



Views from the Top

The Cloudhaven Chronicle

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Greetings from Cloudhaven

By God's grace this continues to be another fruitful year here in the mountains of New Mexico. This is now Cloudhaven's fifth year as a Retreat and Study Center. We are so grateful to you for enabling us to minister to so many by supporting us through your prayers, encouragement and finances. Since our last newsletter in May, we have hosted several individuals, families and groups. We've also traveled a bit to visit friends, relatives and supporting churches, and have accomplished significant outside work—making up for lost time due to our abnormally wet spring and summer. Here are some highlights...

Ministry milestones

In May, Kevin Eagan came for lunch to share his plans for continuing his theological education, looking toward what God may have for him and Carla in the future. Randy McMillan returned with his employees and friends for a weekend retreat which included the teaching of Rick Smith and Don McDonald. Jim and Katy visited friends and churches in California and Maryland, and were pleased to attend the graduations of Katy's daughter Alesia from the University of Maryland and Megan Bennett from Villanova Prep. in Ojai, CA.



The grads: Alesia & Megan
While we were gone, dear missionary friends of Cloudhaven, the Youngs,

enjoyed a few days of retreat and helped keep the place functioning. We were then greatly pleased to attend the wedding of Ben and Sofia Young in Las Cruces.

June saw preaching opportunities for Jim at Faith Bible in Roswell, NM, and two Sundays at Christ the King in El Paso. Larry and Cheryl Steuck, also from El Paso, spent their anniversary at Cloudhaven in the guest house. We hosted Westminster Presbyterian's Women's Tuesday Bible Study, and Pastor Chuck and Marivi Isaac for an evening.



The Daltons & Sykes

In July, Jim led Communion at University Presbyterian in Las Cruces and moderated a portion of the Southwest Presbytery meeting in Peoria, AZ. We enjoyed hosting the Dalton and Sykes families for dinner.



Jim & Emily, Josiah & Micah (and Katy)

Pastor Jim and Emily Angehr and family from Providence Presbyterian in Lubbock, TX, took over the guest house for a week while God blessed them with some needed down time and us with their company. We also hosted an overnight retreat and planning session for leaders of the Mountain

Valley Baptist Association.



MVBA's Marcia, Diane & Leslie
(assisted by Sir Grennan)

We wrapped up the month with a surprise visit from PCA Elder and longtime friend Steve Ritchie from Orlando, FL.



Steve & Jim

Steve pitched in and helped Jim top off our wood room in preparation for our fall and winter fires.



Steve in the wood room

So far in August, Jim has preached at Westminster in Alamogordo and Crossroads Mission Church in Albuquerque. Cloudhaven hosted David and Janine Smith and family from Las Cruces and Dan and Becky Young from El Paso. The student leaders of Texas Tech Reformed University Fellowship, ably mentored by campus minister Marc and Amy Corbett, returned for the fourth year for their annual planning retreat.



Texas Tech RUF leadership team

All these folks have been a great encouragement to us!

Ministry challenges

We solicit your prayers for us personally as we are once again facing major investments in Cloudhaven's facility. As many of you know, most maintenance and repairs to your facility are not financed by Cloudhaven, but are provided by the Baileys under the terms of our lease. In July, we purchased yet another large mowing machine to attack the weeds covering our grounds—some of which were taller than Jim! We have invested three weeks of hard work whipping our 2.25 acres into shape. As a result, Cloudhaven's grounds are now nicer than ever with a park-like feel.



Our back yard

We need to have a very large tree which is a potential threat to the facility professionally removed. There is no room for us amateurs to fell the tree without damaging the building or other trees, so it will have to be disassembled from the top down.

To comply with recently adopted New Mexico laws, we have just learned that we need to replace our entire septic system, combining the two current systems into one. This will require another large investment, but will ensure our compliance with environmental concerns for the foreseeable future.

Please pray that God's grace will comfort and provide for us in the midst of these unplanned expenses.

Tell ya what...

Those of you who have been following the saga of BayLee (not our dog) will be pleased to hear that she is now fully recovered from her encounter with an automobile. She seems to be her old self and is once again accompanying us and our guests everywhere for hikes and work sessions.



Baylee is back

This episode has once again reminded us of how gracious our God is—not only toward those created in his image, but also in his providential care of all he has created. As we look toward Christ's second coming, let us remember to give thanks and find much joy in the promise of the new heaven and new earth where all the curse and its effects are removed from God's people and their environment as well. It is in this redeemed universe that Christ himself will make his dwelling with us for all eternity.

Maranatha!

Cloudhaven Teach-in

Church, Culture & Country

- What is the role of the church in regard to our culture and our nation?
- What is the role of the individual Christian in church, culture and politics?
- To what does the Biblical concept of God's Kingdom refer?
- How does this relate to the nation of Israel past, present and future?
- Is America a "Christian nation?" Was it ever?

If you (like us) have ever wrestled with questions like these, then our fall teach-in is for you!

Three Tuesday evenings:

September 25th; October 2nd & 9th

7:00 - 9:00PM



Please mark your calendar!

for the 5th annual

Christmas at Cloudhaven

December 1st, 2007, 6:30PM

Candlelight family worship
and festive feast



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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