

September 28, 2009

Dear Friends in Christ,

No picture this week, but the **October calendar** is attached and we have lots of **prayer** joys. The flowers are still blooming despite the frosts (at least the flowers not yet eaten by the deer). Geri's surgery went very well and she's doing "great." My Dad is also recovering well after his aortal valve replacement. John and Ellen are back after a great trip and bring us greetings from Brian and Leslie Teachout. Dorothy Romero had fun gleaning potatoes with La Puente last Saturday; she says there was a crowd of about fifty people from the community who participated. Dorothy also reminds us that she's still sending CARE packages to our soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan; if you know of someone, get his or her name and address to Dorothy. Phoebe and Bob Russell celebrated the 60th anniversary of their wedding Sunday – Phoebe wore the same suit she had worn 60 years ago – and looked stunning in it! Dorothy Ziegler gives thanks for a wonderful PW Retreat over the weekend; thirty women from all over the Presbytery were here in Alamosa and down in Mogote for the occasion. And I give thanks that Eric's ordination as Minister of Word and Sacrament has now been reinstated in answer to his request, after a number of years in which God had been calling him in other directions. Eric continues teaching philosophy at TSJC but is frequently invited to preach and asked to celebrate Communion. Now he can do so. Eric was here over the weekend, and he and I got to attend the Community Picnic at La Puente Sunday, which was lots of fun. You should have seen the piñata! Strong People Strong Bones is going well, with class members from our congregation and from several towns in the Valley.

Along with all the good news, please hold Don and Dorothy Croft in your prayers. Don was hospitalized for a few days last week and is now back at home. And John and Ellen ask prayers (with the family's permission) for Kate Daniels, their nephew's girlfriend, who was very seriously injured in a four-wheeler accident.

“What happened to all the books? Part III. An Introduction to Your Library.” Stop into the Library/Social Room some time soon and take a look. Some of the books and pamphlets still need to be organized a bit more, and labels for the sub-sections are still to come, but even still you can find your way around, thanks to the delightful signs Phoebe has made. Here are the main sections now in the Library:

Local History (just inside the door) – books and magazines about church and community history in the Valley and the region. This does not include our own congregational materials, which are in and on top of the fire safe.

Bible Study (against the outside wall) – Commentaries, Bible dictionaries, and so on; also theology.

Personal Reading (on the opposite wall) – Devotional, self-help, fiction, and general interest books.

Children's Books (under the chalkboard) – Look for the dragon.

Leadership Development (under the window) – Session, Sunday School, PW, and other resources.

Books Published Before 1920 (in the bookcase behind the door) – Just what the title says, organized by topic.

Once the book sorters are done with all our work, we'll be hosting a coffee fellowship in the Library. But don't wait till then to see it – and why not sign out a book while you're there. The sign-out pad is by the door.

Here's a **thank you** from last week's Colorado College work group. The original is on the bulletin board:

Dear Alamosa Presbyterian Church, Thank you so much for letting us stay in your space. Our trip was awesome and we had a lot of fun working with La Puente. We really appreciated sleeping in the church. Thanks so much!

This coming Sunday is **World Communion**, a day on which Christians all over the world celebrate our unity in Jesus Christ. We will also be receiving the **Peacemaking Offering**, a PC(USA) offering which supports peacemaking efforts at every level from the family to the world. One-quarter of the Offering received here will be going to our local Center for Restorative Programs, which works especially with Valley teens, and toward the fee for our Bereavement Workshop speaker. Please give generously. **Scriptures** for Sunday:

Job 1:1 and 2:1-10

Hebrews 1:1-4 and 2:5-12

Psalms 26

Mark 10:2-16

And speaking of the **Bereavement Workshop**, if you weren't in church the day brochures were in the bulletins, please pick one up next Sunday. I'm hoping that all of you can be here for this very special event on Saturday, October 24.

In Christ, Katherine