



The News of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

APRIL 2010

Upcoming Worship Highlights

Youth Sunday – April 11 – Our Senior High youth will be leading worship during our 10:30 service. They will be sharing their Ghost Ranch retreat experiences. This is always a moving service. Come out and support our youth!

Earth Sabbath Sunday – April 18 – Come join us for a special morning as we re-commit ourselves to our Earth care covenant and celebrate the joys of God's creation. There will be a special service at 10:30am with a renewal of baptismal vows and an honoring of those who have been in the forefront of our commitment to earth care. Start the day with a special Adult Forum (9:15am) on the global meeting on climate change that took place last fall. Sister Joan Brown, OSF, attended this meeting and will share her experiences and insights.

Continue your celebration of earth week with...

Make a Joyful Noise for Holy Mother Earth Day Wednesday, April 21, 7 pm, Sacred Earth Music Celebration, St. Luke Lutheran, 9100 Menaul NE, Albuquerque. The Sacred Earth Concert will include musicians and vocalists of all ages. Event is a celebration and fundraiser for New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light for those who can afford a free will donation.

Fellowship News

Navajo Taco Dinner scheduled for Saturday, May 1, 5:00-7:30pm
Come and enjoy good food and fellowship at this annual event at LPPC. Elise D will make her famous red chili and Vivian D will be making her fabulous sopaipillas. In addition to great food, the evening includes entertainment, a bake sale and a silent auction. Tickets are \$8.00 pre-sale (available in the office) or \$10.00 at the door.

Volunteers are needed to bring baked goods for the Navajo Taco Dinner on either April

30 or May 1 to the LPPC kitchen. Please individually wrap your baked items so they are ready for sale.

Donations are needed for the Silent Auction which will also be held during the dinner. Items to consider include: jewelry, pottery, paintings, or clever ideas of your own that would be good auction items. Contact Joan D after April 14. A procedure for dropping items off will be published in the bulletin later in the month.

Mission News

Rebuilding Together Sandoval County are doing projects in Bernalillo, Rio Rancho, and Corrales for their National Rebuilding Together, weekend of April 23 & 24, 8-5 each day. They will be doing carpentry, drywall with tape and texture, painting, exterior cleanup, and miscellaneous repair work. If interested, please sign up at the kiosk at the church. Contact Terry S, Mission Committee, through the church office with any questions. Thank you for volunteering!!!



Habitat for Humanity will schedule a work day in August or September on the Habitat house.

Nearly 500 Gift and Wine Bags have been made to market to wineries, venues during Placitas Appreciation Day, Flea Markets and the Mother's Day Studio Tour. Yeah Sewers!

Annual Quilt Raffle is in progress—the quilt is almost done and tickets will be available soon.

Serrv Products will be for sale on Easter Sunday at reduced prices and later in August as well.

Christian Education News

We have had a successful year with our young people. We have been using curriculum on what it means to follow Jesus. We will start a new study



called “Talking with God – Teaching Children to Pray,” in the next few weeks. We will be giving Bibles to our upper elementary students on a Sunday in May during worship. We will also recognize our graduates, Jackson D and Zach M.

We are planning a **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** for a weekend in June this year. Geri E will be handing out surveys the next few Sundays to get your input on when would be the best time. We really need to get a lot of children involved for VBS to be a success and we are asking for your input!

Youth Fellowship News

Our senior highs had a great time at the lock-in with Pastor Elizabeth last weekend. They planned youth Sunday worship, talked about their service project, sorted See's Candy orders, ate a lot of food and stayed up really late. It was a good experience for everyone. The senior highs will be collecting materials for the baby care and health care kits for Church World Service until the end of April. Look for the list of materials on our web site.

Thanks to Dana H and Jody W for putting up an **LPPC Facebook** page. More to come....



Adult Forum – Sundays at 9:15am

The Adult Forum will resume on April 18 with a presentation from Sister Joan. On April 25, Joy P will begin leading the forums as we continue to explore the material from the “Living the Questions” curriculum.

Monday Night Group is reading Philip Newell's book, *Christ of the Celts*. Join us for lively discussions every Monday evening in the Upper Room at 7pm.

Stewardship at LPPC

Stressing that stewardship is more than raising money to support the church, the members of Session are leading an integrated long term plan to address the role of LPPC within the community. Led by the results of the Mission Task Force, we are focusing on innovative ways we can marshal our resources (time, talents, financial, emotional, intellectual, etc.) to more effectively serve our mission in Placitas. You will be hearing a LOT more about this as our plans develop, but some examples are: a workshop to help the community address ways to live in the 'new normal' of our economy; exploration of marketing tools to advertise our programs to the larger community

and seek its support; fund raisers focused on specific interests of the community and the congregation (auctions, book fairs, dinners, etc.); and ways to donate to specific needs of the church.

For instance, the Mission committee has committed to raise all the funds for their projects (rather than have them funded from the operating budget) through quilt raffles, SERV goods, wine bags, etc. Casa Rosa has also committed to raising the funds needed to support their programs. Janice L, Nancy U and Jerri F have volunteered to lead and coordinate these efforts—and we welcome your suggestions and support.

Deacon's Shepherd List

Our Deacons have now become shepherds! At the last Deacon meeting every member and friend of the church was assigned a Deacon to be their shepherd. This Deacon will call every family about once a quarter just to see how everyone is doing and to see if there are any concerns that the Deacons or the pastor might address. This will be a great way for our congregation to be more in touch with each other.



HOW CAN YOU HELP CASA ROSA?

Facilitated by Sandoval County Civitan, Flying Star Café in

Bernalillo has offered to hold a fundraising evening to benefit Casa Rosa Food Bank in Placitas. On April 19, Flying Star Café in Bernalillo will donate 10% of the proceeds earned between 5 and 9 pm to Casa Rosa. Please help to pass the word about the upcoming fundraising evening and be sure to show up to enjoy a meal with friends while benefiting the food bank. (See second article about this fundraiser later in the newsletter.)

That same night, Casa Rosa, as a continuation of its own fundraising efforts, will be selling its 'back by popular demand' Lucinda Pins from the Women series and the Adobe House series at the entrance to Flying Star.

The latest event benefiting Casa Rosa was a Flea Market, conceived by Lynn K, and sponsored by La Puerta Realty on Saturday, February 27. La Puerta presented the proceeds of \$1,000 from the Flea Market to Casa Rosa. It was a huge effort on everybody's part and a concerted community effort. Thanks to all those who donated items for this event; thanks to the volunteers who helped sort and

price the items and thanks to all of the La Puerta Associates for managing the flea market and sponsoring the event.

Casa Rosa Food Bank has truly become a community effort since it came into existence in August 2008. Both businesses and individuals in the community have recognized that there are those who have been taken down by their circumstances and need a helping hand to give them positive support in their struggles. In response, Placiteños have proved that they are willing to offer that helping hand to those who have less.

As the economic recession continues, the problem of hunger grows all across America. At Casa Rosa Food Bank each week we have between one and three new families signing up for food assistance. Presently over 130 families participate in The Emergency Food Assistance Program at Casa Rosa. This includes 205 adults and 113 children for a total of 318 people. Thirty-five percent of our clients are children. Some of the consumers are retired, some are on disability; and others are waiting for jobs to return, new opportunities to become available, or for their economic status to improve.

As the recession continues, things are not coming around as quickly as hoped and bread winners are not able to feed their families and meet other life needs, so they decide to come and partake of what is offered at the food bank. We are indeed fortunate to continue receiving the support of member and friends of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church as well as individuals and surrounding businesses. In addition, clients who have received a helping hand from Casa Rosa come back to volunteer to pay back to the cause.

On Wednesday, March 10, Casa Rosa Mobile Food Pantry (MFP) distributed 2500 pounds of food to 80 families within Sandoval County. The day was muddy and snowy but everyone was in good spirits and fellowship was good. The next Casa Rosa MFP is scheduled for April 14, with distribution 10 am to noon in the Fellowship Hall of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church. A Roadrunner truck will deliver another 2500 pounds of food.

To sponsor one of these Mobile Food Pantries contact Charlotte L or the Church Administrator at Las Placitas Presbyterian Church, 867-5718. The cost is an amazingly reasonable price of \$100, which allows the food bank to purchase the

equivalent of \$900 worth of food. MFPs are scheduled for the remainder of the year on the second Wednesday of each month. Watch the Community Calendar for specific dates. All eligible Sandoval County residents are welcome.

On Saturday, April 17, Casa Rosa is scheduled to have its second feedback event with consumers. Prior to this session the volunteer staff will elicit written feedback from the clients and use this as a basis for an open discussion. On that Saturday, distribution will be from 9:00-11:00 and the feedback session will be held at Casa Rosa from 11:30 to 1:30 with snacks and a light lunch.

Casa Rosa's first Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 27 at 7:00 pm and is an open meeting held in the Upper Room of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church. Anyone who is interested in learning more about Casa Rosa or has constructive input for the board is welcome to attend. The board and officers will be presented.

It is shaping up to be a busy time as we move into spring with numerous events planned. The volunteer staff continues to work on improvement of the facility and organization of services offered. The volunteers and consumers are appreciative of all the donations that have been made whether monetary, food, or precious hours of time. Thank you to everyone for assisting Casa Rosa in becoming truly a community effort.

~Vivian D, Treasurer, Casa Rosa Food Bank

MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

Vivian G. D.

Vivian was born in the Albuquerque Osteopathic Hospital and came back to her parent's home in the village of Placitas. Her parents at that time lived in the house that is now a ruin next door to our church. She is an only child. Her mother was Christine Baros daughter of Juan Baros, one of the charter members, an elder and an early minister of LPPC. Her father was Max Lucero Gonzales. Max was a wood carver all of his life and a great gardener. He came from the original 21 families that settled in Placitas.

When Vivian was three they moved to Bernalillo where her father took care of a farm for the Silva family. Times were very hard there and so they moved to Albuquerque. Her father found a job at the Valley Gold Dairies and worked there for three



years. Vivian learned to read Spanish before she started school. Her parents spoke English but her grandparents only Spanish. Vivian started school in Albuquerque at Mountain View Elementary. When Vivian was seven they moved back to Placitas. This time her father was hired by Sandia laboratories as a custodian. Vivian continued to go to school in Placitas. She attended elementary school at the same school that Willie A did. There were two teachers at the school. Ms. Frances Baca taught pre-first, first, second and third grades in one room and Mr. Benito Baca (Frances' brother) taught fourth, fifth and sixth grades in the other room. Mr. Baca was also the Principal.

Much earlier another school building existed between the now San Antonio Social Hall and the San Antonio Catholic Church. The school had a seventh and eighth grade. There had been a library there when the old coal room was dismantled. Vivian was on the library board at that time. She had already graduated from high school. In years to come the library would move to a mobile classroom at the Placitas Elementary School. When the old school building was no longer a school, the building was used for parties and dances and eventually was torn down. Vivian attended junior high and high school in Bernalillo. The high school was where the middle school is today.

Charlie lived down the street and across the village from Vivian. Vivian was a freshman in high school and Charlie a senior when they fell in love. They dated for six years before they got married. Charlie graduated and went on to a TV electrician trade school. For awhile Charlie and Bert Delara owned and ran their own television repair shop in Bernalillo. Vivian graduated and went to school at TVI and was the valedictorian of the very first graduating class there.

Vivian and Charlie were married in the Upper Room on March 23, 1968. Reverend Jose Inez Candelaria officiated. Unfortunately Reverend Candelaria had forgotten his wedding book and had to drive all the way back to Albuquerque to retrieve it. Vivian was fine at home but Charlie had a church full of guests to deal with for one and a half hours.

The night before the wedding Vivian and her three sister in laws, Vivian, Virginia and Rosemary D came together to clean the church. They needed brooms and other cleaning supplies which were kept in the basement. There was a complete renovation of the basement going on at that time. The steps into the basement had been removed

along with the cement flooring. There was basically a tamped dirt floor and no supporting beams. They knew someone had to jump into the basement to get the supplies, and Rosemary volunteered. The girls were unaware that the workers slept in the basement at night and when Rosemary was just about to jump into the basement the men made horrifying ghostly noises to scare them. Well, scare them it did and they scrambled up and out the outside basement steps. When they realized they were just the workers, they collapsed laughing. The three sisters in laws were quicker than Vivian and they scrambled over her causing a few scratches on the bride to be. Fortunately she wore gloves at the wedding and they didn't show.

They moved to Albuquerque when she started working as a secretary at the main office of Home Education Livelihood Program (HELP). This program was geared to help all the small towns in Northern New Mexico. The Albuquerque living lasted only six months and they moved back home to Placitas.

Charlie's Uncle Max and aunt Esther built and lived in what is now Casa Rosa until they died. Vivian has been trying to get their children Annette and Max to come and see what wonderful things are happening in their parent's home. They both live in Albuquerque.

Vivian has worked as a substitute teacher for the public schools. For five years she worked as an Elder Care person for clients in their homes. She worked at Chili Hill tending the store and packaging powdered chili and making red chili ristras to sell. She also made Chili Peanut Brittle in our church to sell at the Chili Hill store. She worked in the Bingo Palace at Sandia Casino for a few years. At Bien Mur she was manager of the cigarette shop. Vivian cleaned homes for a few years. She even delivered phone books for awhile. Her last job was at the Attorney General's office as receptionist. Vivian was a Jane of All Trades. Vivian and Charlie retired in 1999. Charlie worked for the gas company for 35 years.



Their son Dean graduated from Menaul High School in 1991 and joined the Navy right after graduating. He got married in 2000. He has two stepdaughters and two granddaughters. At the present time he is stationed in Iraq. He works for Army Intelligence. He is coming home in May and plans to retire from the military.

Vivian enjoys fishing and used to hunt. They spend time at Blue Water where they have a cabin. She has always enjoyed camping with friends and family. She would like to get back to her oil painting hobby. Much of Vivian's time is spent as secretary of the San Antonio de Las Huertas Land Grant Association.

The person in history who most made an impression on Vivian was President John Kennedy. She saw him in a parade in Albuquerque when she was in high school and thought he was terribly handsome. His strong will, his family and his faith were very much admired. He was assassinated when Vivian was in high school.

She would like to go to Spain to see if any of her family descendants exist and to see where they live. The archives in Spain should be fascinating for families like Vivian's. She would also like to research original documents for the San Antonio de Las Huertas Land Grant. Charlie and Vivian come from the original founding families of Placitas. The land grant was granted by the King of Spain in 1765.

One thing she wished she had done when she was younger was to white water raft the Rio Grande down from Taos. Her favorite things include dark chocolate, green and red chili and rainy days.

Her favorite part about attending LPPC is having a place at the end of the week where she can come and leave her problems and concerns. Although she never knew her grandfather, he died before she was born, it is very comforting to know that her grandfather preached there and sometimes she even feels his presence there. Some Sundays she can see her mother in the pew where she used to sit and also her Aunt Barbarita. They were so much a part of the church. Uncles and aunts and cousins that she never knew but heard many stories about, are also nice memories.

Interesting stories about Vivian during her youth: Reverend Jose Candelaria baptized both Vivian and Charles in the Upper Room. When Vivian was only six months she crawled her way to where Rev. Candelaria was preaching and he picked her up and held her for the duration of the service. When she was three she started singing for the congregation in Spanish. Her whole life has been centered in and around this wonderful church.

(Betty C & Wendy I)

Meet Sallie Watson, Our New Regional Presbyter/Stated Clerk



Sallie will begin work with the Presbyteries of Santa Fe and Sierra Blanca on April 1 as our new regional Presbyter.

Sallie is a native of Dallas and a lifelong Presbyterian, who grew up in the Oak Cliff Presbyterian Church of Dallas. She received her Bachelor's degree from Austin College in 1978, with a major in English and minor in music. After a brief stint in advertising where she worked for the *Dallas Times Herald* and two advertising agencies, Sallie discerned the call to ministry and entered Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, where she earned the Master of Divinity degree in 1987.

In 2007 Sallie earned the Doctor of Ministry degree from McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, where she studied preaching with the Association of Chicago Theological Schools. Her thesis is titled "Preaching in Fallow Time: Nurturing Deep-Rooted Growth Through Word and Sacrament."

Sallie has served a number of churches in Texas, California and Utah in both called and interim positions as a student intern, Associate Pastor, and Pastor. Most recently she served as Interim General Presbyter for the Presbytery of Arkansas. She has held various positions of leadership at all levels of the PC(USA). Sallie is a former President of the Austin College Alumni Association, and has been a contributing editor for Presbyterian Outlook magazine. As a commissioner to the 1998 General Assembly in Charlotte, she served as Vice-Moderator of the Stewardship and Funding committee. While living in Austin she moderated the Committee on Preparation for Ministry of Mission Presbytery and served as adjunct professor for pastoral ministry at Austin Seminary. In Grace Presbytery she served as Moderator of the Committee on Ministry, Moderator of the Interim General Presbyter Search Committee, and Vice-Moderator of the Mission Review Task Force.

In her "spare time," Sallie serves on the Board of Trustees for Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. Sallie and her husband Paul are the proud, happy and exhausted parents of two children, Alex (12) and Meredith (10). In between carpool runs Sallie enjoys genealogy, quilting, music, writing, entertaining, and keeping up with

friends and family. She is also eagerly anticipating a trip to Cuba with several leaders from the PC (USA) in March, where she will preach in a local church and present a paper on "The Mission of the American Church Today from a Woman's Perspective."

Support the Casa Rosa Food Bank Fundraiser Dinner!



Attached with this newsletter is a copy of the flyer that promotes the fundraising evening at Flying Star Bernalillo for Casa Rosa. Please pass on this flyer by emailing it to your local contacts so that we can generate a big turnout that night. If you have suggestions for where this flyer could be posted in the Placitas area, please let Charlotte know, as she has extra copies of the flyer that were printed by Flying Star Corporate. (Places we are intending to post the flyer include the Placitas Post Office, the Merc and any other businesses in that shopping center that will permit it, and La Puerta.)

Charlotte also has about 300 copies from Flying Star Corporate of a hand bill (size 4 1/2 by 5 1/2) that promotes the fundraising dinner, and a stack of those will be available at La Puerta and LPPC.

We are focusing on advertising the fundraising dinner primarily in the Placitas area, since there are other food banks in Bernalillo and Rio Rancho.

April Calendar Highlights

- 4 Easter Sunday**
6:30 - Sunrise Service
8:15am - Contemplative Service
10:30am – Traditional Worship
11:30 – Ham Dinner & Fellowship
- 7** Women's Prayer Circle, 7:30pm
- 11** Youth lead worship
- 14** Mobile Food Pantry, 10 am-12 noon
Women's Bible Study, 10:00–11:30 am
- 17** Casa Rosa feedback event,
11:30am–1:30 pm
- 18** Earth Sabbath Celebration
- 21** Women's Prayer Circle, 7:30pm
- 27** Casa Rosa Annual Meeting, 7:00pm
- 28** Women's Bible Study, 10:00-11:30am

***May newsletter deadline:
Wednesday, April 28th, noon***

Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

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