



The Los Altos Life

Los Altos Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

11900 Haines NE ♦ Albuquerque, New Mexico 87112 ♦ 505 299-5526

Email: losaltoschurch@qwestoffice.net ♦ Website: www.losaltoschristianchurch.com

July 19, 2017 Volume 32 Issue No. 14



Wow! How time just seems to fly by! We are now in midsummer, the Cub Scouts are settling in, the Art Discovery Class is in session, and we were blessed with a group of young kids out of Colorado who helped with some exterior and interior cleaning. We also introduced Christian stewardship by implementing a little paper recycling, and just like that, the rainy season is upon us. This must all be orchestrated by the Lord, and we are honored to receive His blessings. Phew! Los Altos is on a roll!

I sometimes wonder if the Spanish explorers named the mountain range east of Albuquerque for its explosive unpredictable flooding? Some might refer to it as the "Diurnal Effect". Imagine for a moment, in the mid 1500's when the Spaniards came into this ecosystem exploring; most-likely setting up their camp near the Rio Grande River where they found water and shelter away from hostile environment. However, as luck would have it, it also hampered their view from seeing or hearing any rain storms occurring, on or near the mountain east of their prime dry-land real-estate.

Eventually, these Spanish explorers learned the intermittent arroyos would swell into raging rivers from the unknown rains and super-saturated soils that occurred several miles east of their camp. With velocities and forces their minds-eye had never seen before, the waters carved out the landscape heading in their direction. It must have sounded like a legion of stamping buffalo. I would venture to say it must have scared the bejeezus out of a few of them! In spite of the astounding hydrological events experienced, the name was born "**Sandia Mountains**", like a watermelon bursting with water.

You might say this could be a metaphor to how Christ is planted into one's life. It starts out like a seed watered by the Holy Spirit until it is super-saturated, bursting with joy, love, compassion, and grace, overflowing, if you will. Only to be shared with others, starting the process all over again. The "Diurnal Effect of the Holy Spirit": some never hear it or see it coming!

As it says in First Corinthians 2: 9-10 "What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived" these things God has prepared for those who love him.¹⁰ These are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.

So, next time you bite into a sweet juicy watermelon, give thanks to the Lord and think of the beautiful Sandia Mountains, below which many people reside, recall this new insight into how the Lord provides what is needed to sustain all life, especially spiritual lives. And oh yes, how we love sharing watermelon with family, and friends, during joyous gatherings and times of celebration. It brings miles of smiles to all!

As a side note: Research has found that growing watermelons using non-potable water aids in the purification of that water, yielding roughly 5 gallons of potable water. These analytical people have determined this to be a more cost-effective means than constructing a waste water treatment plant or drilling a well within a third world country village that has very little resources. Hallelujah! We live because he has risen!

From our Los Altos Family to yours, may the Lord Bless you and keep you safe. Amen!

Your Servanthood Pastor,
Anthony P. Lopez

Feed & Seed Thursday Night Bible Study

Fellowship and supper at 5:30 pm, Study starts at 6:00 pm

Join us around the table!

July 20, 2017
(brown bag)

July 27, 2017
(brown bag)

The Prayer Corner

Those requesting special prayers:

Vic & Andrea Johnson & families
Bina Caris, Virgie Key, Coral Stupp
Mary & Dean Wright, Hime families,
Carol Sparks, Debbie Rinker & family

Iva Vest turns 100 years old on July 25!!

At the age of 100, Iva is still an active part of church life. She is a member of the Sew & Sews group, of which she just recently stepped down as chair-person. Iva also proofs and folds the church newsletters twice each month, schedules the Worship Leaders for the year and is a faithful attender at Sunday Morning worship and Thursday Night Bible Study!

Anyone would be hard-pressed to find a more "good and faithful servant" of our Lord.

Iva, we appreciate you, we need you, and most of all - - - We Love You!

Congratulations and Happy Birthday!



Please plan on attending Iva's 100th-year Birthday Celebration. This momentous event will transpire in the Fellowship Hall directly after church service on July 30th.

It will be a side-dish potluck, i.e.: (salads, deviled eggs, vegetables, mashed potatoes, potato salad, dinner roles, drinks, green-bean casserole, etc.). Please email, phone or text Jack Gibson as to what you plan on bringing. If you'd like to bring a card for Iva too, I'm sure she would love it!

**Jack Gibson: 505-385-4400
silverback10@msn.com**

General Assembly elects Teresa Hord Owens as first African-American woman to head mainline denomination

INDIANAPOLIS - Rev. Teresa "Terri" Hord Owens was elected Sunday night to serve as the General Minister and President of the [Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\)](#) in the United States and Canada. She is the first African-American to hold this post and the second woman to lead the denomination.

Hord Owens comes to the position in a time of renewed emphasis on the issues of race, particularly in the United States. Her election comes on the 50th anniversary of the Merger Agreement uniting the African-American and largely white branches of the American-born denomination. She is currently pastor of a predominately white congregation in the Chicago area.

"We need to stop demonizing differences as deficiencies," Hord Owens says. "We should seek to understand, to work through our differences in priorities, opinions, methods, and goals. This will not be easy, but imagine what an example this will be for the world if we can bridge the gaps in politics, identity, geography and theology."

Hord Owens' [resume](#) includes more than 20 years in corporate America leading diverse teams in data management before she entered seminary. For the last 15 years, she has been the dean of students at the University of Chicago Divinity School, shepherding a varied student body in both background and theology.

The election of Hord Owens follows the 12-year tenure of the Rev. Sharon E. Watkins, who was the first female to lead a mainline denomination in the United States upon her election in 2005. Hord Owens' term is six years with an option for re-election in 2023 for an additional six-year term.



Guess Who?

(#5 in a series of articles about current and past participants at LACC.)



This person appreciates the humorous lines during the Sunday Morning Worship announcements which seem plentiful when Jack G. is the worship leader. One of the more memorable events in his life occurred when attending New Beginnings Camp at Black River the summer between 2nd and 3rd grade. One of the canoes, not the one he was in, developed a hole causing the kids in the canoe to start scooping out water as fast as they could. They made quite a bit of noise, enough to attract the attention of the instructor/counselor who exchanged canoes with the kids. The image of the instructor standing in the canoe and paddling it back to shore as it sunk lower and lower in the water still makes him laugh.

This person enjoys family trips. He remembers visiting Mount Rushmore and being surprised that it was so small; he was expecting a Sandia-size mountain. He was quite impressed that there were no fatalities during the project and quite enjoyed the interactive exhibit that allowed him to push down on the dynamite plunger and see a simulation of how the stone was blasted away. On a trip to the Kennedy Space Center, he rode in a rocket simulator. The G-forces hurt, and it didn't help that the seats were barely cushioned. While viewing the sea life in an ocean cove during a trip to San Diego, he left his hand too near a crack in a rock for too long and was pinched by a crab. He remembers a little sister who made it difficult to sleep in their motel room. Ah, the memories created on family vacations!

Scouting plays a major role in his life. He loves the outdoor activities and excels at tying knots. His pack had a tradition of tying the patrol leader to a pillar when tying knots to qualify for a new rank, which made things extra fun. He is thankful for the adults who make scouting possible.

Stats: Born in Albuquerque. Schools: Graduated from Ocate, will attend Hoover in the fall. Boy Scout for 5 years. Began attending LACC as a baby. Has served as acolyte and reader, has helped with property projects, the Easter Egg hunt, and Hanging of the Greens. Participates in Children's Church.

See the bulletin board in the Narthex on Sunday to see if you've correctly "guessed who."



To prevent vehicle break-ins, please make sure that you do not leave any valuables in sight in your vehicle and it is securely locked while you are in church.

Sew & Sews Update

Iva and I took several large bags of magazines, Christian quarterlies, books and a lot of greeting cards to St. Theresa's Nursing Home. Thank you to all who donated to this effort!

The Rio Rancho ladies took four youth and five baby blankets to the Storehouse West.

Also, 5 lap robes went to the Rio Rancho Nursing Home and 5 lap robes went to Harmony Residential Care.

Find some time to pray for L.A.C.C. It has not yet reached it's potential.

Los Altos Christian Church (DOC)

Hours of Sunday Worship

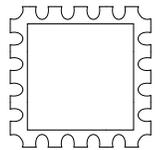
Sunday School: 9:15 am

Sunday Morning Svc: 10:30 am

Evening Taize Svc: 5:00 pm



We are disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world. As part of the one Body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us.



Los Altos Christian Church
11900 Haines Avenue NE
Albuquerque NM 87112-4513

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Los Altos Christian Church Staff / Support Staff

Pastor: Anthony Lopez
Administrative Assistant: Connie Shaw
Office Angels: Iva Vest, Peg Jackson
Kristie Gitzendanner & Georgie
Janitorial: VanGuard Cleaning Systems
Security & Property: Bob Dunnington / Stuart Pirrotta

Serving on Sunday, July 23:

Elder: Cory Church
Greeter: Margaret Hime
Worship Leader: Carl Hime III
Deacon: Betty Smith
Sound Room: Debbie Rinker

Serving on Sunday, July 30:

Elder: Jackie Metcalf
Greeter: Eartha Lynn
Worship Leader: Kristie Gitzendanner
Deacon: Betty Smith
Sound Room: Debbie Rinker



Visit Us On The Web at
www.losaltoschristianchurch.com

Church Office - 505-299-5526
New office hours: Mon-Thurs 8:00am-12:00pm, Fri-closed