

Views from the Top

The Cloudhaven Chronicle

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Time flies when you're...

having fun? It's been a while since our last newsletter, so some of you probably have been wondering if somehow we'd fallen off the map. We're still here—although there have been some changes and challenges. Attendance at Cloudhaven has been less than last year. We attribute that to the economic downturn, the dangerous situation on our nearby border which has affected many missions to Mexico, and also God's providence on our behalf.

In August, Jim managed to fall off a ladder while renovating an outdoor utility closet. His head and shoulders took most of the trauma (I know, "Good thing it was his head...") But an angel was there to catch him, so there were no broken bones, concussion or permanent damage. He's slowly regaining full neck movement and managed to finish off the closet work this month. We also were able to fill the wood room once again and are enjoying our warm fires.

Thanks to all of you who prayed, called and wrote notes of encouragement to Katy and her mom Luella. Mom has had some ups and downs, but is still at Monroe Manor. Katy, her sister Robbi and daughter Alesia went to Wisconsin to help her auction off her belongings. Jim then went up to rent



New Mexico State University (Las Cruces) RUIF



Linda, Mark, Kevin and Sarah Hartzell a truck so they could bring a few of mom's things down to Cloudhaven. Luella's nice house is currently on the market if you're thinking of a move to

beautiful Barron, Wisconsin.

Another big change for us is that since the beginning of August, Jim has been preaching and leading worship Sunday mornings at Westminster Presbyterian in Alamogordo. He is filling the pulpit while WPC searches for a new permanent Pastor. Katy is still serving on the search committee. Please pray for their wisdom in the selection process.

This has been one of the prettiest fall seasons in our Sacramento mountains. The aspens have exhibited more color than for the last several years. The weather has continued to be dry, but that has resulted in some spectacularly beautiful days and nights. We do need more moisture soon, though.

Ministry updates

The Reformed University Fellowship leaders (and the Druen twins) came for their annual fall semester retreat in August. The Border Evangelism and Mercy Ministries (BEAMM) leadership team also returned for their annual strategic planning retreat.



Scary, but yummy

(over)



Josue, Gary, Dan, Charlie, Tito and Gene of BEAMM



Our friends from Las Tierras (PCA) in El Paso

It's always fun and an encouragement to us to host these two groups.

Two families who have long been friends of Cloudhaven have recently become one. Kevin Hartzell (his Chattanooga-based parents are Cloudhaven "alumni") met Sarah Barrett (daughter of Steve and Jo Barrett of Las Cruces) while at Covenant College. They were recently married and took a day to join us for a lunch at Cloudhaven. We wish Kevin and Sarah many years of happiness as Christ blesses their marriage.

Las Tierras Church in El Paso returned this year to treat us to a work

day and a great lunch! They put in a full day with weed whackers, mowers, rakes, etc., and landscaped our whole three acres. The transformation was breathtaking for us and a wonderful gift to Cloudhaven. We thank the Lord for their sweet spirits and hearts of service to Him and to us.

Merry Christmas!

It's not yet Thanksgiving, and we encourage you to spend that day thanking the Lord for his goodness and mercy. But also, please note the sidebar and plan to come to this year's *Christmas at Cloudhaven*.

Mark your calendars!

Christmas at Cloudhaven

This year's family candlelight Christmas service and festive feast will be held here on

Saturday evening
December 3rd
6:30 PM

Plan now to join us—
and bring a friend!



If you wish to stay with us that weekend, please get your reservations in as soon as possible. Let Katy know if you wish to bring a little something for our festive feast of fine finger foods following the service.

Whether or not you can come, we pray you'll have an especially blessed season of worship as we gather together with Christians throughout the world and throughout the ages to celebrate the wonder of the incarnation of God's Son. He is forever *Immanuel*, God with us, humanity and deity uniquely united to accomplish God's eternal salvation for those who put their trust in him.



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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