



October 23, 2009

Dear Friends in Christ,

**Tomorrow** is our “Grief and Loss in the Worshipping Community” workshop. Twelve people are signed up to meet with The Rev. Tricia Schneider here in our Library during the morning and through lunch. After lunch, Kay Laws will lead our own congregational members in the All Saints art project, to be used in worship on November 1, All Saints Day. Later that afternoon, another group will be meeting downstairs in Fellowship Hall. Upstairs, sleeping beds will be spread around our two dormitory rooms because . . .

While all of that’s going on, a La Puente work group from Lord of the Mountains Church will be building our bunk beds at the Habitat for Humanity House. Plans are to have them build all twenty-four beds (twelve bunk beds) and get them stained. A second group, next week, will apply the polyurethane varnish and then move the completed beds into our building. So when you come to worship on November 1 for All Saints Day, you’ll also be able to see the new beds upstairs.

Before All Saints Day, though, is this coming Sunday, October 25, which is **Reformation Sunday** and also Communion. The UU’s have their fourth-Sunday worship here that day and they’re coming in costume since they don’t have worship on All Saints. So expect to see some unusual looking outfits that morning!

Mary Ellen, the new Americorp volunteer at the Alamosa Food Bank, called earlier this week to ask if we would help with their holiday **food drive**. This year they’re asking each church or organization to contribute one type of item. Ours is NON-PERISHABLE pie crust. They are hoping to feed 500 families this year, so although they’re not counting on us for all 500 boxes of pie crust, whatever you can contribute will help. They’d like the food by the beginning of November, so if you’d like to donate some pie crust mix, please **BRING IT THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, OR NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1.**

I missed a **thank you** last week. Thank you, Jill and Noel, for the choir room’s new curtains, which Alma and Nancy altered to fit. Thanks be to God that Kate Daniels is making good progress in recovering from her accident. Please continue to hold her in prayer, along with Jill, who’s been down with a bad cold, and Polly from Safeway, concerned about being able to care for family members moving to this altitude. Please remember also the staff at Hospice, who lost one of their number to death this week.

New things are showing up (or being found) here at the church. The History Sorters last Tuesday found a large framed **photo** of Ted Hodge with a grandbaby. Does anybody know if Ted and Betty have any family who might like that photo, or if it was given specifically to the church? We also found a scrapbook that Betty Hodge put together when she was Elder Commissioner to General Assembly in 1992. Does that belong with our APW files or should it go to the Presbytery office?

Also new, if less exciting, are sanitizing **hand wipes**, now located in the pews, the narthex, and around the building. A 30-page guide from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services on *H1N1 Flu, A Guide for Community and Faith-Based Organizations*, lists a number of steps that we can take as a congregation to help one another (and our visitors) stay healthy. Among them are washing our hands often with soap and water or using the hand wipes. Since shaking hands and hugging are part of our usual fellowship, taking extra precautions before and/or after worship, the Ritual of Friendship, and the Passing of the Peace makes good sense. Use the wipes as often as you wish, but please don’t take a supply home with you. Thanks!

The pecans arrived this week for the upcoming 78<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL **BAZAAR on November 19**. Please consider helping by making chili, soup or pies for the luncheon. Baked goods will also be needed the day of the bazaar. Ellen (589-4240) or Jill (589-3410) can answer your questions.

Next week: monthly can recycling and geraniums for next spring?

**Scriptures** for Sunday:      Job 42:1-6 and 10-17      Hebrews 7:23-28  
   Psalm 34:1-8 and 19-22      Mark 10:46-52

In Christ, Katherine