

**Las Placitas Presbyterian Church
APPROVED Stated Session Meeting Minutes
July 14, 2025**

Class of 2026

Donna Ebers
Jacque Fletcher
Colleen Rust

Class of 2027

Carl Allen
Janice Langdale
Lauren Mueller Skinner

Class of 2028

Steve Chewning
Judie Hendry
Mike Potter

***** THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM**

MEETING OPENED

Rev. Matthew Baugh Moderator

DEVOTION

Jacque Fletcher

Spiritual Harvest

DECLARATION OF QUORUM (1/3 of Session plus Moderator)

Session Members Present: Donna Ebers, Carl Allen, Steve Chewning, Jacque Fletcher, Janice Langdale, Judie Hendry, Mike Potter

Session Members Absent: Colleen Rust, Lauren Mueller Skinner

MOTION: APPROVE ABSENCES OF COLLEEN RUST AND LAUREN MUELLER SKINNER

APPROVED

DOCUMENT APPROVALS

DRAFT Stated Session Meeting Agenda

Monday July 14, 2025

APPROVED

DRAFT Stated Session Meeting Minutes

Monday June 16, 2025

APPROVED

DRAFT Called Session Meeting Minutes

Sunday June 29, 2025

APPROVED

STATED SUPPLY PASTOR'S REPORT

Rev. Baugh

Matthew has requested transfer of his membership from UCC California to UCC Southwest Conference

CLERK'S REPORT

Carl Allen

A short Session meeting was held on Sunday June 22, 2025 in the Fellowship Hall from 11:45 - 11:50. Rev. Matthew Baugh Moderated and Session members Jacque Fletcher, Judie Hendry, Steve Chewning, Carl Allen, and Donna Ebers attended.

MOTION: ALLOW CASA ROSA TO CONSTRUCT A MEMORIAL ROCK GARDEN IN FRONT OF THEIR BUILDING

APPROVED

We need Session volunteers for devotion and lock-up starting next month.

August Steve

September Donna

October Janice

Steinway Piano: From the Feb 2025 Session Minutes: *From Karen Cox: Wendy Wilkins (PAS) has an offer of a donated Steinway piano the size of our current piano. This Steinway piano is used and is currently valued at \$ 35,000. Wendy and PAS ask if LPPC would be interested in pursuing this offer.*

Sense of Session (2/25) - Pursue the offer and get Mindy Sampson and Elliott Smith involved

Recent conversations:

- * The Steinway should be available in the next several weeks, following appraisal.
- * PAS has budgeted for moving and tuning the Steinway
- * Rev Baugh has discussed the Steinway and the current piano with Sally Curro
- * What about moving the existing piano to Fellowship Hall ? Suggested by Wendy Wilkins (PAS); Mindy says "yes".

MOTION: LPPC WILL ACCEPT THE STEINWAY PIANO IF IT IS OFERED TO THE PLACITAS ARTISTS' SERIES. RELOCATION OF THE EXISTING PIANO WILL BE DETERMINED.

APPROVED

Knife Incident: From September 2022 Session Meeting Minutes: *On September 25th during the 10:30 am service, an incident took place which we regret caused many people alarm. A member of our congregation pulled out a knife with an approximately six-inch blade during the portion of the service in which prayer requests are shared. This person did not threaten anyone with the knife or point it at anyone, and the incident ended with this person handing the knife to Pastor Rich. But for several minutes they did not put it away after being politely asked to do so. They also resisted efforts to be disarmed.*

MOTION APPROVED 10/22: The person displaying the knife is always welcome to worship with the LPPC congregation by zoom, but they will no longer be allowed on the church property. In addition, LPPC has immediately instituted a policy barring deadly weapons. Anyone who violates this policy may be barred from the church after the first offense.

During July 2025 two Members have written to the Clerk with recommendations that the Member involved in this incident be invited to return to church property and participate in all church events. These emails are attached separately.

SENSE OF THE SESSION: WELCOME THE MEMBER BACK TO IN-PERSON PARTICIPATION IN CHURCH EVENTS. REV. BAUGH WILL REMAIN IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE MEMBER.

Camping on LPPC Property: During the February 2025 meeting Session discussed a Non-Member who has been attending Sunday services and is camping on church property near the handicapped parking lot. He has had several interactions with neighbors living across the street from LPPC, and the police have been called. This person was jailed for several days in February or March, and was not seen at LPPC for several months.

During the February 2025 meeting Session decided that camping on church property would not be allowed, and that this decision should be presented to the Non-Member in writing. This was not done, since the person did not return to LPPC after his incarceration.

This person returned to the area in June 2025 and has attended several church services. He has also helped with Dignity Mission projects. He has asked several members for money. He is getting food from the Casa Rosa Food Pantry. The neighbors have interacted with him several times in the past month, and have complained of feeling uncomfortable, though not threatened.

This person has set up a partially-hidden camping tent on the basketball court across the street from LPPC. This is church property, though unmarked.

Matthew talked with the non-member regarding social services in Albuquerque. Matthew also related that he is not allowed to camp on church property.

SENSE OF THE SESSION: CAMPING IS NOT ALLOWED ON CHURCH PROPERTY. REV. BAUGH WILL CONTACT THE PERSON DIRECTLY.

Mission Committee: Mission is key part of the life of LPPC. However, the Mission Committee has seen a serious decline in participation (2 members) and meeting (quarterly or less often). The committee chair is not on Session and there is currently no Session member assigned as committee liaison. Dignity, our largest and most visible mission project, has until recently had very little contact with the Mission Committee.

JANICE LANGDALE VOLUNTEERED TO SERVE AS THE SESSION CONTACT TO THE MISSION COMMITTEE.

OLD BUSINESS

Passing the Peace

Discussion led by Judie Hendry

SENSE OF THE SESSION: REVISIT THIS QUESTION IN THE FALL.

NEW BUSINESS

Fellowship

Discussion led by Steve Chewning

The 4th of July fellowship effort, including food and a bouncy castle, yielded \$522 in profit.

Finance

Discussion led by Steve Chewning

Financial status half-way thru 2025: Approximately 47 % of the year's budgeted income has been received.

QuickBooks transition is continuing with good support.

2026 budget planning is underway

A CD matures 9/30; Finance plans to build a quarterly CD ladder.

Stewardship

Discussion led by Carl Allen

The Stewardship campaign for next year will be conducted in September and early October, in order to support the Finance Committee in drafting the 2026 budget.

Pastor Nominating

Discussion led by Janice Langdale

Making progress

Health and Safety

Discussion led by Jacque Fletcher

AED recertification is underway; a new battery needed and the finance committee will cover the cost

CALENDAR

Next Session meeting (Zoom 6:30)

Monday August 11, 2025

Presbytery Meeting (Ghost Ranch)

Saturday October 18, 2025

Devotion / Lockup Schedule

August Steve Chewning

September Donna Ebers

October Janice Langdale

Adjourn with Prayer 8:12

Respectfully submitted

Carl Allen

Clerk of Session