



The News of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

MAY 2010

Upcoming Worship Highlights

May 9 – One worship service only at 9:15am. Rev. Ken Cuthbertson to preach.

May 23 – Pentecost Celebration and Spanish Communion. Wear red and join in the celebration of the birthday of the Christian Church! Recognition of graduates and recognition of our Sunday School teachers and our faithful students will also be part of the service.

May 30 – Summer worship schedule begins – One service at 9:15am.

There is now a list in Fellowship Hall for those who wish to sign up to be part of our summer music offerings.

Pastor Elizabeth to leave on June 30th

*Dear Friends in Christ,
God is calling me to other places at this time in the same way that God is calling you to new leadership. I regret to let you know that I will be leaving as of June 30. The Session, the Presbytery and our personnel committee are already planning how the next short transition between my leaving and a new pastor being called will be handled. The PNC is hard at work seeking God's call for your new pastor. I know that it will be a successful transition because I know that God has "plans for your future with hope..." Blessings to all of my beloved brothers and sisters here in Placitas.*

*I shall miss all of you,
Pastor Elizabeth*

Fellowship News



The Placitas Artists Studio Tour is on Mother's Day weekend, May 8 & 9. Enjoy the tour and stop at the Chili Pepper Café for a homemade cinnamon roll and coffee for \$1.00 and then come back for a pulled pork sandwich with beans or slaw, all for \$5.00. Pass the word.

Baked goods are needed for the Studio Tour to sell. Cookies, brownies, pies and fudge or any other goodies are welcome. Please bring them to church on Friday, May 7, any time.

The Cinnamon Bun sales through the Fellowship Committee raised enough money to put a reverse osmosis (RO) unit in the kitchen. We can now make coffee with water without calcium deposits ruining the coffee pot. The reverse osmosis unit has also been connected to the ice maker so we can now make ice without clogging the ice maker. The small faucet on the left of the sink is where the RO water comes from. It is for making coffee and drinking. Please use for these purposes only.

We also had enough money to purchase a professional six quart mixer for the kitchen. We have one more item to add and that is a warmer oven. We will not only use the warmer for making rolls, but for keeping food warm during our dinners.

Christian Education at LPPC

Sunday School - Christian Education for our young people will continue through June. We will not be holding Vacation Bible School this year, but hope to host one next summer.

Congratulations to our Graduates!

High School: Zach M, Jack D and Elijah T. College: Jodilynn O and Ben B. We will recognize our teachers and students at the special Pentecost worship service on May 23.



Senior Youth News

End-of-year party on May 16. We will meet at the church at 5:00pm to plan summer activities and to assemble the emergency kits for Church World Service. Bring your favorite snacks to share.

Adult Forum - Sundays at 9:15am, May 2 & 16 only. We will be ending our adult forums on May

16. Thanks to Emmet T, Joy P, Elizabeth L and others for leading events this year.

Women's Bible Study - We will be finishing out our year of study with two sessions in May. On May 5, we will meet at 1pm. (*Please note the time change.*) On May 26, we will meet at 10am for an end-of-the-year potluck brunch. All women are invited.

Stewardship at LPPC - Session is moving forward with our new Stewardship consultant on ways to reach out to the church and the community to support the mission of LPPC. Look for more information next month.

Deacons

The Shepherds are arriving....

Okay, so what are shepherds, you ask? Well, let me start in the beginning, so to speak. Our congregation members and friends were all equally assigned to a deacon. All of our eight deacons have a list...what we call a Shepherds List, of 13 to 14 families within our church. Each family will be contacted by phone, email or letter by their assigned deacon to introduce themselves and gather information—birthday, anniversary dates. Subsequently, that deacon/shepherd will contact each of his or her assigned families once every three months.

The idea behind this program is to develop a closer friendship between the shepherd and his...okay I said it, flock! This will create a direct link to our church on a personal basis. Look at it as just another helping hand as we all navigate through life. ~Bill L

IMAGES OF HUNGER AT CASA ROSA



When you think of hunger, what images come to mind?

Do you think of the young child in school who is always tired, sleepy or unable to concentrate?

Do you imagine seeing an elderly neighbor in the grocery store buying cat food and crackers, when you know he does NOT have a cat?

Do you visualize a disabled person taking dry dog food and putting milk on it for his breakfast cereal?

Do you imagine a senior lady taking sour milk home and making cheese from it to feed her spouse and grandchildren?

Do you see young children who don't know how to ask for food, but have the look of hunger in their eyes and are anxious to have one of the cookies or cup cakes that are provided at the food bank?

Do you visualize a man who earned \$70,000/year and after a broken back must provide for himself and his wife on \$629/month?

These are the faces of some of the people who seek out emergency food assistance from Casa Rosa and other partner agencies of Roadrunner Food Bank around the state.

At Casa Rosa there are now 144 households in our files; this includes 311 adults and 128 children for a current total of 439 people that are served in the community of Placitas. In recent months an average of 60 households has been served each Saturday morning at Casa Rosa.

April was a busy month at Casa Rosa. It started with jelly beans and chocolate eggs for the kids on Saturday before Easter. Then there was the Easter Brunch after church on Sunday. Several CR clients attended and enjoyed the wonderful food and fellowship.

On Wednesday, April 14, the monthly Mobile Food Pantry (MFP) was held with sixty-eight families participating. Thirty-five hundred pounds of food vs. 2500 pounds were ordered and delivered for the April MFP so we wouldn't run out of food as we did in March when eighty households participated. An arrangement has been made with the MFP coordinator at Roadrunner to project attendance each month so that the appropriate amount of food is ordered and everyone who comes has equal opportunity to participate. When we order more food, the cost, necessarily, goes up so we are using co-sponsors for Mobile Food Pantries, as needed.

If you are interested in sponsoring or co-sponsoring one of the Mobile Food Pantries please contact Charlotte through the office or Cory in the office at 867-5718. Full sponsorship for 3500 pounds of food is \$175 and co-sponsorship is \$100. Any money that is left over from the sponsorship money will be collectively used in the future to sponsor an additional Pantry.

On Saturday, April 17, the Casa Rosa board held the second Feedback Luncheon with clients in the "pink house." Lunch was served, and the clients were polled casually as to the "one thing" they would change about the food bank. Numerous valid comments were made, which will be

discussed at a future board meeting. There were about 30 people in attendance.

On Monday, April 19, Flying Star, in Bernalillo, facilitated by Sandoval County Civitan Club, held a fundraising event to benefit Casa Rosa. Ten percent of the evening's sales were donated to the food bank. Permission was granted for Casa Rosa volunteers to sell pins at the Flying Star, "Women's" and "Adobe House" series from *Designs by Lucinda*. Four hundred and forty dollars worth of pins were sold. The evening was a great success with many attendees from LPPC, the Placitas community, and the greater Sandoval County population.

On April 27 Casa Rosa held its first annual, open meeting. Special invitations were sent to LPPC members and friends as well as community members who have supported Casa Rosa. The officers were presented for the next year and the history, growth and development of the food bank were shown in a PowerPoint presented by Charlotte L, Chair. Future plans/goals and needs were also discussed. A considerable amount of input came from the attendees and additional support was volunteered. It was a productive meeting and provided more awareness of the need for Casa Rosa in Placitas.

Casa Rosa has truly become a community effort, reaching out on a weekly basis to those in Placitas who need a helping hand, and reaching out to those in need in the greater community of Sandoval County on a monthly basis. To remain sustainable we need each and every one of you! Come join in and help us help friends in our community.

If you are interested in becoming involved with Casa Rosa on any level, please contact Charlotte or any of the board members, or Cory in the church office at 867-5718 and let us know what you would like to do. As a helping hand is reached out to the community the blessings return tenfold.

~Charlotte L

MEMBER PROFILE

Sonja B

Sonja was born in Billings, Montana along with her twin sister, Sandra. The family soon moved to a ranch in Marmarth, North Dakota which is in the southwestern corner of the state in the Badlands, with a population of about 300. Sonja's



mother was a country school teacher assigned to Mound, ND about 30 miles away. She taught Sonja and Sandra in Mound.

Due to the harsh winters, they lived at the school in the cloak room during their 1st and 2nd grades. It was very cold. Their covers while sleeping were their coats, their clothes, blankets, topped off with the stage curtains which were very dusty! It is REALLY cold when it is 20-50 degrees below zero in a wood frame building with no insulation!

During one especially snowy winter, the girls and Mom were picked up after Christmas by a small plane and taken to Mound. They were snow bound for 3 months! Food was dropped from a plane and primarily consisted of Spam and potatoes with the rare additions of canned or dried milk – whatever could survive the fall. This was in 1948-1949. They were plowed out by the Fifth Army in March. At that time, the military was the only organization that possessed the equipment to remove such a heavy snowfall. When the plane picked them up at home the three of them took up the weight limit so they were limited to what they were wearing. That was their wardrobe for 3 months!

During grades 4 and 5 they stayed in the small teacherage nearby because her Mom had a baby and a lady stayed with them to care for the baby. Her brother was born in 1950. They lived in Miles City, MT and attended 3rd grade there. Her Dad always stayed at the ranch.

When Sonja and Sandy weren't in school they spent many hours riding their horses in the badlands as well as helping their Dad with the cattle. They imagined dinosaurs roaming there and years later paleontologists found some of the most complete dinosaur remains anywhere in the world – right there in Marmarth!

The girls attended school in Marmarth starting in the 6th grade. They lived at the ranch. Sonja's grandparents purchased a house for the family in Marmarth when the girls were ready for high school. Her Dad still went to the ranch 4 miles away to take care of the cattle. This house had running water which was a first for the family. Sonja excelled in Math and even took over teaching math to the other students when the history teacher who also taught math proved to be in over his head. She is still ticked off that he only gave her an A- when she did all the work!

Sonja graduated from high school in a class of 7 students. The entire high school only had 19 students. She and her sister graduated from Montana State University in Bozeman. Sonja majored in Pre-med. She then went to Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis where she became a doctor. She met Jack there.

Sonja and Jack went in different directions for their internships. She went to LA Children's Hospital and Jack went to Cincinnati General. They had two vacations during that year to see each other. On one, Jack asked Sonja when they passed a jewelry store which rings she liked. He then sent it to her in Los Angeles where she was interning. Their 2nd vacation Jack wanted to ski so they decided to marry in Breckenridge, CO at Father Dyers Methodist Church. That was 41 years ago!

This was during the Vietnam war so they both decided to join the Army as medical officers. At the time there were only three women in the Army Medical Corps. They were transferred to Germany where they lived for three years. They loved the ease of traveling everywhere during that time.

They moved to Oklahoma City for their residencies—Sonja in Pediatrics and Jack in Radiology. In 1977 Jack was offered a position at Radiology Associates of Albuquerque. The family moved to Corrales for two years before finding their Placitas home. Jack wanted horses so they found a house that was almost completed on six acres. They had seven horses and now have three horses that are considered pets. They still live in that house.

The family has 3 sons. Guy has a PhD in Statistics and lives in Louisville, KY with his wife Pam. Hugh is in his 5th year of Orthopedic residency and headed for a year at Stanford with his wife Hilary. Jed has wanderlust and loves the outdoors. Currently he lives in Taos and loves it.

Sonja practiced in Albuquerque at Children's Psychiatric Hospital at UNM for 25 years. She retired in 2008.

She has let her old hobbies go, like sewing her own clothes and riding her horses. She currently likes to read and travel.

Sonja's 15 minutes of fame happened during her internship. She was a lowly medical student on rounds with the chief resident. He asked if anyone knew what was odd about blue-eyed white cats and

Sonja piped up that they were deaf. The resident barked back—how did she know that since he had just read it the night before in the *New England Journal of Medicine*. She said they had had many cats and most were white and it became obvious the blue-eyed white ones heard nothing when they should have been alarmed. It was old news to her.

Sonja and Jack currently are supervising the renovation of a Civil War vintage farmhouse in Kentucky near Lexington. It was built in the 1870s. It is on 80 acres. They plan to move there when Jack retires.

The five things that Sonja doesn't want to live without are: indoor running water, electricity, a car, phone and computer.

What she loves about LPPC is the sense of community and family. Her sons attended Placitas Elementary school. Hugh and Jed went on to Sandia Prep, while Guy went to Sandia Prep and then Albuquerque Academy for high school. They didn't have any family nearby, so the LPPC family became theirs. She has fond memories of everyone pitching in to build the sanctuary, fellowship hall and bathrooms. The bathrooms were so greatly appreciated since they were now indoors.

~Wendy I & Betty C

Benefit Concert for Menaul School - 4:00pm, Saturday, May 29, Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 114 Carlisle Blvd., SE, Albuquerque, NM (505-792-7711) Suggested donation of \$15.

The benefit concert is sponsored by Menaul School's Class of 1960, being honored by Menaul School this year as Golden Graduates. Menaul School and local Presbyterian Churches are co-sponsoring the benefit concert through promotion and advertising efforts, and will also host a reception following the concert.

Menaul School alumna, pianist Concha del Mar Madrid, will perform her own recent compositions, plus selections from Chopin and Debussy. Ms. Madrid is currently serving on the University of California faculty. Concha Madrid (Emeritus) has a B.A. in Music Education and is finishing her M.A. in Musicology at C.S.U.N. She has conducted the Salt Lake City Philharmonic Orchestra, and played for Debbie Reynolds



Studios, Los Angeles Dance Center, Ballet La Jeunesse, Plaza de la Raza, Eugene Loring's American School of Dance, West Side Ballet, and San Francisco Ballet. She is currently associated with the Tremaine School of Dance and owns a piano, vocal and music studio in North Hollywood

Soprano/pianist/organist Paula Buttram will open the program with sacred music selections. Ms. Buttram serves as organist/Choir Director Organist for Christ the King Anglican Church.

Ms. Madrid's recordings will be available, and all proceeds will be donated to Menaul School's Christian education program.

For more information, please call Betty Jo Rangel at 792-7711.

May Calendar Highlights

Sunday, May 9—Mother's Day
one service only 9:15am
Ken Cuthbertson preaching

**Saturday & Sunday, May 8
& 9**—Placitas Artists Studio
Tour; Chili Pepper Café
open 10:00am-3:00pm daily

Wednesday, May 12—Sandoval County Mobile
Food Pantry—10:00am-12:00 noon

Sunday, May 23—10:30am—Pentecost—Spanish
Communion—Recognition of our graduates and
Sunday School teachers

Sunday, May 30—summer worship schedule
begins—9:15am service only.

Monday, May 31—Memorial Day—office closed.



***June newsletter deadline:
Wednesday, May 26th, noon***

Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

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