



The News of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

MARCH 2010

Join us for Holy Week Services!



March 28: Palm Sunday

Traditional Palm Sunday procession begins outside at 10:15 am, followed by worship with communion. The Choir will perform special music. The Youth will be delivering pre-paid Sees Candy.

April 1: Maundy Thursday Communion and Tenebrae Service, 7:00pm.

April 2: Good Friday Prayer Service, noon in the Upper Room.

April 4: Easter Sunday

6:30am Sunrise service

8:15am Contemplative service

10:30am Traditional service (including Dressing of the Cross. *(Please bring fresh flowers to attach to the cross.)*)

11:30am Easter Dinner immediately follows main service. (Ham is provided; bring a dish—casserole or salad—to share.)
Easter Egg Hunt

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering on April 4

For more than fifty years, Presbyterians have joined with Christians throughout the nation in supporting One Great Hour of Sharing—responding to God's love for all people by joyfully sharing that love with people in need.



Our contributions are divided roughly into thirds to support US and worldwide ministries:

Presbyterian Hunger Program ministries working to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes, and to ministries addressing homelessness and affordable housing—including legislative advocacy for hunger

and housing through the NM Conference of Churches and sustainable agriculture training programs in India, Uganda, Pakistan, Ecuador, and elsewhere.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for disaster response and ministries with refugees—including Hurricane Katrina relief and recovery efforts, famine recovery in West Africa, earthquake and flood relief as needed.

Self Development of People partnerships with people who are working to improve their lives and conditions through economic development or social action—including business and job training for Navajo women in New Mexico, brick-making in Sudan, women's development federations in Kenya, Costa Rica,

Please give generously as you are able. Join the kids—take a FISH BANK—and fill it with coins or dollars for those less fortunate. Offerings will be received on Easter Sunday.



Fundraiser for our Youth to Support Mission Project

Our Senior Youth are taking orders for three Sundays—February 28, March 7 and 15—for Sees Candies to be delivered on Palm Sunday. Candy orders are pre-paid only. If you write a check, please make them payable to LPPC with *Youth Fund* on the memo line. If you have questions, contact Pat L.

Youth continue 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 April 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.)
- Two diaper pins
- One sweater or sweatshirt—can be hand-knitted or crocheted. (There are patterns at 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.



Easter Lillies will be on sale for Easter soon. The cost will remain the same as last year - \$12.00 per pot. Please use the order form in the church bulletin on March 21 & 28, or

call the church office to order.



Eco-Palms...good news for the earth, for the poor, for us. On Palm Sunday we will be again

using Eco-Palms—a way of protecting vital rainforests in Guatemala and Mexico. It also means increased family and community income, health insurance for harvesters, scholarships that allow young women and girls to attend school, vendors

that bring nutrient-rich fruits and vegetables, and healthcare providers that give much needed medical care.

Palm fronds come from the rain forests of southern Mexico and Guatemala, gathered by *xaterros*, workers from small indigenous communities who walk many miles into the forests to gather palms. Typically they are paid by the volume, which means they go through the forests and gather as many palms as they can, regardless of quality. It results in over half of the palms eventually being discarded.

Eco-Palms contracts directly with the *xaterros* and pays them by the quality of the palm fronds. So they gather less, which is good for the forests, and get paid more per palm, which is good for families & communities. In fact, *xaterros* who gather for Eco-Palms make 5 to 6 times more profit than those who contract with large floral companies.

Fellowship News

Fellowship will host our 3rd Annual Game Night on Saturday, March 13 from 5:30pm to 8:30pm.

Come and enjoy a supper of pizza and salad. Drinks and snacks will be available during the games. While games will be provided, feel free to bring your favorites. A suggested donation of \$5.00 for adults; children are free.



We want to thank the entire congregation for making the selling of cinnamon rolls a big success. As of February 23, we have made over just over \$700.00. We will have cinnamon rolls for sale on February 28, which is also the 116th Birthday of the church. Please come and enjoy a cinnamon roll and help make the month a big success. You may continue to place orders for cinnamon rolls. We will try to keep some in the freezer and we can make them fresh if you give us some lead time.

UPCOMING IN MARCH

Monday Night Adult Study will begin discussing, ***Christ of the Celts (The Healing of Creation)*** by J. Philip Newell. Books are in. Come join the group!

Congregational Meeting on March 7

A meeting of the congregation of LPPC will be held following 10:30am worship to elect Janice L. as an elder; present the 2010 budget; and elect the

Church Officer Nominating Committee (CONC) for Elders and Deacons for 2011.

Spring Equinox Event scheduled for Saturday, March 20 at 5:00pm

This annual celebration is a regular combined offering of The Earth Care Fellowship of LPPC and The Partnership for Earth Spirituality as part of the Earth Vespers series.



Comfort and Joy Prayer Shawl Circle will meet at 10:30am on Saturday, March 27 at LPPC

Baby blankets for inclusion in the Baby Care Kits being assembled by the youth to replenish depleted Presbyterian world relief supplies will be accepted for mailing in April. Other prayer shawls, whether completed or on the needles will be collected for blessing. Donated yarns, needles and patterns are available, as well as knitting instruction for women, men and children who are interested in this mission of love. Financial contributions are always welcome. (Make checks payable to LPPC and note 'Shawl Fund' on the memo line.) Shawl requests may be made through the Deacons or Pastor Elizabeth. You may also contact Eda W. (867-5718) through the church office for more information.

CASA ROSA Hunger Increases Across Our Nation and in Placitas

Feeding America has just released the results of an extensive nationwide study of hunger – *Hunger in America 2010*. Roadrunner Food Bank is in partnership with Feeding America and Casa Rosa Food Bank is a partner agency with Roadrunner Food Bank. The study confirms what we already expected: America's economic recession is taking a terrible toll on Americans and their ability to feed their families. Some of the startling statistics include:



*Nearly 37 million families were served by *Feeding America's* food bank network in 2009, including 14 million children. That means one in eight Americans turn to food banks for food assistance.

*Since 2006 there has been a 50 percent increase in the number of children served by the network.

*Many Americans are being forced to choose between providing food for their families and other

basic necessities of life. Some have to choose between buying food versus paying their rent or purchasing medication or paying utility bills. Clearly the problem of hunger all across America is growing as our economic recession continues. At Casa Rosa Food Bank each week we have one, two or three new households signing up for food assistance. There are now over 130 families signed up for The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) at Casa Rosa. This includes 205 adults and 113 children for a total of 318 people that are now being served at the food bank. 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 the 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.

Casa Rosa has been very fortunate to continue receiving the support of members and friends of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church as well as individuals and businesses from the larger community of Placitas. Deborah at Yoga Crossroads offered yoga sessions in January for a fee of five nonperishable items that were given to Casa Rosa; Jardineros de Placitas collected nonperishable goods for Casa Rosa at their February meeting and participated in the "rubber band project," attaching bills to many of the items; La Puerta Realty held a flea market February 27th with the proceeds going to Casa Rosa. Jardineros also decided to donate their "Happy dollars" to sponsor a Mobile Food Pantry later in the year. (If a Jardineros member wants to announce a happy event in their life they put a dollar in the pot and make their announcement to the entire group.) Individuals have donated comforters, afghans, blankets and quilts in response to previous requests to keep Placitans warm through the winter months. Household goods and some furniture have been donated for the benefit of our clients. Thank you to all Placitas residents and businesses that have stepped up to address hunger and other needs in the Village and our community.

The February Mobile Food Pantry (MFP) was held on Thursday, February 11, with distribution 2:00-4:00 pm and forty-eight families participated. All subsequently scheduled Mobile Food Pantries—March through July—are scheduled for the second Wednesday of each month with distribution from

10:00 am to 12:00 noon. March 10th is the next scheduled Pantry. These monthly MFPs are for all eligible Sandoval County residents and are held in the Fellowship Hall of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church. If you are interested in sponsoring one of these events please contact Charlotte L. or the LPPC office administrator at 867-5718. The cost to sponsor a Mobile Food Pantry is \$100 for 2500 pounds of food, an incredible bargain! This provides approximately 50 pounds per family.

As we move into spring Casa Rosa is offering more *Pins by Lucinda* as an ongoing fundraiser. The majority of this next order is "Women" pins, which many people requested last fall; there will also be more adobe house pins available. The pins will be offered again for \$20 (pin only) and \$22 (pin and bail which allows the jewelry to be worn on a chain as a necklace.) Pins will be available at the church prior to Easter and Mother's Day and during the Mother's Day Studio Tour at the Chili Pepper Café. The profit from each pin sold provides approximately 13 meals for consumers at the food bank. One hundred percent of the proceeds go directly to Casa Rosa Food Bank.

It has just been confirmed that Flying Star will sponsor an event, coordinated by Civitan, to benefit Casa Rosa in April or May. Enjoy dinner and a fun evening with friends at Flying Star, while helping Casa Rosa at the same time. Ten percent of the profits made during the evening will go to Casa Rosa. Watch for more publicity as the date and details are confirmed.

Thank you to all for your generosity and dedication in fighting hunger in Placitas and helping Casa Rosa remain sustainable. Just know that your commitment is gratefully accepted and greatly appreciated.

~Charlotte Lough, Chair, Casa Rosa Food Bank

MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

JEANNE A

Jeanne was born in Mulberry, Indiana and lived there for thirty years. In 1957 she moved to St. Louis, then to Cahokia, Illinois. After high school, Jeanne was in nurses training for 3 years – one year short of earning her nurses degree when she married James Army. (At that time you couldn't be married and be in nurses training.) Jeanne was a nurse's aide for many years. Jeanne took her nurses



training and had her four children (Leah, Nick, Dana and Garrett) while living in Indiana.

Jeanne was married to James for 53 years. He was an over the road truck driver. That took them to St. Louis. It also brought them to Albuquerque in 1964 because there was work here. After 6 months they saw an ad for a house to rent in Placitas. They much preferred living in the country.

When the family moved to Placitas she became a school bus driver for the Bernalillo Public Schools. She drove in Placitas for 20 years. This was her favorite job. She saw many of the children who rode on her bus grow up and drove their children too.

Her hobbies and passions now are: singing in the LPPC choir, tending her chickens, meeting friends for lunch, and house and dog sitting.

The person in history that Jeanne admires most is Abraham Lincoln. She considers him to be our best President. He was so honest – her hero.

Jeanne's best trip was a recent one. Last year she finally got to see the Grand Canyon – it was amazing. She still would like to go to England – this has been a long time dream of hers.

The things that she wouldn't want to live without are: popcorn, fried chicken, singing in the choir, chocolate, pork and beans, and cornbread.

Jeanne was attending the Saint John's Methodist Church in Albuquerque when they first moved to Placitas. One Sunday morning she had a flat tire and couldn't get to church. James told her she ought to find a church closer to home. LPPC gained a devoted church member who has been at LPPC for 45 years!

Frances E. is a long time close friend of Jeanne's as well as her son Dana's mother in law. Frances organized the Home Economics Club at LPPC in the late 60s when a Home extension agent would come and teach the young adults various skills related to the home and caring for families. Frances is a member of one of the founding families.

Back when there were only 20 people attending church in the Upper Room, Jeanne and someone else would sing duets since there wasn't a choir. Then the "choir" steadily grew until there were 6 people singing each Sunday. Sally C. often played the piano in addition to helping direct the "choir"

Jeanne has enjoyed helping in the kitchen, and serving the fund raising dinners over many years beginning in the basement of the old church. The money raised from the dinners made it possible to pay off the mortgage for the new Sanctuary.

Jeanne currently lives near the original fire station. In the 60s she and many others helped dismantle a building at Kirkland AF Base. The group brought the pieces to Placitas, took out the nails and reassembled the building into the first Placitas Volunteer Fire Department. Several of the people who built the building became volunteer firefighters. A grant was received which covered a used fire engine.

Jeanne has seven grandchildren, eleven great grand children and one great, great grandchild!

~Wendy I & Betty C

Sisters on the Planet: Exploring the Gender Gap and Climate Change — A panel discussion to be held on March 11th at UNM Student Union Building at 7 pm.

Climate change is already having a disproportionate impact on poor people in the U.S. and abroad, and it's hitting women hardest because women tend to do the jobs that are most affected by changes in the weather--they grow the family's food, collect fuel and water, bring up the children, and attempt to restore lives in the aftermath of natural disasters. Panelists with expertise in women, sustainability, ethics, law and sociology will address the growing awareness and implications of the Gender Gap in climate change and sustainability. This is an empowering situation and it's up to women to find solutions at this ***International Women's Day Event***. Rev. Elizabeth Lyman will be one of the panelists at this event.

The event is co-sponsored by Church Women United, League of Women Voters, New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light, Oxfam, UNM Women's Studies and Clean Energy Works of New Mexico. This event is free and open to the public.



Don't forget to set your clocks ahead on Saturday evening, March 13, before retiring. Daylight Savings begins on Sunday March 14!

April newsletter deadline: Friday, March 26th, noon

Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

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