

Alamosa mission Trip, July 11-15, 2010

Cindy Klick has called and they have arrived safely in Alamosa! They are sleeping at the 1st United Methodist church in Alamosa, and the pastor there is Jim Lewellan, who has served St. Andrew in the early 1990s. They are sleeping in the gym, on a stage, and in a side room. They will use the sanctuary for their devotion time each evening. The jobs this week will be yard work, painting and garage repair. There is a big kitchen for Jill Henton and Katie Flansburg to cook in. Tonight's menu is spaghetti and homemade cookies thanks to Marcia Whitney. Prayers for safe work and meaningful relationships!

Cindy and the work teams are in Monte Vista for their work today, about 17 miles from Alamosa. They have met with Bob and Chester, retired brothers who were both shop teachers, from CCSP, our partner in this work. The kids have gotten instructions from Bob and Chester to do yard work, haul debris, work on trees and a garage, and painting. Our middle school groups have worked in the Alamosa area every other year, and Cindy noticed a roof that they tarred 2 years ago, close to where they are now.

Sunday evening's devotions were led by Katie Flansburg and our high school leaders. They used the bible verse about "building our house upon the rock", and having a firm foundation. The relationships that will be forged this week are the firm foundation that will sustain the youth, so they split into their work teams to begin that relationship building.

Tonight's dinner will be grilled hamburgers and hot dogs. There will be games, ping pong and a pool table at the church for recreation.
Please continue to cover this group with your prayers!

The middle school mission group in Alamosa on Monday put in a long day's work of painting (half the group) and tree and shrub removal (other half). They are painting a man named Bert's stucco house yellow and brown. The girls are calling it the banana house. In the evening some of the youth headed to play soccer on the nearby college field. Worship time was led by the group from Hope UM church.

Tuesday the groups scraped and painted a fence, did more yard work and worked at tearing down a shed. They have had many people stop by to ask who they are working with and how they might get help also, so they are sharing the CCSP information. A moving story was two girls, Bethany and Isabelle, saw a man across the street from where they were working who was mowing his lawn from his wheelchair! The girls wanted to help, so got permission to head over and finish his mowing.

The group will be at the Adams State college pool for swimming tonight.

Thank you for your continued prayers!

Cindy called Wednesday morning before heading out to her work site with youth to finish painting the "monkey-banana" house, as the youth have named it. Anne Purvis and part of Patrick's group are painting a fence. Keith's group continued work on tearing out a shed. They are doing well, only needing sunscreen, Band-Aids and Advil from the first aid kits. Last evening the group went swimming in the Adams State college pool, and devotions were led by St. Andrew high school and middle school youth. They talked about teamwork and what we can learn from working as a team (trust being one thing).

Our St. Andrew youth will get a chance to see the new friends from Hope UMC that they have met on this trip, on Tuesday, July 27, when Hope UMC hosts volleyball for the district.

Thursday the group still plans to return at 5 pm. If they will be much earlier or later, the youth will call parents from cell phones. Pray for safety from the heat and the sand dunes!