



The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

SEPTEMBER 2011

Teach Our Children Well

I can't count the number of times I have heard people from our congregation say, "It is great to see so many children here." I too feel the same. I also try to remind myself of a couple of quotes I've heard over the years. The first one I saw in a pew card of a congregation I was visiting one Sunday. On the very top it read, "Remember it was God who put the gift of wiggle in children." The other refrain that comes to mind says, "Our children and youth are not just the future of the church. They are the present."



As we move into the fall together, the Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young tune, *Teach Your Children Well*, pops into my head. On the one hand this has to do with the very practical ways in which we teach our children Christian education. I have yet to meet a church goer who feels that educating our children about our faith is unimportant. So I encourage you to find a way to get involved and to be supportive of our children, youth, and young adults here at Las Placitas Presbyterian Church, whether you currently have children in your home or not. These are all of our children.

On the other hand, we all know that children learn as much, or more, from adults by what we do rather than what we say. So perhaps the primary way we can teach our children well is to be attentive to how we live out our own faith as members of this church. Children learn to worship by seeing the importance we place on worship. Children learn to pray by watching us pray. Children learn to handle conflict by watching how we settle our differences. Children learn to welcome others through the ways we do the same. Children learn to be generous by seeing how we give of ourselves, our time and our financial resources.

Teach (y)our children well... feed them on your dreams... Teach (y)our children what you believe in... Make a world that we can live in.

And know they love you.

Peace, Drew

September Text & Topics

September 4 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time "**Real Presence**" Psalm 149; Matthew 18: 15-20

September 11 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time "**Forgiveness**" Psalm 114; Matthew 18: 21-35

September 18 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time "**The Last**" Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20: 1-16

September 25 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time "**The First**" Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21: 23-32

PARISH ASSOCIATE APPROVED

Pastor Drew Henry has invited Rev. Ken Cuthbertson to once again become "Parish Associate" at Las Placitas Presbyterian Church (LPPC), and Ken has agreed. The Session and the Presbytery of Santa Fe's Committee on Ministry have approved the contract, and Ken will be recognized as Parish Associate in worship on Sunday, September 4.



In the Presbyterian Church (USA) a Parish Associate is a Minister who the Pastor of a congregation invites to assist him/her within the congregation, with the consent and approval of the Session and the Presbytery. It is not a "called" or "installed" position, nor has Ken now become the "Associate Pastor" at LPPC. The relationship has to be reviewed and renewed by all parties annually, and it ends automatically if and when the Pastor leaves.

Ken will be doing pastoral back-up for Drew as needed, and will be helping with adult education and other church activities. The position is not paid, other than the usual fees for supplying the pulpit when invited. In the future it is hoped that some money can be budgeted to help with mileage, as well as with some professional expenses and study leave.

Ken served as LPPC's Parish Associate during the last couple of years of Rev. Jane Harmes' ministry here, and continued to help out on an informal basis, as invited, during the transition / interim period with Rev. Elizabeth Lyman. Ken and his life partner, Doug Calderwood, have attended LPPC since late 2003.

Welcome Ken!

**CHOIR RETURNS to worship
Service on Sunday, Sept 4th
At 9:30am!**



Following worship, Fellowship will serve a **waffle and sausage brunch**. Please bring a fruit bowl or fruit juice to share. Don't miss this wonderful occasion of worship, music, food and fellowship!

After worship, Anna H, Chair of Christian Education, will kick off the **Sunday School program** for our children. Come see what is planned. If you are interested in teaching the children this year, ask Anna how you can participate. This is a wonderful opportunity to grow with our children.

**Full Schedule begins
Sunday, September 11th**

**Alternative service at
8:30am in the Upper Room**



Adult Education Forum at 9:15am, in the Upper Room, with **"How the Bible Happened."** Ken Cuthbertson will lead a three week study using the findings of various Biblical scholars and archaeologists to look at how the Bible as we now know it came into being. Weekly topics in September include:

September 11: The Historical Moment -- looking at how the text of the Hebrew Bible began to emerge

from the stories of the ancient Israelites in the 8th century B.C.E.

September 18: Revising God -- how the understanding of the God of Israel shifted and changed over the centuries, and how the Hebrew Bible reflects that.

September 25: The Emerging New Testament -- a look at the coming together of the Christian scriptures, and some of the different perspectives represented in the various texts.

Worship service at 10:30am, with Nursery and Sunday School for children. Our children will be studying the basics of our beliefs this year and leave for Sunday School after the children's sermon.

Fellowship follows **10:30am** service each week. Volunteers sign up each Sunday to prepare coffee and snacks. Remember our refreshments should be simple and easy: chips & salsa, nuts or cookies, fresh fruit. The choice is yours. A sign-up sheet is posted on the coffee service table and directions for making coffee are posted on the cabinet in the kitchen. Contact Joan D if you have questions.

**Monday Night Adult Study
reconvenes on September 12th at
7pm**

The Monday Night Group has been meeting for about the last ten years every Monday night in the Fall and Spring. The group meets in the Upper Room from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. on Monday nights beginning after Labor Day (September 12, 2011) and breaking just before Memorial Day, with an intermediate break around the holidays.

Discussions center on books and audio-visual media exploring issues in contemporary society and religion. Topics have included: changing views of the Bible; the environment; interfaith relations; and other topics of mutual interest. We've looked at DVDs, novels, poetry, non-fiction, and occasionally had expert speakers.

This year's first meeting will focus on choosing the first topic. Several topics have already been suggested and please feel free to bring your own ideas. If you do bring a proposal, be prepared with a short synopsis of your topic.

Everyone is welcome at LPPC's lively, self-facilitated, weekly discussion group. Community and church members mix to the enrichment of all. Come ready to speak truthfully about your own opinion while respecting all opinions.

Even if you can't make it for the first meeting, feel free to join us at any point. Attendees are encouraged to purchase a copy of any book being studied, or to contribute to other materials.

Come and join us!

~Doug C, Convener-for-the-moment

Earth Care Fall Equinox Hike & Vespers—Saturday September 24th

Mark your calendar for this special event. More information to come as the day draws near.

SESSION Highlights

The Sound of Music

I dunno, I suppose it's not too early to mark your calendars for Friday, October 28th. That's when the Jim/Greer Duo performs a flute and piano recital here at LPPC from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. More information will be available as the time draws near.

Getting to Know You

Session has dedicated the second Sunday of every month as an informal meet and greet for new and prospective members and church friends. Rev. Henry and elders will gather in the Upper Room shortly after the 10:30 a.m. worship service. This is an opportunity for group conversation, a question and answer session and one on one conversation regarding all aspects of church membership. We hope to see you there!

Water, Water, Everywhere

Church member and water guru Debby B is waist deep in completing our well water chlorinating system project. An engineer will presently be engaged to submit to the New Mexico Environmental Department a certified and stamped system drawing with sign off letter. Once this documentation is approved by the State, Debby will order the chlorinating system components and award the contract for installation. In the interim,

please know that our church water is perfectly safe to enjoy.

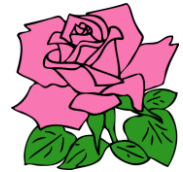
Cuba, Cuba

Deacon Jeannine P will be travelling in November with the Presbyterian Cuban Mission team to this island country. Session has just approved the establishment of a congregation triad partnership between LPPC, the Presbyterian Church in Cuba, New Mexico, the Presbytery of Santa Fe and Inglesia "Resurreccion" Sabanilla-Presbiterio de la Habana. In concert with this partnership, on September 25th, the LPPC Cuba offering will be taken. This is a great opportunity to double your donation as matching dollars will magnify your generosity for our impoverished neighbors, and now partners!

~Bill L, Clerk of Session

CASA ROSA NEWS

What a Celebration!!!



On Saturday, August 20th we celebrated Casa Rosa's 3rd Anniversary. We celebrated with food (of course, that's what we're all about), but also with music and dancing, silliness and laughter, and even a piñata. The children loved the piñata and wondered when we would have another one—maybe next Saturday?

Our celebration was an event that no one in the neighborhood could possibly miss hearing and wondering about if they didn't already know what was happening. Thanks to everyone who helped. Lots of people brought food to share. The Wild Chilis shared music from Elvis, Johnny Cash, and many others, and it sounded great! Famous guests included many of our regular volunteers and clients and friends. If you didn't join us this time, stop by on any Friday or Saturday morning and say hello, or come to our celebration next August!!

Along with all of this good news and celebration, we need to share some concerns with you as well. Our primary food source Roadrunner Food Bank of New Mexico has experienced cutbacks in available food, including commodity foods. This means that there is less food available to us, and it costs more. As always, we try to stretch every dollar as far as we can. Currently, the available meat seems to be only chicken. We are seldom able to order dairy products, and fresh produce is scarce. We supplement our Roadrunner orders with purchases

at Costco, Walmart, or wherever we can find a good, inexpensive source.

We are so grateful to the many contributions we receive from members of LPPC, and from the greater community. La Puerta Real Estate Services hosted another Ice Cream Social to benefit Casa Rosa on August 27th. We are currently in the midst of our Flower Power fundraiser. You can find brochures explaining Flower Power on the hearth in the Fellowship Hall.

***We wish to give special thanks to all of you who remember Casa Rosa in your prayers. Please excuse us when we are imperfect in properly thanking you for all of your wonderful contributions. Our clients are ever grateful for the food, clothing, and household items that you share. Those of us who volunteer are also grateful to you for your thoughtfulness, kindness and love.

~Karen F



September really should be the seventh month (September = 7), but

Julius and Augustus Caesar changed all that. So now September is our ninth month. September has changed places on the calendar, and it also represents changes of other sorts: the air is a little crisper, the sky is a little bluer, and foliage is a little more vibrant. Kids go back to school; family schedules resume a regular routine. We notice the subtle changes of moving forward into a new part of the year.

When we pause to look at nature and at our living patterns, we sense the Wonder of God's Grace in our lives. And we give thanks. Thank you, God, for the season that is past and the new one beginning. Thank you, God, for new experiences for our families, for growth in our relationships with one another, for new depth in our purposes. Thank you, God, for always being with us and for giving us awe at Your love for us.

In September at Las Placitas Presbyterian Church our Stewardship Committee is preparing for the annual campaign, which will take place in October. So please be thinking of how you can share with our church, our community, and our world, your own response to the Wonder of God's Grace.

~Janice L

MISSION News

We are making many plans for the upcoming fall season.

#1 We are excited about our member, Jeannine P, who is going to represent our church in Cuba. Please read Jeannine's report (following this one) on the upcoming trip to Cuba.

#2 The Placitas Flea Market is coming up on September 24th. We have material that we have used for the bags that we will be selling, plus the gift and wine bags and a few other items that we have collected.

#3 We are preparing for the Holiday Sale in November. Not only will we have gift and wine bags to sell we have invited Peacecraft, a fair trade organization, to come and put up a booth along with the coffee in the Fellowship Hall during the Holiday sale. We will also have some teas and chocolate products with our coffee booth.

#4 Joyce T and Nancy U along with the other sewers on the committee will be making some tote bags for the Stewardship committee to use during their campaign and then will be sold during the Holiday Sale. We also hope to quilt a banner to raffle off the first part of December.

#5 Again this year we will participate in *Gifts of Hope* which is a city-wide effort to encourage people to donate to special, worthy local agencies in the name of the people you want to give gifts to this Holiday Season. Information will be in Fellowship Hall soon.

Much is happening on our committee. Come and join us if this is of interest to you. See you all this fall

~Nancy U
Elder Mission Committee Coordinator

CUBA MISSION TRIP

Dear Friends,



On November 5, 2011, I will be leaving for Cuba. I will be going there to represent LPPC and the partnership we have developed with our sister church in Cuba—Inglesia "Resurreccion" Sabanilla-Presbiterio de la Habana. I will be

bringing items that are needed by the Cuban people. These items are listed below and will also be taped to a container box in Fellowship Hall. By donating these items you can become a part of this worthy mission.

I am grateful that Jerri F has volunteered so I can be an active part of this mission. Many changes are taking place in Cuba and I will be learning a great deal about how these are affecting the lives of our Christian friends.

Besides the items listed below we are requesting pictures of everyday life and activities at LPPC. Our intention is to make a simple scrapbook in order that our friends in Cuba may get to know us better. We would also like to include a few basic recipes. Beth Sherwood will be helping me compile all the information. If any of you have experience in this craft we can use your help. You can reach me at church at 867-5718.

God's Blessings to All,
Jeannine P

CUBA DONATIONS

Box in Fellowship Hall

(Items for adults, children, & babies)

Clothes: shirts, T-shirts, pants, skirts, dresses, sweaters, sweatshirts, etc.

Shoes: dress, athletic, sandals, etc.

Underwear: NEW only, please

Socks: all styles and sizes

Box in Church Office

(for safety reasons)

Over the counter medications: aspirin, allergy, pain, stomach, eye, etc.

Writing paper/ pads

Pencils, pens, etc.

Any other non-liquid items

MEMBER PROFILE

JUDIE H

Judie was born and raised on a dairy farm in Milbank, South Dakota. She is the youngest of ten children and has an identical twin. She graduated from South Dakota State University with a degree in Speech Theatre. Much to her parent's dismay, Judie took off with a rock and roll band after graduation. They went bankrupt in six months but in the meantime she had



met an agent and spent the following fourteen years singing professionally. Judie worked in piano bars, was a member of various bands and after the movie *Urban Cowboy* came out and country music became the rage, she put together a country band in Houston. She lived and performed in Houston for 9 years. In 1984 Judie won the *Texas Music Association Female Vocalist of the Year* award.

In 1986, Judie moved to Denver where she met Doug while performing at a dinner club. Doug was working for Motorola. After they became engaged, he was transferred to Los Angeles. Judie took this opportunity to go back to school. She earned her Master's degree in Communication Studies at Cal. State LA. They moved back to Denver in 1991 when she earned her Ph.D in Communication Studies. Doug was transferred to Albuquerque in 1996.

The first house the realtor showed them was the house they live in now. Judie started teaching at UNM in the Department of Communication and Journalism with an environmental specialty. She loves it and doesn't see retiring anytime soon. Her book, *Communication and the Natural World*, was published in the spring of last year and is currently being used in classrooms across the country.

Judie is passionate about both her careers – music and teaching. Her hobbies include: music, gardening and being an avid reader.

Judie was the National Anthem singer for the Houston Astros while living in Houston. When they played in the Astro Dome she was lip synching but when they played in Shea Stadium she was singing acappella.

Judie's favorite trip was their three week trip to China in 1989. They were there for the 1st Collegiate Chinese debate tournament. Thirty US students and thirty Chinese students participated. After their five days of competing, the rest of the time was spent in a guided tour of China – it was spectacular.

The things she wouldn't want to live without are: books, music and chocolate. Her favorite aspect of being a member of LPPC is the church community. Judie's favorite city is Prague. Judie and Doug hope to travel all through Italy someday soon.

~Wendy I

LPPC Calendar Highlights SEPTEMBER

- Sun Sept 4 Summer Worship with communion;
choir returns, 9:30am
Waffle Brunch follows service
- Mon Sept 5 LABOR DAY—Church office is
closed
- Wed Sept 7 Jardineros de Placitas, 9am-12noon
- Sun Sept 11 Full schedule begins:
Alternative service, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:30am
Worship service, Sanctuary,
10:30am (Nursery provided;
Sunday School)
Fellowship follows this service
- Mon Sept 12 Church Office open Monday-Friday,
9:am-1:00pm

Adult Study Group, 7pm,
Upper Room
- Wed Sept 14 Placitas Mobile Food Pantry
10am-12noon
- Sun Sept 18 *Alternative service*, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:30am
Worship service, Sanctuary,
10:30am (Nursery provided;
Sunday School)
Fellowship follows this service
- Sat Sept 24 Fall Equinox Vespers & Hike

Mission Flea Market, MERC
- Sun Sept 25 *Alternative service*, 8:30am
Adult Forum, 9:30am
Worship service, Sanctuary,
10:30am (Nursery provided;
Sunday School)
Fellowship follows this service

**OCTOBER newsletter deadline:
Monday, September 26th at noon**

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