

Community of Christ
Fairbanks Branch Happenings
July 21, 2005

The theme for this Sunday is "From Small Beginnings"

So
Many beginnings
Are
Little but grow
Large

Matthew 13:31-33 (The Message)

31Another story. "God's kingdom is like a pine nut that a farmer plants. 32It is quite small as seeds go, but in the course of years it grows into a huge pine tree, and eagles build nests in it."

33Another story. "God's kingdom is like yeast that a woman works into the dough for dozens of loaves of barley bread--and waits while the dough rises."

Small Beginnings:

Seed to redwood tree - "Seed" to baby - Baby to adult - Missionary to congregation - Atom to atomic bomb - Coal to diamond - Garage to Apple Computer - Columbus to the world - prayer to miracle - Bike to Tour de France - Mold to penicillin - Kite to electricity - raindrop to river - snowflake to snow cover mountains - smile to connection - light to rainbow - Mayflower to United States - the Wright brothers to space exploration - star to sun -

Vision - Dedication - Cultivation - Perseverance - Faith - Commitment - Consistency - Nurturing - Hope - Desire - Optimism - Support - Action - Idea - Plan - Prayer - Strength - God You

"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."- St. Francis of Assisi

"Small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises." - Demosthenes

"He who chooses the beginning of a road chooses the place it leads to. It is the means that determine the end." - Harry Emerson Fosdick

"The distance is nothing; it's only the first step that is difficult." - Marquise du Deffand

"Know ye not, each thing we prize does come from small beginnings rise?" - Mary Ann Lamb

"Do not despise this small beginning, for the eyes of the Lord rejoice to see the work begin...." - Zechariah 4:10a (TLB) (Note: This verse is often misquoted as "Despise not the day of small beginnings.")

As we continue to walk in Christ we discover that God is the true source of all power and ability in our life. He empowers and enables us to do praiseworthy things from small to great.

Summer is upon us and that means **camps and reunions!!** Check out the mission center web page to get dates and forms for the various camps and reunions planned for this summer.

Plant and seed, watch it grow, cultivate it, care for it and harvest the fruit. Do you have a gift, talent, idea etc. for an upcoming worship service? If so, contact the person presiding for that service in advance and let them know that you have seeds that you want to sow- ok you have an idea or want to help in that particular worship service. Please refer to the priesthood schedule posted in the fellowship hall for the name of the person presiding. The themes for this liturgical year can be found at the World Church web site under the Resources tab or you can enter the following URL in your web browser - http://www.cofchrist.org/worship/Year_A/

July 24th- H.O.T. school supply drive. Bring school supplies to church. A suggested list of items needed are construction paper, manila paper, brad folders, scissors, big crayons - 8 colors, and erasers. All donations are very much appreciated as is a cash donation to purchase supplies. School supplies are distributed throughout the year so all donations are welcomed.

July 31st – 4:00 p.m. – Lunar Golf at Katy Mills Mall. Sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

August 13- 14th – Youth Lock In at Fairbanks- Starts noon on Saturday and lasts until start of church on Sunday. Bring snacks to share, sleeping bags, pillows, clothes for church. All mission center children and friends ages 5 to 14 are invited. This will be a rehearsal for the Psalty Praise Party production to be presented January 14, 2006. Come rehearse and enjoy games and a campfire. Contact Sherry Caesar for more information. 281-300-1225. Also need some parent volunteers to help host this event.

Need young actors and actresses for the Psalty Praise Party production to be held at the Fairbanks congregation. This is a call to all mission center children and their friends. Also need parent volunteers to chaperone, build sets, and help with the production. List of needed supplies will be posted in the fellowship hall.

See the calendar on bulletin board in the fellowship hall for upcoming events at Fairbanks and Mission Center events. July has been posted.

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

Nursery Schedule:

July 24th – Jennifer and Kip Decker

July 31st – **Need Volunteer**

August 7th – **Need Volunteer**

August 14th – Andrea and David Watson

August 21st – **Need Volunteer**

August 28th – Ruth and Gary Chatburn

September 4th – **Need Volunteer**

September 11th – Beth & Steve Herold

September 18th – **Need Volunteer**

September 25th – Andrea and David Watson

We need volunteers for the nursery. Please see David Romig.

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

Visit the World Church Webpage and view/listen to events from World Conference.

July - Camps and Reunions

July 31 – Aug 5th – Congregational Leadership Workshop – Graceland University, Lamoni, Iowa

Aug 12 – 14th – Sionito Work Party- Direct questions to Tim Everett- Tim.r.everett@exxonmobil.com

Sept 16- 18th – Sionito Work Party -Direct questions to Tim Everett- Tim.r.everett@exxonmobil.com

Sept 24- 25th – Coastal Bend Mission Center Conference & Retreat – Camp Sionito

Oct 14- 16th – Men’s Retreat- Livingston – Jimmy Munson providing guest ministry

Oct 21 – 23rd – Sionito Work Party - Direct questions to Tim Everett-Tim.r.everett@exxonmobil.com

Oct 23rd – HAPPY 50TH BIRTHDAY – PASADENA CONGREGATION

Oct 28 -30th – World Religions Retreat with J.W. Winland – Pasadena Congregation

Nov 11 – 13th – Sionito Work Party -Direct questions to Tim Everett- Tim.r.everett@exxonmobil.com

Nov 12 – 13th – Vibrant Witness Workshop- Fairbanks Congregation- John Wight

Dec 9 – 11th Sionito Work Party- Direct questions to Tim Everett- Tim.r.everett@exxonmobil.com

The following is a schedule of those that are currently scheduled to deliver the message for the 3rd 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.

July 24th – Carole & Leo Caesar

July 31st – Doug White

August 7th – John Reimer

August 14th – Gary Chatburn

August 21st – Carole & Leo Caesar

August 28th – Sue Turner

September 4th – Gary Chatburn – Testimony Service

September 11th – John Reimer

September 18th – David Romig

September 25th – Doug White

Encounter World Religions Retreat - Friday, **October 28** – Sunday, **October 30**- 7p Friday, 9-6 Saturday, 9 – noon Sunday- **Pasadena** Community of Christ (713) 473-0608 - 1118 Pasadena Blvd - Pasadena, TX 77506 - Contact: Mark Euritt - 512-567-1581, meuritt@austin.rr.com

Through varied, thought-provoking presentations and activities this retreat introduces you to the values, stories and traditions of the diverse religious-cultural groups that comprise the North American mosaic. You will experience world religions in a way that textbooks cannot convey and which will allow fear and misunderstanding to melt away.

JW Windland, Toronto, Canada JW is a comparative mythologist and founder of the ENCOUNTER WORLD RELIGIONS CENTRE. For the past thirty years, JW has been passionately involved in experiencing the world religions first hand. In addition to his academic background in religious studies, JW attends mosques, synagogues, gurdwaras, churches and temples on a regular basis as a testimony to his interest and love for the world religions. This background gives JW a perspective that is unique and tangible. He has established genuine

friendships in these religious-cultural groups, has joined in their rituals and has introduced thousands of people to these diverse communities. He is an expert in interreligious dialogue and in creating comfort across religious and cultural barriers. He brings a familiarity and a deep knowledge of the diverse communities and traditions that make up the North American mosaic. (<http://www.worldreligions.ca/>)

As noted in the Coastal Bend Calendar President of Seventy John Wight will be in our Mission Center **November 12-13** to facilitate a Workshop. The Workshop is "**Vibrant Witness: Who Me?**" The **Fairbanks** Congregation in Houston has graciously agreed to host this event. Please plan on attending!

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