



# The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

November 2016

## Stepping Up

Our Session is leading our fall campaign this year asking us all to consider the financial commitments we will make to support the mission and ministry of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church in 2017. We are each stepping up asking ourselves, "Why is it important that we give?"

Our congregation has recently stepped up committing ourselves to replace the old roofs on our Sanctuary, Fellowship Hall, and Upper Room with new, energy-efficient ones. We will also be adding photovoltaic solar panels to our building which will reduce our carbon footprint as a congregation.

Our youth ministry has been growing over the past years. This summer we sent 13 youth to Ghost Ranch and 4 senior high youth to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium. We have identified establishing a part-time youth ministry coordinator position as a priority in order to further support our youth, their families, and our congregation. Stepping up to this responsibility will require all of our support.

On November 13th, we will celebrate a Commitment Sunday to dedicate our financial pledges for the coming year. Between now and then I ask you to consider stepping up in your giving. Your generosity is critical to helping us move forward and continue to grow together in our mission and ministry. As you prayerfully plan your pledge for 2017, the Session asks you to consider three questions:

- How has God blessed you this past year?
- How are we as a congregation making a difference in people's lives and in the world?
- How do you feel God is calling you to respond to God's blessings through your giving to Las Placitas Presbyterian Church next year?

I do hope you will consider joining me in stepping up.

Thanks and Peace,  
Drew

### Sunday Worship Service

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

**November 6:** All Saints Sunday  
*The Fullness of Christ*  
Psalm 98 & Ephesians 1:11-23

**November 13:** 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
*Giving Thanks*  
Isaiah 12 & Philippians 4:4-7

**November 20:** Sunday before Thanksgiving  
*God is Good*  
Isaiah 25:6-10 & Psalm 100

**November 27:** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent  
*Wonderful Counselor*  
Isaiah 9:2-7 & Luke 2:40-52

## Adult Forum

This month we will wrap up our series on the New Testament Epistles, explore some healthy holiday cooking, take a break, and start our Advent series using Walter Brueggemann's booklet *Names For The Messiah*. The Adult Forum meets shortly after 9:15 a.m., following the early service, in the Upper Room.

November 6: **"The NT's General Letters: Wait a Minute, Mr. Postman"** from *The Bible For Dummies* - Besides Paul, the New Testament includes letters attributed to others, such as the anonymous letter to the Hebrews, the letters of James, Peter, I-III John, and Jude. Some are great, some are chatty, one is sort of strange.

November 13: **"Healthy Holiday Cooking"** presented by Health Ministries Partnership. The event begins at **9 a.m.** (not 9:15) in the LPPC kitchen.

November 20: NO CLASS - Placitas Holiday Sale

November 27: **Names for the Messiah: "Wonderful Counselor"** - As Advent begins, we begin a four week study using a booklet prepared by Hebrew Bible scholar Walter Brueggemann.

December 4: **Names for the Messiah: "Mighty God"** - The Advent study continues.

~ Rev. Kenneth Cuthbertson

## The Session

As a current session member, I am also a member of the stewardship team. As a result, I inherited a big tub of church stewardship material, collected over the past six years by Janice Langdale and "the two Nancys" - Ullery and Walker - LPPC's previous, long-running "gratitude committee."

Digging through the tub I discovered a book titled *"Stewardship Nuggets For Newsletters, Worship Bulletins and Sermons"*, I came across the following article I hope you will enjoy:

### "Wealth"

Unlike the names of Edison, Beethoven, and Carnegie, the name Hetty Green is not known to most people. During her life she was, however, the richest woman in the world.

Although she was wealthy, many would say the sick and homeless of her day were far richer. Because of her all-consuming desire for wealth, her name is virtually forgotten.

Hetty Green is listed in the *Guinness Book of World Records* as "the greatest miser." She kept a balance of \$31 million in one bank. When she died she left an estate of \$95 million.

Her consuming desire for wealth caused her to spend very little. She lived on cold oatmeal so she wouldn't have to pay for heat. Her son was forced to have his leg amputated because she refused to pay for an operation. And when she died in 1916, it was caused by apoplexy during an argument over the virtues of skim milk.

Hetty Green was certainly rich, yet she was impoverished by her attitude, values, and lack of concern for others.

Like Hetty Green, you can be poor and rich at the same time, depending on how you are living and giving.

Our offerings for God's work help us to keep our bank account perspective balanced with our life accounts, which matter far more.

~ Bill Lumm, Clerk of Session

## 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 Youth have been very busy this past month with many projects. First, our Pancake Breakfast: we say "**Thank You!**" to the congregation for all they contribute and do to help us achieve their goals.

Second, we have been selling Cheryl Farrell's delicious Apple Crumb Pies each Sunday in October and have done very well, all in a **gigantic thanks** to her!

And last, we held our Frito Pie Lunch after the main service October 9th. We send a **very special Thanks** to Carmen Douglas for her time and efforts on both the Pancake Breakfast and the Frito Pie lunch!

We began planning our Christmas Program, Hanging of the Greens, and Cookie baking. This will be on Saturday, December 3rd. Chantel Tarin will lead the Christmas Program, Sally Gosnell will do the craft project and Elizabeth and Jeff Dickson will do the cookie baking. Thanks to you all for volunteering for this special event for our children.

The Presbytery of Santa Fe is sponsoring a Retreat for our Mid High School students in November. This will take place the weekend of November the 18<sup>th</sup> - 20th. Information has been sent to the Mid High School parents. Dana Howarth has graciously agreed to chaperone our children, so **Thank You** to Dana!

~ Charmaine Lawrence

## Mission

A Reminder from the Mission Committee:

Don't forget to sign up to work a shift at the Placitas Holiday Sale November 19th and 20th.

Sign-up sheet if posted on the kiosk in the Fellowship Hall.

Thanks, Nancy Ullery

## Fellowship

Fellowship is busy preparing for the Holiday Sale in November. We have made tamales which can be purchased by contacting Joan Dennis by phone (771-2529) or e-mail ([radjdennis@comcast.net](mailto:radjdennis@comcast.net)), They are exceptional in both taste and size and can be purchased for \$12 a half dozen or \$24.00 a dozen. We can also take orders for cinnamon rolls, which we will be selling for \$15.00 a round pan, with or without icing.

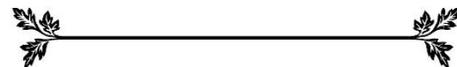
Remember all proceeds go to the yearly operating budget of the church.

~ Joan Dennis

## Deacons and Casa Rosa

The Deacons are sponsoring Thanksgiving Baskets again this year for our Casa Rosa families, a joint venture. Casa Rosa & LPPC will contribute perishable items, the turkeys are being donated, too. We count on your thoughtful generosity to supply canned items, so please help if you can. Canned goods we need: fruit, pumpkin, cranberry sauce, yams, sweet potatoes, powdered milk packets and evaporated milk.

Deacons also need your help to assemble the Thanksgiving Baskets on Friday, November 18th at 4pm and distributing them on Saturday, November 19th at 8:30am. Please call Geri Escarcida to sign up or if you have any questions - 505.867.2121.



## Member Profile

### **Dan Lawrence**

Dan was born in Sherman TX. The family moved about the state for 10 years before settling in Ft. Worth where Dan lived until his early 50s. Dan and his 2 favorite football playing friends all received scholarships to NM State in Las Cruces so all attended college there for one year before returning to TX to finish up their degrees. Dan

graduated from TCU with a business degree specializing in marketing. Dan's career focused on retailing. His first real job was with Pier One as regional manager in training. He managed a store in Tulsa before returning to the Ft. Worth home office. He became a buyer and over the next 13 years worked up to senior buyer, merchandise manager and then VP of merchandising. At age 27, Dan was traveling the world. He worked for Michaels in Dallas for 2 years and then the Bombay Company for 10 years as VP of merchandizing and SR VP of International Sourcing. When he worked for Lifestyle Furnishing Sourcing (a 2 billion \$\$ company), the family moved to Hong Kong for 3 years. They loved living there! He started slowing down after returning to Ft. Worth. He worked for an import company headquartered in El Paso from 2003-2006. After some soul searching, both Dan and Charmaine decided to leave the heat and humidity in TX for the cool mountain breeze of NM. Dan owned a manufacturing company in Albuquerque before retiring in 2015.

A friend from work in Albuquerque told him about Placitas. Dan was spending his weekends looking for a place to live. He loved it and when Charmaine came to Albuquerque, she did as well. They purchased their home in Sundance Mesa in 2007. Dan and Charmaine knew each other at TCU and over the years become reacquainted and married in 1983. They have 2 sons. Mason is a police officer in Ft. Worth, Daniel is a science teacher in Katy, TX, married, and his wife is the orchestra director at the same school.

Dan's favorite job was working for the Bombay Company because of the people working there. They worked with passion. One of Dan's passions is LPPC. His hobbies include: golf, wood working (he is currently building a workshop in his 3<sup>rd</sup> car garage), cooking on his grill, photography, dabbling in meteorology and biking.

Dan has an 8 seconds of fame to share. While in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, at the opening game of the football season when the score was tied 0-0 with only 8 seconds left in the game, the ball was on their own

1 yard line. The quarterback threw the ball to Dan who ran it 99 yards to win the game!

The person in history Dan would most like to have met is Earl Rudder. "After being called into active duty in 1941, Rudder took part in the *D-Day* landings as Commanding Officer of the United States Army's *2nd Ranger Battalion*. His *U.S. Army Rangers* stormed the beach at *Pointe du Hoc*, scaling 100-foot (30 meter) cliffs under enemy fire to reach and destroy *German* gun batteries. The battalion's casualty rate for this perilous mission was greater than 50 percent. Rudder himself was wounded twice during the course of the fighting. In spite of this, they dug in and fought off German counter-attacks for two days until relieved. He and his men helped to successfully establish a beachhead for the Allied forces. The siege was replicated in the 1962 epic film *The Longest Day*. (Wikipedia) Earl went on to become a general and the president of Texas A&M. Earl is from Charmaine's hometown of Brady, TX and Charmaine's Dad actually delivered Earl's children.

Dan has traveled almost everywhere, although most trips were for business. He found India to be the most interesting. One memorable village was called Moradabad where they made metal products. His travel bucket list includes: Australia, New Zealand and Normandy.

Dan is not attached to anything so in a fire he would only grab Charmaine, and he doesn't have 5 favorite things he couldn't live without.

As for LPPC, he finds wonderful spirituality, enjoys the diversity, the ability to pursue one's own spirituality, and listening to Pastor Drew's messages.

In 1981 Dan ran in the Boston Marathon. He happened to be watching the previous year's run on TV and thought he could do it. He immediately went outside and ran 6 miles – and suffered for it! He joined a marathon clinic, qualified, and achieved his goal the following year!

~ Betty Closser & Wendy Ingram