



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LAS CRUCES

OCTOBER 22, 2009

GOOD NEWS!

HEALTH AWARENESS

We are all aware of the extent and seriousness of the H1N1 ("Swine Flu") epidemic. Because we, as a congregation, are frequently in close contact, it is prudent that we take reasonable precautions to protect one another and minimize any spread of this illness.

If you, or someone in your family, are experiencing flu like symptoms, particularly a fever, you should seek medical attention and absent yourself from church functions until you have been without fever for at least 24 hours. We do, of course, want you to come back when you're feeling better!

For those who are in church, we will shortly be making hand sanitizer available in various locations throughout the facility. We encourage you to use sanitizer frequently, particularly after shaking hands and before eating or touching your face. For more information on how H1N1 is being handled in a church setting, check out the website... <http://www.brotherhoodmutual.com/safetycentral/articles/preparedforswineflu.htm>



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Trunk or Treat



Don't forget, Trunk or Treat is coming soon. This is a great way to let the kids for a safe and fun Halloween. Come on out to the church for Trunk or Treat on Halloween evening, October 31st, from 6 - 8 PM. There will be food, crafts and treats and a jumping gym for the kids. Adults, you can have fun too. Bring your car to the parking lot and hand goodies out from your trunk. Dress up in your best scary costume. Let's have some Halloween fun!



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View From the Pew

by Ann M. Velia

Glimpses of Glory

For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I shall know fully just as I also have been fully known. - I Corinthians 13:12.

But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit. - 2 Corinthians 3:13, New American Standard Bible.

My great-niece, Ainsley, was dedicated to the Lord last Sunday by her parents in San Antonio. She's almost three months old, and she's a little beauty -- perfectly smooth clear skin, silky hair, bright eyes -- nary a wrinkle or blemish. It's east to see in her a glimpse of the glory God had in mind when He created mankind in His image.

At this point in her life, Ainsley has no use for a mirror. All her grooming needs are taken care of by people who can see her face to face, and constantly exclaim over her loveliness.

When she gets old enough to take responsibility for her own appearance, she will rely on her reflection for guidance. Time will start to take its toll, however, and she will often lament over revelations of that mirror -- gaps where the baby teeth used to be, the first zit, the bad hair days.

We are at "that responsible age" when we first look into a spiritual mirror. The image that looks back at us gives only a dim hint of "the glory of God" from which we have fallen desperately short.

That sight of ourselves is a necessary beginning point. But it's not the image to dwell upon.

God's instruction is for us to look instead at the Lord Jesus Christ, who is *the radiance of (God's) glory and the exact representation of (God's) nature* (Hebrews 1:3).

As we gaze at the life, the teachings, and the sacrifice of God's Son, we progressively begin to reflect His glory.

The Lord Jesus Christ takes care of our grooming needs, *that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless* (Ephesians 5:27).



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Our House for Thanksgiving



Remember to sign up to provide food for the Thanksgiving dinner for area college students we're hosting on November 22nd. We hope to provide a home away from home for students, especially those who might not be able to go home for the holiday. We need everyone's help to make this a success so sign up early. The sign up board for providing dishes is located in the fellowship room. Let's make this a big success by reaching out to these wonderful young people.

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Church Chuckles

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02-18-2005

GOOD THING I FOUND YOU GIDEON ... IT SEEMS SOMEONE HAS BEEN HIDING ALL YOUR BIBLES IN HOTEL ROOMS