

Ring Praise Music Ministry

After the concert in Pilot Rock, we drove to Ukiah and stayed at the Antlers Inn which is across the street from the church. It is a cozy rustic inn with antlers all over the front of the building and many sets inside. It has about 15 rooms with 2 bathrooms and showers that are shared by the occupants.

Sean met a man who was staying there who grew up in his hometown of Ontario, Oregon. His family has been close friends with Sean's family, and Sean even gave piano lessons to a couple of his cousins and also did a benefit concert with one at the College of Idaho.

We were leading the worship service for the small congregation at Community Presbyterian Church. There were 8 at the service which is 2 more than their membership at the end of 2009! Nancy Martin, our contact and Clerk of Session, opened the church for us and was very appreciative of our presence and music. She usually plays the piano and enjoyed being able to listen and worship. For the worship service, we followed a typical order of service and put various songs at appropriate places such as *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* to open prayer time and closing with playing *The Lord's Prayer* while asking them to silently pray it. After a unison prayer of confession and declaration of pardon, we played *Psalm of Love* whose songs speak of God's love for us and our love for Him.

Opening hymns were done as ring alongs. The congregation had fun, but Phyllis commented after the first song that she felt it was just a duet with Sean. They laughed and said it was hard to get the coordination of ringing and singing at the same time. By the last song they were doing very well.

The church houses the Ukiah food bank. In the past, it has been piled on pews in the back of the sanctuary. They have now partitioned off a section in the back to form a barrier between the food bank and the sanctuary.

Following the service we sat around the table in the kitchen/fellowship area and enjoyed conversation with coffee, doughnuts, and homemade banana nut muffins. We then drove to Pilot Rock for lunch with Todd and Lyla Bensel on our way to Milton-Freewater.