opportunities for our congregation to volunteer to help with events and guest hosting. Watch the LPPC Bulletins and Newsletters for more events and details.

Contact Joan Chewning if you have airline points to donate or a casita or home to make available for one weekend.

jdchewning13@gmail.com cell [281-795-6775](tel:281-795-6775)

Contact Ida and Randall Benton if you want to help with event logistics. ribenton@comcast.net, home [505-867-3682](tel:505-867-3682) cell [505-228-4551](tel:505-228-4551)

Mission Committee

The Mission Committee meets four times a year - January, April, June, & November on the 4th Tuesday of the month. We have been meeting at 7 PM, but depending on the new members we could move that to earlier in the evening. We are losing a member or two & would like some new members to join us.

Our projects are/have been:

- Frontera de Cristo & Equal Exchange
- Beads for Life,
- Cuba Ministry
- Menaul School
- Lutheran Family Services Refugee & Asylee Program
- Placitas Holiday Sale
- Rebuilding Together Sandoval County
- and Presbyterian Church USA.

We look forward to what new members can bring to our committee.

"Everyone from time to time needs a little boost. If you see a turtle on a fence post, remember he/she had some help getting there."

Sue Hoff
Mission Committee Chair

Fellowship

Thanks to all who supported our February project of baking cinnamon rolls for the Sweetest Month of the Year. The committee worked very hard to have rolls for sale each Sunday in February.

Fellowship served 21 elders and deacons from St. Andrew Presbyterian for brunch and lunch as they had their training meeting at our church on Saturday, February 18. They were very appreciative and liked the space for their meeting.

Las Placitas Presbyterian Fellowship is planning a St. Patrick's Day Dinner on St. Patrick's Day to be held in:

**THE FELLOWSHIP HALL at
THE LAS PLACITAS PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

Friday, March 17, 2017

HOURS 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Donations at the door: \$10.00 per person, or \$25.00 for a family with children.

Please come and enjoy an evening of Fellowship, good food and some good Irish entertainment.

Our menu will include, chicken enchiladas with green chile, 2 sides, and dessert.

Joan Dennis
Fellowship Chair

Century of Faith

Many of you don't know what the *Century of Faith* book is all about. Suzanne Forrest, an author who was a very involved member of LPPC, was asked by Reverend Jim Anderson if she would write a book based on the 100 year history of LPPC as well as the Village of Placitas to go along with the Centennial celebration in 1994. In 2011, our administrator Cory called to let me know that we were almost out of copies of the original book, Bunny and I started down this road that we never thought would turn into such a huge project. In the beginning, we were going to send the book to a publisher who would take it apart and copy it since the original book was printed using plates. Last year, when we returned to the book in earnest, we discovered the Amazon site called CreateSpace that would let us be the publisher and CreateSpace would be the printer. We had to scan the pages using optical character reader. The good news was that we could make changes and corrections to the original book. The bad news was that all the fonts and formatting was gone – every line had a hard break that had to be deleted so the page would right justify, the Spanish accents and the endnote numbers were gone, Spanish names were switched around at random among other issues. The good news was that I got to read the book very slowly and that was a pleasure.

Then, the book went to the proofreaders who were: Ila Little, Joan Jander, Sherrill Cloud, with Sally Curro and Diane Shepard's sister Ellen, taking the chapters with lots of Spanish. Throughout the entire process, Suzanne Forrest, who is now 90 and living in Mexico, was kept in the loop via email concerning any changes or corrections. We always wanted the 2nd edition to be Suzanne's book. She is thrilled with the new, more accurate and detailed book. When Sherrill Cloud proofed her 2 chapters, she found recommended changes that affected every chapter so the review started again. From here on, Sherrill joined Bunny and I in getting this book published. Suzanne and her daughter Ilona were very involved and were the last proofers. Bunny

took on the photo sections as well as designing this beautiful new cover.

The 2nd edition contains photoshopped versions of the Founding Family photos plus some additional photos that were given to us or that Sherrill tracked down. The 2nd section of photos in the original book were not of good quality and we didn't have copies. Bunny was able to find photos of similar events to replace them. Sherrill wrote 2 timelines to help readers follow our history more clearly. Drew went off-site to a writing retreat for 3 days to compose the wonderful Afterword in the book which covers the life of LPPC from 1995 – 2016. Ken Cuthbertson wrote the bios for the pastors since Jim Anderson. Then we added a 3rd photo section to go along with the Afterword.

I can tell you for sure, this book would not be in my hands today if it wasn't for Glenn's high level IT support. He spent days working on it at times.

I think I speak for Sherrill, Bunny, and myself that we are proud of the book we have created and so glad that we were able to make sure the *Century of Faith* book is now always available.

Now for the sales pitch. Steve Chewning will have a table set up in the Fellowship Hall for the next several weeks for anyone wanting to purchase the book. The book will cost more on Amazon, but we have kept the price for you the same as it was in 1994 - \$15. We are requesting Cash Only. The profits from this book are going to our upcoming youth programs.

Hope you enjoy the book.

~ Wendy Ingram

Member Profile

Chris Baker

Chris was born in Lima, Ohio and lived there until he and Ellen moved to Placitas in 2007. Chris graduated from Ohio State with a degree in Aquatic Biology. He spent 5 years working for the public utility focusing on their water supply. He then spent the rest of his career working for Standard Oil of Ohio for 30 years. He was a Process Control Specialist. The operation he worked on ran 24/7 and Chris often worked 12 hour shifts 7 days per week in the midst of hazardous materials.

In 1975 Ellen and a friend traveled from Lima to Phoenix with a stop in Placitas so Ellen could visit with a friend. Ellen immediately fell in love with Placitas and couldn't stop talking about it with Chris when she returned home. Chris did not get a chance to see Placitas for the first time until 21 years later (1997)! It took him a while to see the beauty here since he was used to living in a green area. In 1999, Chris and Ellen built a home on Irving Blvd. in Albuquerque, which they used as their getaway. In 2004 they purchased their lot in Placitas and started building in 2006. Their home in Lima sold so quickly, Chris had to move in with his Mom to have a roof over his head. She passed away 1/1/07 and her home sold very quickly as well so Chris actually retired months before he intended to. All signs were pointing towards his living in Placitas. Ellen was supervising their home construction here and Chris moved to Placitas April 1, 2007.

Chris and Ellen met when they were in junior high school and reconnected when they were in their 20s. Chris and Ellen have 2 children. Son Dylan manages a restaurant in Grandview, Ohio. Daughter Kimberly lives in Draper, Utah and works in accounting for Granite Construction keeping track of all their equipment. She has 2 boys.

Chris's hobbies are fixing things and if there isn't anything to fix, then he will build something. He recently built a tool shed next to his house and his next project is building a ramada over their hot

tub. He is the neighborhood handyman. Chris reads a lot, is getting into cooking with soups and casseroles being his current favorites.

Their favorite vacation spots need to have water, be warm and have abundant seafood. Their favorite trip of all time was spent on the MS Paul Gauguin island hopping among the Tahitian islands. They hope to repeat that trip next year for their 40th anniversary. They prefer short trips so they aren't away from their beloved 4 dogs for too long.

In case of a fire, Chris would grab the 4 Ps: pets, papers, prescriptions and photos.

His 5 favorite things are: books, beer, ice cream, good TV and good food. What he loves about LPPC is the variety of people.

~ Wendy Ingram & Betty Closser