

Figure 1 "Come on, the food was really good!"



Dear Friends in Christ,

You're right, there was no newsletter last week. What with that, and not having picnic pictures for the August 26 newsletter, these photos from the **congregational picnic** at the manse are beginning to look like Summer Lost. Are you also already feeling the increased pace now that September has begun? I am.

We acknowledged another kind of loss – and celebrated our Christian hope in the resurrection – yesterday at the funeral for **Myrtle Ortega**, who died last week. Almost all of the Ortega family were here to be with Ike and one another. Please hold the family in your prayers.

Tita, Benito and Bonie played the music, and Noel Herrera got the newly cleaned and repaired **stained glass window** mounted on the back balcony wall in time for the service. Other prayer concerns: Tita's mother **Geri**, facing surgery next week; and two **Presbyterian congregations in Colorado Springs** – Ivywild, which is holding its last worship service this Sunday, and Grace Community Church in Falcon, which is dedicating their new church building this Sunday also. Both congregations ask your prayers in gratitude for what God has done in their lives and in confidence of God's guidance for the future.

Last Sunday we began a month's sermon focus on **peacemaking** through the story of the Syrophoenician woman. We'll continue this coming Sunday (see the scripture texts below) with some added attractions:

This Sunday, September 13, is our monthly **BREAKFAST**, shared with the **UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP**, who begin meeting upstairs in our Sunday School wing that day. They will host **COFFEE FELLOWSHIP** for both congregations on the lawn in front of the church after worship. During worship, **Audrey Liu of HABITAT FOR HUMANITY** will give us a Minute for Mission about Habitat's work and about our **BUNK BEDS**. (Hint: PW is involved.) **DEACONS**, please stay after coffee for your meeting.

Activities next week: **Session** on Monday, book sorting on Tuesday, two talks at Adams State on "Evolution of Grace" on Wednesday, and **PW Circle** meeting Thursday, among other events. Please note that Circle will meet in the library **AT THE CHURCH** rather than at Geri's house.

Coming up soon: **Strong People Strong Bones**, a **FREE** 12-week exercise program for middle-aged and older men and women, taught by Mary Ellen Fleming from the Colorado State University Extension Office. Classes begin **Monday, September 21, 8:30 am** in the back of Fellowship Hall and will continue Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8:30-9:30 am. These classes teach participants to use hand and ankle weights properly to increase strength, bone density, balance, and flexibility. All weights used are provided, and will become the property of the church after the twelve weeks are up. Please **REGISTER** by calling the church – and remember, there is **NO COST**. Yes, this is the same program offered at Sacred Heart last year and still continuing with volunteer leadership; we will continue also after the twelve weeks if there is interest.

Figure 2 "See -- AJ looks happy, doesn't he?"



Scriptures for Sunday:

Proverbs 1:20-33 James 3:1-12
Psalm 19 Mark 8:27-38

In Christ, Katherine

Figure 3 "Marilyn liked it!"



PS The National Heritage Area dedication in San Luis was lots of fun.

PPS The burlap curtains in the choir room have an attractive texture but also ragged holes and lots of dust. Any curtain cleaners/repairers -- or replacers – out there?

COMING NEXT WEEK: What happened to all the books?