

Views from the Top

The Cloudhaven Chronicle

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Ministry update

It's been a while since our previous Chronicle in October, 2014, but we're still rejoicing in God's grace and goodness! As we were putting that newsletter to bed, Dwight and Susie Lind paid us a visit from Sierra Vista, AZ. Then the leaders of Love, INC (In the Name of Christ) in Alamogordo came for a planning retreat.



The gang from Love, INC

Our 12th annual Christmas at Cloudhaven was another special blessing for us. Our friends of many years from California, Ken & Sue Lakes and Roy & Jan Worsham came to help and join the festivities along with 80+ others from near and far. The Hicks family from Las Tierras Community Church in El Paso were our readers this year and Justin Burks provided the special music for the service of Lessons and Carols.



Ken & Sue Lakes, Jan & Roy Worsham

Jim's son Tim was able to be with us for some time over Christmas. He's back in school working on his masters degree at Cal Poly in San Louis Obispo, CA.



Tim Bailey

In the new year, The Reception and Ordination Committee of the new Anglican diocese in our area stayed and prayed with us while interviewing candidates at the Cloudcroft Church of the Epiphany. Then we were pleased to host Brenna Tanksley and her uncle Bob from Oklahoma. We knew Brenna and her parents Sam and Sheila from our years in Santa Barbara, CA.



Bob & Brenna Tanksley

In February, we were blessed to participate in the family reunion of long-time friends of Cloudhaven the Barretts and Hartzells. Kevin and Sarah Hartzell with their son Max are currently teaching in South Korea. Sarah's parents Steve and Jo Barrett hail from Las Cruces, New Mexico, while Kevin's folks, Mark and Linda Hartzell currently live in Chattanooga,

TN. Then we enjoyed hosting a retreat of Junior and Senior High School students from Christ the King PCA in El Paso, TX. They were ably guided by Meg & Fred Hixson and A. C. & Barbara Donell.

Pastor Tito Padilla (Las Tierras Community Church, El Paso) returned for a brief visit in March and pitched in for some ministry with us as well. Long-time readers will remember Baylee (not our dog) who nevertheless spends her days mostly with us while her family is away. She is beginning to show her age (like the rest of us) and suffers a bit from arthritis, but always responds with joy to the prospect of a hike with Tito, her favorite Cloudhaven guest.



Tito & Baylee

In other ministry news, Jim participated in two community services of the Sacramento Mountain Ministerial Alliance (big name for a little group.) They traditionally provide a Thanksgiving and an Easter sunrise service here in the mountains. Another outreach is the annual Lenten Lunches held at the Cloudcroft Methodist Church. Jim provided the kick-off devotional for these this year as well. We also attended the January stated meeting of the Presbytery of the Southwest in Phoenix, AZ. Jim taught a 13 week Sunday School quarter at Westminster Presbyterian in Alamogordo on the first three chapters of Revelation and how to respond to Christ's call to be faithful witnesses in our postmodern culture.



The Anglican Reception and Ordination Committee: Stan, Bill, Pete, Mark (with Winston) & Warren

Katy and Jim joined a few folks from Westminster in attending the Clarus conference sponsored by The Gospel Coalition at Desert Springs Church in Albuquerque. We were all enlightened by the plenary speakers Revs. Alistair Begg, D. A. Carson and David Helm, and enjoyed the fine music and a great meal together.

Tell ya what...

The big news for Katy this Christmas was her Christmas present and our new family member, Winston, courtesy of Kitty City in Alamogordo. We have been without pets since our last cat, Fizzgig (clue: Jim Henson's film, *The Dark Crystal*) died back in 2006. For those of you with allergies, we're keeping Winston out of our guest bedrooms, but he's pretty much taken over the rest of the place.



Steve & Jo, Linda & Mark, Kevin with Max & Sarah and Katy



Winston the rascal

We pray you had a glorious and worshipful Easter resurrection celebration. We thank God for the hope we have in Christ that is signified and sealed by that historic event. In these



Junior and Senior High Schoolers from Christ the King, El Paso

times of radical subjectivism in the Western world, we are also thankful that the Christian worldview is rooted in history and is the only one that is adequate to explain our scientific observations and personal experiences of the world around and within us. It is Truth with a capital "T" from the one

who alone can say, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me." [Jn 14:6]

Soli Deo Gloria!

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"I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you."—Is. 44:22