



Pastor Rich's reflections on his first visit to his new church January 15, 2021

Saludos en el nombre de Jesucristo!

As I write to you this afternoon, I am sitting in the LPPC building for the first time in my life! Like you, I have many things on my schedule today, but before I did anything today, I first had to take some time to walk around this building, breathe in the air and think about where I am.

Many of you probably know that the building where I find myself today is not the original building for Las Placitas, but it stands on the same grounds of the original building where people came to worship beginning in 1894. In fact, the bell that sits in the bell tower of this building is the same bell that was used in the original building.

As I walk around this building and stand on these grounds, I cannot help but think about the many generations of people who have gathered here to worship over 127 years, people who came before God in times of trouble and times of joy, in times of peace and in times of war and in all times good and bad. As I walk through the sanctuary, I cannot help but think about the services here that were at one time completely in Spanish. As I pass by the memory board on the east wall and read the names I cannot help but think about what kinds of lives those names must represent and what stories of faith they represent.

When I was a child, I remember learning in Sunday school that the church is not just a building, the church, rather is the people of God. While there is more to the church than simply buildings, I have a hard time seeing how anyone can say they love God and yet not stand in awe of the places where people have gathered to worship God for generation after generation. For me, to love God is to know that the building where I sit today is a sacred and holy

place and the grounds on which this building stands are also holy and sacred.

This Sunday, our scripture readings will be First Samuel 3:1-10 and John 1:43-51. My sermon will be titled "Getting the Whole Picture." I look forward to seeing you at 9am on Zoom.

Blessings,

Pastor Rich

Las Placitas Presbyterian Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Las Placitas Presbyterian Church's Sunday Service
Time: 9:00am