

ALAMOSA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

June 30, 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

With everything going on here, I've still ended up with a dearth of "people pictures" recently – maybe because I've usually been doing things with you all and not using my camera. Thanks to Kay, here is a flesh-and-bones picture – taken on a train excursion on the La Veta run. I continue to marvel that we all get to see this sort of scenery every day.



Response has been electric to our proposed **trip to the Creede Repertory Theater**. The date is set – Saturday, August 21 – for a 2:30 matinee performance of *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. We have almost enough people signed up already for the 20% discount on ticket prices (and more than enough to guarantee the 15% discount). The prices listed in last week's newsletter did not include tax, which I'm assuming we'll have to pay even though this is a church outing. I'll give you the final cost per ticket in next week's newsletter, based on the correct discount and the tax status. **I'D LIKE TO MAKE TUESDAY, JULY 13, THE DEADLINE FOR RESERVING YOUR TICKETS** so that I can get all the tickets ordered that week and make sure we can all get seats. (For the discount, we have to order and pay for them in a block.) I'll have payment information for you in next week's newsletter also.

Of course, right after that deadline is our **Sand Dunes** service on July 18. Here is a reminder of the **food list** for the potluck: The deacons will provide hamburger patties, bratz, hot dogs, buns, plates and plastic table service, bottled water, chips, lettuce, tomatoes, onion, ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise. Please bring a dish to share and something for your family to drink if they want something other than water.

Meanwhile, it's not necessary to journey anywhere to enjoy the fellowship of congregational members. **Stop by the church** any day and see the folks gathered here for work, worship and fun. This morning our Strong Bones group joked our way through those bone- and muscle-strengthening exercises. It has been fun to have John, Ellen and Phoebe join the group over the last couple of months – and new members are always welcome. Yesterday Sarah spent yet one more Tuesday morning (it's been over a year now) going through our church records, and Dorothy Ziegler joined her to work on the PW files. Yesterday evening our valiant Handbell Choir members fought and rang their way once again through the music for this coming Sunday. Tomorrow the Nuts'n'Needles crew will gather to cut up yet more donated jeans into quilt squares. And so it continues. So many of you give your time and love to this church and its mission. Thank you also this week to Marcella and Berda for washing those bathroom rugs. What an improvement!

By the way, have I told you that we now have **donated sleeping bags and pillows** for our bunk beds? The work group from Marywood University left them here for other groups to use. Now visiting work groups can just bring sheets (to line the sleeping bags) and pillowcases with them instead of hauling their own bags. You've already heard about the work group volunteer who made curtains for the dormitory rooms, and the work groups that did pre-stripping on our outside doors and painting on the new stucco. It looks as though this next week's group may be shampooing our carpets for us. Truly, the gift we give in making our facilities available comes back to bless us over and over.

My own life is full of music right now, especially in preparation for the **Taize and Sacred Harp** events coming up in August. Pete Mathewson of La Junta will be leading the Sacred Harp workshop; Eric and I got to sing with him in Pueblo Sunday. (Here's a tickler for you Handbell Choir members; "Chester" is one of the tunes in the Sacred Harp songbook we'll be using. You may not recognize it in this version, though.) This afternoon Sr. Johnette and I are planning the order of service and publicity for the first Taize monthly service. Look for more on both of these music and worship opportunities soon. They are quite different from one another, but both will bring together Christians from many congregations (I hope) in praise and worship.

Have a happy and safe Fourth of July weekend. Thanks be to God for our political freedoms; may we use them wisely.

In Christ, Katherine