



# The News of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

## February 2010

### Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent at Las Placitas Church.

Please join us for worship in the Upper Room at 7:30 on February 17. The service will include the imposition of ashes. Ashes are the traditional sign of sorrow and repentance. Receiving the ashes reminds us that God's love is triumphant over all sorrows, even death.

**Ash Wednesday** is the first day of Lent, the 40 days that precedes Holy Week and Easter. In the Christian Scriptures the number 40 relates to the period spent in the Ark by Noah, the period spent by Israel seeking the Promised Land after the Exodus, and the amount of time Jesus was in the Wilderness after his baptism and prior to beginning his ministry. For us, the Season of Lent is an invitation to 40 days of renewal ("Lent" means "spring"), 40 days to prepare ourselves to take in the Good News of Easter. The three traditional practices to be taken up for renewal during Lent are prayer (justice towards God), fasting (justice towards self), and almsgiving (justice towards neighbor). Today, people give up something they enjoy, add something that will bring them closer to God, and often give the time or money spent doing that to the church or other organizations.



**New members** will be received on February 14<sup>th</sup> in 10:30am worship service. Join us in welcoming Bethanne B and Karen M to our Las Placitas family. We will also ordain Beth S as a Deacon on that day.

### Library Dedication, February 21 during 10:30 worship

If you haven't wandered down the hall of the addition to see our library, you have missed something special. Emmet T has done an extraordinary job of cataloging books, magazines and DVD's for all of us to use. There is also a computer there with internet access, an additional copier and a comfortable place to sit and look through our wide variety of books. On Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> we will dedicate this new space and thank Emmet for all his hard work.

### Heritage Sunday, February 28

Join us as we celebrate our 116<sup>th</sup> birthday during our 10:30 service.

### Monday Adult Study

This winter, the group is reading and discussing, *The Great Emergence: How Christianity Is Changing and Why* by Phyllis Tickle. Join us at 7pm every Monday in the Upper Room.

### Women's Bible Study—February 10 & 24 at 10am

We are discussing the book, *Back to the Well (Women's Encounters with Jesus in the Gospels)* by Frances Taylor Gench. This group is lead by Pastor Elizabeth. All women are welcome!

### "Learning Forgiveness"—A Lenten Bible Study during Adult Forum

Pastor Elizabeth will be leading a five part study on the nature of forgiveness during our Adult Forum on Sundays during Lent at 9:15am.

Session One-Feb 21: The goal of this session is to welcome participants and encourage them to begin reflecting on forgiveness in relation to human community. Parables and folk tales are used to illustrate challenges faced by the need to forgive—and to be forgiven. This session addresses awareness, acknowledgment, and confession as the foundation for seeking and receiving forgiveness. Self-examination allows us to look more objectively at our urge to judge others.

Session Two-Feb 28: In this session we'll learn to identify some of our external and internal enemies and begin to move toward loving them. When we begin to see ourselves standing with those who have fallen into the seduction of sin, it casts a whole new light on what it means to pray for our enemies.

Session Three-March 7: The goals of this session are to identify at least one thing for which we need forgiveness and to seek both God's forgiveness and that of any person(s) affected by our offense. We'll consider how to reconcile divine judgment

with divine love as we explore the deeper spirit of repentance, one of the key practices of Lent.

Session Four-March 14: The sense in most New Testament teachings is that forgiving others is imperative—not optional. What if we can't forgive? Or we're simply not ready to forgive? This session uses touching stories of forgiveness to illuminate these challenging themes.

Session Five-March 2: Many people believe that forgiveness is not possible without repentance, and that to offer forgiveness before repentance is a travesty of just, accountable relationships. But what of Jesus' willingness to forgive on the cross? Can we reverse the conventional relationship between repentance and forgiveness?

### Christian Education

Our children are using a new curriculum about ways our children can follow Jesus. It is exciting for both our students and teachers. We are also adding a Bible time to our nursery care during worship. Please support our Christian Education program by bringing your children every Sunday. We are considering offering a Vacation Bible School during the first week of June. Look for more information in upcoming newsletters.



### First Sunday Youth plan Valentines Day party at Pat & Tom L's on February 14

Come and join us for a fun afternoon. We will discuss the upcoming Ghost Ranch retreat, the Church World Service kit project and the Easter sale of See's candies. Come and join us for good food, games and fellowship.

### Youth to coordinate the donations of emergency kits for Church World Service

There is an overwhelming need for these supplies and Church World Service, one of the organizations supported by the Presbyterian Church has put out a call to all churches to help. This is a way that you can provide assistance in something more tangible than just a check. Watch for boxes in Fellowship Hall to collect these items. Church World Service Kits are simple, small, things, and having or not having them can make a world of difference in disaster areas. Because kits must be the same, please follow exactly the instructions presented here. The contents of each kit have been selected with care based on years of experience to make them as useful as possible.

We will collect these kits until the end of March and ship them at that time.

### Hygiene Kit

- One hand towel measuring approximately 16" x 28" (no fingertip or bath towels)
- One washcloth
- One wide-tooth comb
- One nail clipper
- One bar of soap (bath size in wrapper)
- One toothbrush (in original packaging)
- Six standard size Band-aids®

*Place all items in a one-gallon plastic bag with a zipper closure, remove excess air from bag, and seal. Please do not add toothpaste to the Hygiene Kit. Cartons of toothpaste that have an extended expiration date will be added to Hygiene Kit shipments just prior to shipment.*

### Baby Care Kit

- Six cloth diapers
- Two T-shirts or undershirts (no onesies)
- Two washcloths
- Two gowns or sleepers (If you wish to make these, there are patterns at the following website: [churchworldservice.org](http://churchworldservice.org).)
- Two diaper pins
- One sweater or sweatshirt—can be hand-knitted or crocheted. (There are patterns at [churchworldservice.org](http://churchworldservice.org).)
- Two receiving blankets (one can be a hand-knitted or crocheted baby blanket)

*Items must be new and under 12 months in size.*

*Wrap items inside one of the receiving blankets and secure with both diaper pins.*

### THE SWEETEST MONTH OF THE YEAR

The Fellowship committee wants to invite all the congregation to celebrate the month of February, as "The Sweetest Month of the Year" by purchasing Cheryl's homemade yeast rolls during the Fellowship Hour to help Fellowship earn enough money to purchase a reverse osmosis (water purification) unit for the kitchen, a new coffee pot after we get our water fixed and a new heavy duty mixer.

Sweet rolls and coffee will be available for \$1.00 each Sunday in February. You may also order rolls for \$10.00 per dozen. All proceeds will go toward the purchase of the much needed equipment. We want to thank Cheryl and Jack Ferrell for all their time and their contribution of equipment and supplies.

## CASA ROSA INCREASES FREQUENCY OF MOBILE FOOD PANTRIES



As the need for food and other goods has increased and the consumer base has continued to grow at Casa Rosa, the board made a decision to increase the frequency of the Mobile Food Pantries. In the past, these events were scheduled every other month. Beginning in January a Mobile Food Pantry (MFP) is scheduled each month through July. The January 20<sup>th</sup> MFP distributed food to forty-two families—73 adults and 42 children were served.

In February the MFP is scheduled for Thursday, February 11, with distribution from 2:00-4:00 pm. March, April, May, June and July Pantries are scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month, with distribution 10:00 am to noon. More Pantries will be scheduled as we move into spring.

For a Mobile Food Pantry a Roadrunner truck delivers 2500 pounds of food for \$100 or less, an incredible bargain for that amount of food! We never know exactly what will arrive on the truck, but it may include cereals, crackers, beans, peanut butter, canned meats, canned fruit, breads, frozen meats, dairy products, fresh eggs, bottled water, and 30-40% seasonal produce. The amount of food delivered allows approximately 50 pounds of food per family. These monthly events are open to all eligible Sandoval County residents while the Saturday morning food bank is for Placitas residents only.

Due to the tremendously generous response of LPPC members/friends and community members a number of these Pantries have already been funded. If you are interested in sponsoring a Mobile Food Pantry in the future please contact the church office at 867-5718 or Charlotte L and indicate that you want to sponsor a Mobile Food Pantry. Checks should be made out to LPPC; note, 'Casa Rosa—MFP' on the memo line. Please address mailed checks to LPPC, P.O. Box 768, Placitas, NM 87043, or hand carry to the church office at 7 Paseo de San Antonio, Monday-Friday, 9:00-1:00. There is an acknowledgment board at each Pantry noting the sponsor for the event, unless you wish to remain anonymous. In this case we would simply note "A resident of Placitas" or "A couple who reside in Placitas."

As we continue into the winter with especially cold nights, a number of the Casa Rosa clients have difficulty staying warm in their homes. If you have

comforters, blankets, afghans, or throws in good condition and not in use at your house, they would be gratefully accepted at Casa Rosa.

Ongoing through the winter months is the "Coats for Casa Rosa" project. If you have gently used coats, jackets, sweaters, scarves, hats or gloves that you no longer need, they may be dropped off at LPPC, Monday-Friday, 9:00-1:00; La Puerta Realty or La Bonne Vie Beauty Shop & Spa, Monday-Saturday, 9:00-5:00; or Casa Rosa Food Bank, Saturday, 8:30-noon.

Give thought to participating in the "Rubber Band project." Many people donate specific goods that are not readily available from Roadrunner Food Bank. For the foods that **are** available, Casa Rosa is able to order \$9 dollars worth of food for every \$1 donated. Therefore, rubber bands are available for your convenience to attach a \$1 bill (or other bill) to a canned or packaged item being donated to Casa Rosa. The rubber bands are located in a yellow bag on the bulletin board across from the office at LPPC. These seemingly small donations add up and will assist Casa Rosa in remaining sustainable and continuing on with its vision of providing "A Helping Hand for Placitas." Thank you to all who choose to participate in this way.

Casa Rosa also processes furniture and these items are very much appreciated by the clients. Since there is no room at Casa Rosa for larger pieces of furniture here is how you can donate items:

- ~Contact Charlotte or the office (867-5718).
- ~A descriptive flyer of your items will be posted at Casa Rosa.
- ~Clients leave their contact information for items in which they are interested.
- ~Charlotte contacts the donor with interested person's information.
- ~Donor contacts client to make arrangements for pick-up.
- ~The client must have access to a vehicle to move the items.
- ~Tax forms are available to the donor upon request.

All furniture that has been handled this way has been taken in less than two weeks.

For ongoing fundraising in the New Year an additional order of pins from *Designs by Lucinda* has been placed. The majority of pins ordered are "Women" pins with some "Adobe House" pins. In the spring the effort will focus on Easter gifts in

early April and Mother's Day gifts in early May. This is truly the "gift that gives twice" as you give a gift to a loved one or yourself and you give a gift of food to Casa Rosa consumers. The profit from each pin allows Casa Rosa to provide approximately thirteen meals for consumers at the food bank.

Many thanks to all who have chosen to donate to Casa Rosa, whether monetarily, by donating specific goods, by cleaning out your closets and linen cupboards, donating household goods or furniture, or by volunteering precious hours of your time. Everything that anyone has done has helped Casa Rosa to move forward with its mission and vision of assisting the Village and surrounding community of Placitas.

## Meet our Members!

### SALLY C



Sally was born in McNary, Arizona, along with her twin brother, John. McNary was a small lumber company town located on the Apache reservation. Sally's grandfather was James McNary. Sally lived there until she was 6 years old when the family moved to Albuquerque for business reasons.

Sally graduated from Valley High School in Albuquerque and spent one year at the University of Arizona in Tucson. She finished up her undergraduate years at Scripps College in Claremont, California. She graduated with a degree in Latin American Studies and the honor of Phi Beta Kappa. She wrote instructional programs for corporations in California and in the DC area for 4 years.

Sally and Jack met on the last day of her senior year on a blind date. They married in 1967. They have two children, a son, Nicholas who is a physics professor and lives in California with his family and two children. Their daughter, Julia H, is a graduate in biology and lives with her husband, a hydrology professor, in North Carolina with their four children, two of which are recently born twins, one boy and one girl (just like their grandmother, Sally).

Sally and Jack were the first couple to be married in New Mexico by a Catholic priest in a Presbyterian Church. This was written up on the front page of the *Albuquerque Tribune*.

Sally's Presbyterian roots go way back. Her Great Grandfather was a Presbyterian minister, who himself had Presbyterian roots in Scotland.

After Jack received his PhD in materials science at CalTech, they moved to the East Coast (DC Area) for a year while Jack worked as a "post doc" at the University of Maryland. They moved to the Albuquerque area in 1970 when Jack began working at Sandia Labs.

In 1971 they moved to Placitas—an interesting story. When Sally grew up in Albuquerque, Byrdis Danfelter taught her piano for many years. They remained in contact over the years and as it turned out, Byrdis lived in Placitas. So, when Sally and Jack visited her, she had a house for them to look at and they loved it, bought it, moved in and have enjoyed their life in Placitas ever since.

When Sally's son was 4 four months old, Byrdis Danfelter encouraged Sally to become a piano teacher in Placitas, which she did and taught for 30 years. Sally taught and loved it so much she decided to return to school at UNM to earn her Bachelor of Music degree. She did so while still teaching piano and raising her children. Needless to say, Sally's favorite job was teaching the piano.

Another story of Byrdis involved Sally playing the piano for LPPC in the Upper Room. Byrdis played the piano for services until she decided she needed a break. She asked Sally to fill in. Sally became the volunteer choir director and pianist at LPPC for 30 years! Byrdis Danfelter used to hold musicales in her home. This became, in Sally's mind, one of the inspirations for the Placitas Artists Series (PAS).



Sally was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque from childhood until someone asked her to join LPPC. It was after Jim Anderson arrived that she was asked.

The piano that is in the Sanctuary of LPPC was given in memory of Sally's mother, Ruth McNary Warren.

Sally's favorite hobbies and passions now are her involvement with PAS, hiking, cross-country skiing, knitting, going to their cabin in Pinetop, Arizona at least once a month, cooking and playing the piano. Sally would love to visit and explore areas in Spain.

Sally's 15 minutes of fame came when she was invited to play the harmonium at the PAS concert in March of 2000. (The harmonium is a small pump organ that was played by her grandmother in the little church in McNary.)

One person Sally would love to meet would be her Great-Grandmother Sarah Raynolds. She was a Mt Holyoke graduate before marrying and moving to Las Vegas, NM, in the 1880's and was very adventurous. She traveled the world—she traveled to Morocco when she was 81! Sally has read her letters and has her diary—sounds like it would make a very interesting book.

Sally's mother was born in Las Vegas, NM when it was the commercial center in the early 1900's due to the railroad. Her family was in banking there. Sally's family was very involved with the Presbyterian Church in Las Vegas. Her grandfather was choir director and her grandmother was the accompanist.

Five favorite things Sally could not do without are sunshine, being outside, music (participating or listening), coffee and the Internet.

Sally likes to attend LPPC because she feels a connection to God and a connection to fellow believers.

Living in the Village of Placitas, Sally remembers the party lines of the telephone system and how you were charged for long distance calls to Albuquerque.

~Wendy I & Betty C

#### Note from Wendy Ingram:

*I would like to thank you all for your care and support while I go through this difficult time in my life. It has meant the world to me. I am so glad I have you all in my life right now.*



Look for directory updates in the coming week. Also watch for the list of LPPC Officers and Leaders for 2010. They will be sent electronically. Hard copies will also be available in Fellowship Hall.

**Reminder:** The LPPC directory is for the exclusive use of members/friends of LPPC for **church related purposes**. Be sure if you send out an email that is not church related (especially if you have created a personal distribution list), that you first ask the receiver for their permission to receive your

email and to be on your distribution list. What you may believe would be a helpful or enlightening email for an individual, may not be what they wish to receive. Please be considerate.

#### **February Calendar Highlights**

Sun, Feb 7, Communion Sunday

Thurs, Feb 11, Mobile Food Pantry, 2:00-4:00pm

Sun, Feb 14, New Member Reception, Ordination & Installation of Beth S during 10:30 service

Youth Valentine's Party at Pat & Tom L's, 5:00-7:00pm

Wed, Feb 17, Ash Wednesday Service, Upper Room, 7:00pm

Sun, Feb 21, First Sunday in Lent, Dedication of Library

Sun, Feb 28, Heritage Sunday

#### **February Newsletter deadline:**

Wed, February 24 at noon

#### **Las Placitas Presbyterian Church**

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