

# Community of Christ

## Fairbanks Branch Happenings

### February 2, 2005

The theme for this Sunday is “**Shine!**”

Sparks of light shine  
Halos of light glow  
Inspiration for all to  
Never walk in  
Eternal darkness and be of the “Light”

#### Matthew 5:14-16

<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, *let your light shine* before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

In the verse above, we are told to let our light shine so that all can see and so that we may praise God. Is there only one way to shine light? How is light shined on us? How do we shine light?

Light comes from many sources and in many forms. Light can be constant or light can flicker. Light can create many moods. Light can be straight or bent into a rainbow of colors. Light can be seen from a long distance or it can be contained. - Contrast and compare the following:

Sunlight vs. Moonlight  
Searchlight vs. Flashlight  
Light bulb vs. Candle

All of the above are sources of light, yet each is different. Each serves a different purpose. Each creates a different effect or mood. Each is needed. Each can make a difference.

In the midday sun, a light is barely noticed. In the dark of night, even the smallest light can make a tremendous difference. The same is true in a dark and troubling situation, where even the smallest positive action can have a dramatic impact.

So does God want us to stick a flashlight in front of someone’s face? Maybe - **OR** maybe He wants us to ease the darkness a person is feeling by offering a kind word or smile. Maybe He wants us to give hope to someone by offering our testimony. Maybe He wants us to sing and make a joyful noise in church so that someone’s heart may be uplifted. Maybe He wants us to listen to someone that is in a painful situation. Maybe he wants us to volunteer to change the church sign so that someone is touched by what it says as they drive by or approach the church – (Watch John R’s face *shine* if you do!) Maybe He wants us to ask- “What can I do to help you”. Maybe He wants us to visit a homebound person. Maybe he wants us to actively proclaim Him in our words and deeds. Maybe He wants us to be patient with our spouses and children. Maybe He wants us to approach our lives in a positive and uplifting manner and to not dwell on the negative aspects. Maybe..... (You fill in the blank). The opportunities to shine light are infinite....

We each have a unique “light” to shine and this light can take on different characteristics at various times. Who has shown a light for you? Thank them. Who have you shown a light for? Look around you and see the light that others offer. Shine your light for others. Shine your light for God.

A very special “*thank you*” to Rena and Jeff Whitehall for hosting a game night at their home last Saturday. Everyone enjoyed good food and good fellowship. Various game tables were set up and people played Cranium, Monopoly, a spade type card game and even a game of war – the card game that is.... For those that are not game players- it was a great opportunity to sit a visit and catch up with people.

**New Young Adult Sunday School Class-** Carole Caesar is facilitating a new young adult Sunday school class. This class meets at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays before the worship service. The format is flexible and various topics will be discussed. Topics will be selected by the class. If you are a young adult, you do not want to miss these thought provoking classes. Show up, be involved in your church and in your spiritual life.

**Adult Sunday School** – The adult Sunday School class started a new 12 week study on the book of Daniel.

**Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6:30 p.m.** – Assemble Valentines Day boxes for the college students. We will be assembling boxes to ship to college students. Please bring to the church items that college students might enjoy receiving in a Valentines Day box. Leo Caesar has generously volunteered to provide the boxes and shipping again. Please keep size and weight in mind when purchasing items. We usually send out between 10 -15 boxes for this event. Please bring enough of an item to equally share for each student. If you want to send something “special” to a student, might I suggest that you send that personally and not as part of this activity. They **REALLY ENJOYED** the boxes..... If you have a college student, please send me their address. Some items you might consider follow. This is by all means not a comprehensive list. Think of things an 18 to 20-something might like to receive.

Popcorn    Snack Crackers    Pretzels    Beef jerky    Cookies    Candy  
Hot Chocolate mix    Paperback book    Pens    Paper    Stamps  
Stationery    Hygiene items

**Thursday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> – Dinner** - After the above activity, those that wish may plan on going to dinner at the Mexican restaurant near the church.

**Sunday, February 6<sup>th</sup> - 9:15 a.m.** - Early Morning Prayer service

**February 12<sup>th</sup> – Deadline** to RSVP to Joanne Chapman if you are planning on attending the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration for Hearne on February 20<sup>th</sup>. The caterer needs a count!! Don’t wait til the last minute!!!!

**Saturday, February 12<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 p.m.** – **V-Day Dinner** – Please plan on joining us for dinner. Jeff Whitehall Jr. has *volunteered* the gents to cook dinner for us!!!! So gents, *please see Jeff* and get your assignment!!! The menu will consist of spaghetti, bread, salad, dessert, tea and coffee. Jeff needs helpers to set up, cook, clean up etc. Set up will start about 3:00 at the church. Steve Herold will be providing a program for that evening. The meal will cost \$8.00 per adult and \$2.50 per child. **Please pay in advance and before February 6<sup>th</sup>**. Note on your check that it is for the V-Day dinner and give your check to Margie White or Martha Romig. Also, let Margie know if you need babysitting. Last year we had approximately 20 persons for dinner and everyone had a fabulous time. Come and enjoy – Avoid the crowded restaurants and long wait times!!!!

The worship and nursery schedules have been posted in the family center for January through March, 2005. Please check these .

Nursery Schedule:

**February 6<sup>th</sup>** – Beth & Steve Herold  
**February 12<sup>th</sup>** – Rena & Jeff Whitehall  
**February 20<sup>th</sup>** – Sue & Alex Turner  
**February 27<sup>th</sup>** – Ruth & Gary Chatburn  
**March 6<sup>th</sup>** – Beth & Steve Herold  
**March 13<sup>th</sup>** – Ruth & Gary Chatburn  
**March 20<sup>th</sup>** – Sue & Alex Turner  
**March 27<sup>th</sup>** – Andrea & David Watson

Please review the prayer list in the Sunday bulletin. If you have added someone to the list please update Leo Caesar with any new information and current status of the prayer concern. Please contact Leo Caesar if you wish to add/remove someone from the list.

**Calendar & Mission Center News:**

The Coastal Bend Mission Center is proud to announce that the Coastal Bend web site is up and running! You can visit the site at [www.coastalbendmc.org](http://www.coastalbendmc.org)

**February 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6:30 p.m.** – Assemble Valentines Day boxes

**February 6<sup>th</sup> – 9:15 a.m.** – Early Morning Prayer Service

**February 12<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 p.m.** – V-Day Dinner at Fairbanks

**February 12<sup>th</sup>** – Deadline to RSVP to Joanne Chapman for the Hearne 125<sup>th</sup> celebration

**February 20<sup>th</sup>** – Hearne 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Ken Robinson from First Presidency is the guest speaker.

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Special Mission Center Conference – Pasadena – 1:00- 3:00 p.m.

The following is a schedule of those that are currently scheduled to deliver the message for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter. This is not the “official list” and is for informational purposes only. Please refer to the worship schedule in the fellowship hall for changes.

**February 6<sup>th</sup>** – John Reimer

**February 12<sup>th</sup>** – Sue Turner

**February 20<sup>th</sup>** – Doug White

**February 27<sup>th</sup>** – Carole & Leo Caesar

**March 6<sup>th</sup>** – Gary Chatburn

**March 13<sup>th</sup>** – Testimony Service (Sue Turner presides)

**March 20<sup>th</sup>** – Carole & Leo Caesar

**March 27<sup>th</sup>** – John Reimer

I will be sending out periodic e-mails letting everyone know what is “HAPPENING” at Fairbanks. Please let me know if your e-mail or other contact information changes.

Mark your calendars and **participate, enjoy, reach out!!!!!!**I pray that everyone have a safe and happy week.

***Martha Romig***