

ALAMOSA
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
NEWS

September 8, 2010



Dear Friends in Christ,

Nancy has written again to say that she's hoping to be back the end of September but is not at all sure about that. Please continue to hold her and Darrell in

prayer.

One calendar update – the work group scheduled to stay here **this weekend** has cancelled their trip. Things will still be busy, though. Friday evening is the next ecumenical **Taizé** service at Sacred Heart, 5:30 pm. Saturday I'll be hosting a tea for the **interfaith women's group** here in our Library. Sunday is our **breakfast** at 9:30, hosted by the UU's, who are beginning their worship year again in our building, followed by our worship at 10:30 with some very special music. Sunday evening is the first monthly **Sacred Harp** sing, in our narthex at 6:00. (That's a picture from August's Sacred Harp workshop above – see anyone you know?) Then Monday, **Session** meets after a two-month vacation. Someone didn't plan her calendar very well, did she?

Speaking of **music**, this Sunday **Sarah Johnson's brother, David Hof**, will be playing and singing in worship along with a special friend of his. We will also be welcoming **John McDowell** as our new pianist and/or organist, at least for a few weeks. John, his wife, and their three young children (ages 5, 2 ½, and 6 months) have just moved to the Valley so that she can study nursing at the TSJC Valley Campus. He has a degree in music from Metro University in Denver, is a piano teacher, and has worked as music director and pianist at various churches. I'm hoping that he'll be with us for a long time. John and his family are Catholic, and he isn't sure if they will all be coming on Sundays or if he'll come by himself. Please help him feel at home.

And speaking of **work groups**, the schedule changes almost weekly as groups call La Puente to arrange trips or to change their plans. As of today we have a total of twenty-eight groups who have stayed in, or are booked to stay in, our building this year. If you remember our "Provocative Proposals" in our Congregational Mission Statement, we envisioned thirty groups a year, so you can see we're nearly there. We've actually had another seven groups booked who then cancelled, and an additional eight groups who had to be moved to another location because of scheduling difficulties, so that we've had a total of forty-three groups initially booked to stay here this year so far.

Looking ahead, in case you haven't noticed from the September calendar, let me alert you that I'll be out of town part of the week of September 19. (That's not next week, but the following week.) Tuesday night the 21st I'm meeting with the Del Norte Session, a meeting rescheduled from last month, to help them get started on their mission statement. Committee on Ministry meets in Pueblo that Wednesday, then I'm going to a two-day symposium in Colorado Springs on Thursday and Friday connected with our local Center for Restorative Programs. I'm squeezing in a brief retreat at Benet Pines from Friday night until early Sunday morning, and I'll be back here for worship that Sunday, the 26th. Except for the retreat time I'll be available by cell phone and e-mail and hard at work, so feel free to contact me. Eric will also be here all or most of that time, so there will be someone at the house.

A final note about a **volunteer opportunity**. Here are the handles to our sanctuary doors before the latest coats of polyurethane and the latest brass polishing. The brass is going to start looking dull like this again fairly soon. Is there someone out there who likes polishing brass and would be willing to clean the door handles on the three west-facing doors once a month? I think they should polish up pretty well in place with just a damp cloth and some (dare I say it in a church newsletter?) Bar Keeper's Friend. Let me know if you'd like to take on this chore. We'll supply the cloth and the BKF if you'll supply the elbow grease.

In Christ, Katherine

PS Last reminder – **BREAKFAST SUNDAY AT 9:30**. My sermon that morning is going to hearken back to that braided rope hanging from the pulpit, as part of this month's preaching focus leading up to the Peacemaking Offering on October 3, World Communion Sunday. We began with clay; come and see where we end up.

