



ALAMOSA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NEWS

May 27, 2010

Dear Friends in Christ,

All ready for the cover of Vogue – that’s our PW in this year’s collection of **Mabel’s hats** at last Thursday’s meeting. What a treat to do Bible study with a bit of netting blowing over one eye. Don’t let the picture fool you – we’re a very serious bunch.

At that meeting two of the women offered sewing machines on loan for our new **sewing group**. PW also donated some money for blanket fabric, which I had fun spending on fleece for children’s blankets. The fleece and the sewing machines are now in the room labeled “Nuts ‘n Needles.” That’s NOT intended to refer to the people doing the sewing, I’ll have you know. The “Nuts” are the PW pecans and walnuts, because it was agreed at PW to let the sewing group use the Pecan Room.

PW was on Thursday; on Saturday the **Blister Fellowship** steering committee met here. Plans are underway for our three-fold focus of fellowship, mission to our communities, and strengthening our congregations. Sam Vance and Luis Escobedo of La Jara are organizing firewood collecting for poor families throughout the Valley this fall. Katherine Griffis of Alamosa and Henry Hanna of Del Norte are in charge of planning a musical fellowship get-together for our churches this fall. And most exciting, Charlie Goff is heading up “EEEC!”, an “energy efficiency exploratory committee” to evaluate energy efficiency needs in our Cluster churches. He and Jack and John have already had some good conversations about the best ways to insulate our building, possibilities for double-pane windows, and solar heating options. As you know, upgrading our building or any other older structure can be very expensive initially, even when the long-term savings are much greater. That’s one reason why all of your gifts to the Blister Fellowship Fund are so welcome – and why we’ve been asking for gifts from churches outside of the Valley Cluster as well. It’s also one reason why it’s great to have people like Charlie, Jack and John as resources on savvy, not-so-expensive solutions.

So thank you for your gifts to the Blister Fellowship special offering on Pentecost. You gave a total of \$395 for future Blister Fellowship projects at our church and at the other San Luis Valley/Salida Cluster churches. Churches from around the Presbytery have been contributing to this fund also, which is maintained by the Presbytery for convenience but managed by the Blister Fellowship steering committee exclusively for Blister Fellowship projects here in the Cluster.

And speaking of **Pentecost**, “Mariah blows the stars around, sets the clouds a’flyin’” – the wind – and Jack’s sax – were certainly blowing in our sanctuary Sunday. Keith and Tonya brought seven kids (to find out what the “something red” was going to be?) and Ellen and Nancy stepped forward as Sunday School teachers for them since the regular teachers were both away. Then we all got to pass through the “flames” as the children held up their newly made Pentecost hangings to brush our heads as we left worship.



After Sunday’s meeting Jack added the last picture needed for our **congregational mission statement** and ran off copies. I’m not including it with this newsletter because it’s too long, but you’ll be able to pick up a copy in worship next week. If you have a computer and can receive an e-mail with an 11K attachment, I’d be glad to e-mail it to you; or, if you can’t get to worship and let me know, I’ll mail you one if you’d like.

Yesterday I took the mission statement to COM, who authorized election of a PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee.) Therefore, Session calls a **congregational meeting for Sunday, June 13** following worship, for the purpose of approving the congregational mission statement and electing a PNC. Deacons, I know you’re scheduled to meet that day and I hope you can work around the congregational meeting, since that seemed the best day to hold it.

Eric and I received joyous news Monday, when the oncologist said that the throat **cancer** was completely gone. Eric’s lymphoma will still need further chemotherapy in the future; right now we’re “waiting and seeing” on that and awaiting word on another possible concern. Thank you for all your prayers and good wishes. Please continue to hold Eric in prayer – and please continue to pray for Lynette Cotton as she undergoes treatment for her cancer.

In Christ, Katherine

PS John unloaded the **urns** Saturday – did you see them Sunday?