



The News of the People of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church

April 2019

Throughout the season of Lent we have been doing a deep dive into the practice of forgiveness. Desmond Tutu and Mpho Tutu's *The Book of Forgiving* has been our guide. They lay out "The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World." The steps in this path are Telling the Story, Naming the Hurt, Granting Forgiveness, and Renewing or Releasing the Relationship.

I am grateful to you as a congregation for engaging in this theme. The responses I have received have been profound. You have been willing to be vulnerable. We all need both to forgive and be forgiven, and I have come to see this practice as a companion to gratitude. Both are key markers of our spiritual health.

Lent carries us to Easter, and the Fourfold Path of Healing carries us to A World of Forgiveness. That is the goal. This is new life. Desmond and Mpho Tutu write:

"When I develop a mind-set of forgiveness, rather than a mind-set of grievance, I don't just forgive a particular act; I become a more forgiving person. With a grievance mind-set, I look at the world and see all that is wrong. When I have a forgiveness mind-set, I start to see the world not through grievance but through gratitude. In other words, I look at the world and start to see what is right."

Finally, "We change the world when we choose to create a world of forgiveness in our own hearts and minds. It is our nature to forgive, reconcile, and rebuild the broken pieces of our relationships. Every hand that extends itself in a gesture of forgiveness is a hand working toward the creation of peace in the world." May we all pursue a world of forgiveness.

Peace,

Drew

April 2019 Worship Services

April 7 - 5th Sunday in Lent - Psalm 51:10, Matthew 5:23-24 "Needing Forgiveness"

April 14 - Palm Sunday - Luke 19:28-40, Luke 6:37 - "Forgiving Yourself"

April 18 - Maundy Thursday - 1 Corinthians 11:23-26, John 13:12-15 "Healing and Wholeness"

April 21 - Easter - John 14:27, John 20:1-18 "A World of Forgiveness"

April 28 - 2nd Sunday of Easter - Earth Day - Numbers 20:1-13, Revelation 22:1-2 "Agua es Vida"

Upcoming April Adult Forum

As Lent concludes and we enter the Easter Season, the Adult Forum will continue looking at *The Book of Forgiving* by Desmond and Mpho Tutu. On April 28 there will be a special Earth Day presentation. The Adult Forum meets in the Upper Room on Sunday mornings, shortly after 9:15 a.m., following the early service.

April 7 - Forgiving - Needing Forgiveness

April 14 - Forgiving - Forgiving Yourself

April 21 (Easter) - No class

April 28 (Earth Day Sabbath) – Waters of Life

Earth Day Service

The April 28 service at 10:30 will be a celebration of Earth Day, presented by LPPC's Earth Care Fellowship. Our theme is water – deeply rooted in the faiths of desert peoples, central to the founding and life of Placitas, and a vital resource for future generations.

Highway Cleanup

Please join fellow church members to make our part of the world a bit more beautiful, picking up litter along one mile of highway 165. We'll meet on Saturday, April 6 at 8:30 am near milepost 4 (entrance to Ranchos de Placitas). Bring a hat and gloves – safety vests and trash bags will be provided.

Fellowship

There will be a pot luck on Easter Sunday, April 21st. Fellowship will provide the hams. Fellowship wants to remind all of those bringing dishes to share to place them on the serving table and when all have been served to please, pick them up to take home. Thank you.

Join us for Holy Week!

April 21st, Easter Sunday Services

6:30am Sunrise Service

8:30am Early Service

10:30am Traditional Easter Service

Potluck immediately follows

Please bring a dish to share!

Ham & rolls provided

Easter Egg Hunt



One Great Hour of Sharing

On Easter Sunday, April 21st, we will be collecting the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. Please be generous in your giving.

A gift to One Great Hour of Sharing enables the church to share God's love with our neighbors-in-need around the world by providing relief to those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and helping to empower the poor and oppressed. Let's be the hands and feet of Christ by serving others.

When we participate in One Great Hour of Sharing, we are making an impact for others through the ministries of:

*Presbyterian Disaster Assistance - works with communities as they recover and find hope after the devastation of natural or human- caused disasters

*Presbyterian Hunger Program- Takes action to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed

*Self-Development of People- Invests in communities responding to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice and educates Presbyterians about the impact of these issues

Member Profile

ALISON BEAM

Alison was born in New Rochelle NY and by prior arrangement was immediately welcomed into her adopted family. She and her sister Ruth spent their school years in Chappaqua, NY. Ever since she was a little girl, she had been drawn to building things that required precision, so she enrolled in the Mechanical Engineering program at Clarkson University in upstate New York. It was while she was in college that she was in a major car wreck, suffering a serious concussion that left her, sadly, with few clear memories of her early life and childhood. She nevertheless was able to complete her college education and earn her engineering degree.

Her first job was as a mechanical engineer with Sikorsky Aircraft in CT, helping to design SeaHawk helicopters. Even though she left that position after a year, it remains one of her favorite jobs because it was exciting as a young person to design that craft and do the hands-on work of building something significant. She then moved to Sudbury MA (5 years) to work for Ratheon for 15 years, which included 5 years in St Petersburg, FL and 5 years in Clearwater, FL. as a manufacturing engineer. Then Alison took a job with a high-level security clearance at Clearwater Honeywell for 13 years.

It was in Clearwater that Alison (by then a single working mother) raised her 2 children, Rebecca and Michael. And it was through her job at Ratheon that she met one of the field engineers, Mark Beam, who frequently had business trips from Maryland. After 5 years of friendship followed by 4 years of a long-distance romance between Maryland and Florida, Mark got a transfer to Clearwater. He and Alison were married soon after. Alison's daughter Rebecca lives in San Diego CA working as project

manager with DNA lab analysis and computer data/programming. Her son Michael is in Clearwater FL working as a line lead for a pharmaceutical company.

Over the years, Alison had traveled to New Mexico for work projects with Sandia Labs, and she knew right away that she loved the

Albuquerque area. When the opportunity opened up for a transfer to Honeywell ABQ, she was invited to interview. During that interview trip, she tacked on a couple of vacation days to explore the area. As soon as she and Rebecca turned off I-25 onto Hwy 165, Alison started taking photos to send to Mark with the caption, "This is where we are going to be living." She got the job and they moved here in 2016. She enjoys her current position a great deal -- it is very hands-on and satisfying to do work that is making a difference producing something tangible.

On the topic of hobbies and passions, Alison listed a great many. First on the list is needlework of all kinds including hardanger (like lace), embroidery, black work, samplers and some knitting. She remembers her Grandmother introducing her to crocheting when she was 4 years old, and from there she taught herself through research and trial-and-error. Her "15 Minutes of Fame" arose from this interest and expertise when a full-page Features article was published in the St Petersburg Times about her many accomplishments in needlework! Alison reads a lot of mystery, science fiction, and horror stories. She also is devoted to building wooden models and is currently working on a model ship. Oh yes, and she also works with stained glass . . . *and she makes jewelry!*

The person past or present she would like to sit down with for a good long conversation would be her father, who died many years ago after a long struggle with Alzheimer's. Her Bucket List of things she'd like to do in the future includes an Alaska cruise and an African wildlife safari. When asked about past travels, Alison says that even after the extensive traveling she's done for her job, the most amazing place she's ever been is definitely New Mexico. She is looking forward to exploring the state further, and venturing out to see more of the Southwest and West Coast.

In case of an impending fire, the things she would hope to rescue would be her cat, photos of her kids when they were young, and the 2 urns with the cremains of her parents. Five things she would hate to live without are: needlework projects, pet cats, books, wine and coffee.

An extra factoid Alison shared was that she was the lead singer in a punk rock band during her college years, and was later the Music Leader of the contemporary service at Trinity Presbyterian in Florida, where she selected the music, was lead singer of the band, and played the bells and some percussion rhythm instruments.

What Alison likes about LPPC is that the people were immediately welcoming and caring, and continue to be. Even though she works full-time, she is involved in several facets of the church: selling coffee and chocolate for the Mission Committee, helping the Fellowship group in the kitchen, making prayer shawls, and doing the highway clean-ups with Earth Care. She has joined the choir.

Joan Chewing

Wendy Ingram