News from the Front

This Saturday morning our church will be hosting the Tool-o-Rama event starting at 9am with breakfast. This event is NOT JUST FOR MEN. It is for everyone who wants to be more empowered to do practical repairs and maintenance around their homes the right way. Home Depot is generously lending their expertise and training to show you how to do things using our own church building as their object lesson. Please come out with your whole family and have a great and unique time.

Every week there is an opportunity to serve God in an amazing experience by helping to distribute food from our storehouse to elderly people who can not come to us. This experience will BLOW YOUR MIND. I have done it a few times with my son James and it has been a profoundly moving experience each time. It doesn't take long, it's not complicated and you would have to search long and hard to find a more practical way of showing God's love. Try it once and you will get hooked on this.

Contact Minerva at 562-881-1293 or mquezada1970@yahoo.com

Please remember Susie Alio as she speaks at a conference this weekend. Pray she is bold, skillful, and effective. She is one of our own and we have her back (spiritually) all the way. Go, Susie!!

The training we are receiving from Home Depot in the use of tools set me to thinking.

There is a very fine line between being useful and dangerous. Every tool can become destructive if not used the right way, even a paintbrush. When we have a lot of work to get done we want powerful tools to work with, but there is always a risk involved. Powerful tools are useful, but also dangerous. A chainsaw is a good example. You want it to be powerful enough to cut through a log but that means it can cut through your leg as well. God understands this. He works with this balance all the time. He tends to aggressively equip us with tools that might be a bit beyond our ability, but he stretches us to grow into the mastery of them.

Dangerous tools are made useful through instruction. Instruction is available through humility and obedience. Humility empowers obedience. Obedience to the directions, obedience to the procedure, obedience to the instructor. It is when a person get a little pride and decides to ignore the boundaries that they become dangerous. The scars on the fingers of my right hand can attest to this. I almost cut them off with a skill saw by being reckless one day. I thought I was so
skillful that I could improvise and ignore the safety procedure. I was a rebel. In our world, we do love our rebels. Yet and the end of the day, when the smoke clears, many of them don't have a leg to stand on.

Chris Lawler
Men's Ministry VNOC