



The News of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

September 2009

Fall Schedule begins Sunday, September 13th

Contemplative service at
8:15am in the Upper Room

Adult Education Forum at 9:15am, with an expanded version of "Living the Questions" for the Fall. Weekly topics in September include: *An Invitation to the Journey*, *Taking the Bible Seriously*, and *Thinking Theologically*. Pick up a pink schedule on the table outside the sanctuary.

Full Worship service at 10:30am, with Nursery and Sunday School for children. Our children will be studying the basics of our beliefs this year and leave for Sunday School after the children's sermon.

Fellowship follows 10:30am service.

Senior High Youth will have an organizational meeting on Sept 13th from 5:00-7:00pm. All youth are welcome! Come and discuss what you would like to do this year and make plans for next summer's Presbyterian Youth Triennium.

Women's Bible Study begins on Wednesday, September 9th

This is an organizational meeting with a potluck brunch. We'll be discussing the book, Back to the Well (Women's Encounters with Jesus in the Gospels) by Frances Taylor Gench. The books are available for \$16. This group is facilitated by Pastor Elizabeth and meets 10:00 to 11:30am on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays during each month. All women are welcome! Please bring a breakfast dish to share.

Monday Night Forum begins on September 14th at 7pm

The organizing meeting of the Forum will take place in the Upper Room. Come with suggestions on the books/issues you would like to discuss.



Ken Cuthbertson has agreed to lead the forum again this year and we most are grateful for his leadership.

Earth Care Fall Equinox Celebration – Meatless Monday, Sept 21st at 6pm

There is a national movement to ask people to commit to one day a week without meat products as a significant way of reducing the huge carbon footprint of raising livestock. For our Fall Equinox celebration, we will prepare and share a 'meatless' meal.



Cheryl F, one of our favorite chef's, will lead us in this delicious endeavor. Bring fruits and vegetables from your garden and your favorite 'meatless' recipes to share.

Church Officer Nominating Committee seeks nominations for Elders, Deacons and Members of the Pastor Nominating Committee. This is an important year for this process with the addition of the Pastor Nominating Committee. Only members of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church may be nominated for positions. Nomination forms will be in the church bulletin and one is included at the end of this newsletter. Please complete your nominations by September 30th.

Mission Study Task Force work is completed

Elders and Deacons will meet with the Mission Study Task Force on Saturday, September 19th at the New Mexico Conference of Churches in Bernalillo to discuss and approve the final version of the Mission Study. This document will then be presented to the congregation and sent to the Committee on Ministry of Santa Fe Presbytery for approval. Once this document is approved, the Pastor Nominating Committee can begin its work. Watch for more information in the church bulletin. A special thanks to the Task Force for their work this summer.

Comfort and Joy Prayer Shawl Circle

Since a small group of LPPC members and friends who knit and crochet got together in 2007 and decided to make shawls, afghans, lap robes and similar items to give to people in need, over 100 items have been given to LPPC members and friends, people in the community and others who are ill or alone, are caring for someone who is, have suffered the loss of a loved one, or have celebrated a joyful life changing event. These committed crafters work independently and provide their own time, talent and other resources to bring comfort and joy to others and in doing so, find personal satisfaction and relaxation.

Because the requests for shawls continues to match, and at times exceed, availability, Comfort & Joy is seeking to involve more knitters, crocheters and weavers. They meet briefly on alternate months to receive completed projects, exchange yarn and technical tips, discuss their work and shawl requests and offer prayers of blessing for the shawls and their recipients. All interested persons are welcome to attend meetings. Instruction is available for anyone who would like to learn to knit.

Donations of yarn and monetary support for supplies are appreciated (Checks may be made payable to LPPC with a notation for "Shawls.") Requests for shawls may be made through Pastor Elizabeth or the Deacons. The next meeting of Comfort and Joy is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. Monday, September 28th at the church. Contact Eda W (867-5718) for more information.

Casa Rosa— Recent Events



A big thank you goes to La Puerta R Services, LLC., for the Ice Cream Social/Food Drive that was held August 15th. It was a wonderful, well-attended event and a significant amount of food was collected for Casa Rosa. All their efforts were greatly appreciated by the volunteer staff and the donations are already being utilized by the consumers at Casa Rosa!

On August 29, 2009, Casa Rosa Food Bank had its first anniversary celebration with a cookout, music, and presentation of volunteer service awards. Pastor Elizabeth relayed the history of Casa Rosa and how it was conceived as a mission of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church.

Certificates of Appreciation were distributed to businesses, board members, sponsors of Mobile Food Pantries, and individuals who contributed to the success of Casa Rosa in this first year. Three

special Casa Rosa 'Golden Chile' awards were presented to people who contributed significant energy and time to the success of Casa Rosa. Those individuals are Ellen B, Elsie D, and Diane W.

Music was provided by Rick B (a Casa Rosa consumer) and his musician friends, as well as Judie H and John B singing and playing guitar. Hamburgers and hotdogs with all the 'fixin's' were served, and watermelon provided dessert. A wonderful time was had by all!

A heartfelt *Thanks* to all who are anonymous donors of specific items to Casa Rosa.



Upcoming Casa Rosa Events

On Wednesday, September 30th, 10:00-12:00 noon, Casa Rosa will sponsor its fourth **Mobile Food Pantry** in Fellowship Hall of Las Placitas Church. For one hundred dollars the Roadrunner Food Bank sends a truck with 2500 pounds of food to be distributed to those who qualify for need. Items may include nonperishable foods such as canned meats, cereals, crackers, instant mashed potatoes, bottled water, peanut butter, and bread, as well as fresh produce.

All residents of Sandoval County are invited to come and participate in this activity. Each household will be asked to fill out The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) form to determine need. There will be approximately 50 pounds of food available for each family. Volunteers will be available to assist consumers in taking the food to their vehicles.

The prior three Mobile Food Pantries have been sponsored by members of the Placitas community. If you are interested in sponsoring the September Mobile Food Pantry or one in the future you may contact Charlotte L through the Las Placitas Church office at 867-5718. The Casa Rosa Board voted to hold a Mobile Food Pantry in Placitas about every two months to augment the Saturday morning food bank at Casa Rosa, which is available only to Placitas residents.

Casa Rosa is having a fundraising activity this fall. *Designs By Lucinda* pins are being sold for \$20.00 (pin) and \$22.00 (pin & bail). This series is of adobe houses, which was an idea submitted from Placitas and subsequently accepted. They are so beautifully southwestern, and because they are handcrafted, each one is an 'original.' The pins

have sold so well that an additional order has been placed to have plenty to sell at the Holiday Sale in November. One hundred percent of the proceeds will go to benefit Casa Rosa so get out there and get your holiday shopping done early! The pins make wonderful birthday gifts as well.

Thanks to all for your support of this very important mission of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church.

Fellowship News

A new fall season is upon us and we are looking forward to many activities. For starters we need volunteers to sign up for Sunday Fellowship to prepare the coffee and fix snacks. It is nice to have the coffee ready by 9:10am, prior to the adult education hour. Remember our refreshments should be kept simple and easy: chips and salsa, nuts or cookies, and fruit are always good. The choice is yours.

A sign-up sheet is posted beside the coffee pot. It is helpful if two individuals sign up together or a couple. You may also contact Joan D (867-5718) to sign up. Directions for making coffee are posted on the cabinet in the kitchen. The fellowship team and the congregation thank you all in advance.



NEWS FROM the CAFÉ...

We have a lot of activities planned for this fall and we look forward to your participation.

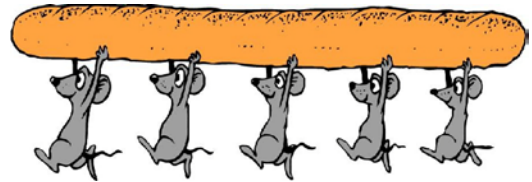
With a kitchen certified by the New Mexico Environmental Department, there are points that we need to keep in mind as we anticipate the inspection of our facility. The inspection can include Fellowship Hall and the bath room facilities.

We know they look at the following:

1. Are equipment and supplies put away
2. Are counters clean and sinks wiped dry
3. Is the refrigerator clean and all food items covered
4. Are out-of-date food items stored in the refrigerator
5. Are wet or dirty towels left lying around
6. Are the garbage cans empty and no food waste present

7. Are soap and paper towels beside the hand washing sink
8. Are floors swept and mopped if needed
9. Is there no evidence of bugs or mice
10. Do restrooms have soap, paper towels and paper, and are they neat and clean

We appreciate everyone's help in keeping our facility in top order.



The little critters are more active now and overnight they will discover any food left behind.

If you have an **event or meeting**, please do not leave **ANY** food items out on counters or tables. Items should be stored in the refrigerator or removed from the building. Trash bags with food should be placed in the covered bins outside, on the west side of the church. Please avoid leaving bags containing food in the church.

If you are one of the wonderful volunteers who is taking trash home for disposal, many thanks for removing it as soon as possible.

Website Update

Be sure to visit our website where you will now find audios of Pastor Elizabeth's sermons. At the homepage, www.lasplacitaschurch.org click on 'Pastor,' then 'Sermons.' You can also use this quick link: www.lasplacitaschurch.org/sermons/htm.

Thanks to Leland B, Emmet T and our web manager, Elizabeth D for recording, producing and uploading the sermons for your listening. Be sure to turn your volume up!

*OCTOBER newsletter deadline:
Monday, September 28th, noon*

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