

Community of Christ
Fairbanks Branch Happenings
July 27, 2005

The theme for this Sunday is “We Are Blessed to Share”

Sometimes sharing can be so
Hard
And sometimes can be so easy.
Review your “riches” and
Extend them to others.

Share – What can I share? What do I have that anyone else would want? Why would I want to share what I have? What is it that I have anyway?

Take a few moments and reflect what the word share means to you. As you reflect, list “things” that you can share. Review your list. Come on now – take a step out of your comfort zone and but an outside of the box item on your list. Are you surprised at what you see or don’t see?

Now look at the list and jot down who you might like to share with. Is it a friend, family member, church member, stranger, co-worker, an organization??

Now think about how you would go about sharing one of the things you wrote down. How would you accomplish this? Make a plan. Execute your plan.

After you have executed your plan and shared- How did you feel while you were sharing? Do you still have what you shared? Was “something” also shared with you?

Take a few moments and reflect who has shared with you. What did they share? Who shared? How did it feel to you? Were you affected in anyway?

Some things that pop to mind might be:

A meal with someone in need physically or emotionally	
A meal just because	A smile to a complete stranger
The Word	An experience or testimony
Money	Time
A shoulder to cry on	A joke
Love	A dream
A moment	A lifetime
A prayer	Silence

Let me “share” some of Andy Rooney’s “wisdom” with you:

Things I’ve Learned - By Andy Rooney

- I’ve learned - that the best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person.
- I’ve learned - that being kind is more important than being right.
- I’ve learned - that having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the most peaceful feelings in the world.
- I’ve learned - that sometimes all a person needs is a hand to hold and a heart to understand.

- I've learned - that life is tough, but I am tougher.
- I've learned - that I can't choose how I feel, but I can choose what I do about it.
- I've learned - that everyone wants to live on top of the mountain, but all the happiness and growth occurs while you are climbing it.

Are you blessed to share? God "shared" His Only Child – What can we share?

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

August 7th - 10:00 a.m. Fairbanks Congregational Conference- Currently the known items on the agenda are as follows:

- 1) Consideration of Mission Center's Proposed 2006 Program of Ministry Budget and Fairbanks' Congregational Response.
- 2) Election of 5 Representatives and Alternates for the September 24/25 Mission Center Conference at Sionito.
- 3) Other new business as might be raised and considered by the Congregation.

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.

We will need to get a head count so we will know how much food to have for dinner on Saturday evening and breakfast on Sunday morning. Please email Sherry Caesar at sccmdc@yahoo.com with a head count from your congregation or call her at 281-300-1225. Also, CD's with the music. If you are interested in a CD please email your address to Sherry and she will get that to you as soon as possible.

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 and August have 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 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 7th – 10:00 a.m. – Fairbanks Congregational Conference

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

Feb 10-12th 2006- Silent Retreat at Cenacle House

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 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!

February 10-12, 2006 - Annual Silent Retreat at The Cenacle Retreat House

420 N. Kirkwood, Houston, TX 77079 Sponsored by Live Oak –Marlene Krueger - Retreat Spiritual Director. Those interested are invited to participate in this opportunity to experience the Spirit of God in new ways. This will be a silent retreat except for discussion of experiences during a Saturday evening activity. Some direction will be given on how to direct your thoughts, but the most important thing is that you allow the Holy Spirit to direct you. You may bring inspirational reading materials, Bibles, journals, or other materials that you feel will help you to be in a deeper relationship with God as you meditate during the day. There is a outdoor labyrinth for meditation. Spiritual Directors from the Cenacle will be on hand for individual spiritual counseling to those desiring and administration will also be available. A free yoga class and/or massage therapy (\$35/half hour) may be provided based on advanced interest. Silence is sometimes a difficult thing for us to do in this busy world of ours and it can be a little scary. The reward can be a quiet reflective time between you and God. You can use the silence to listen for that still small voice or to rest in the Lord. The weekend will be what you make of it and can be a powerful tool for healing and restoring the spirit, if that is what you seek. Check-in will be at 7:15 PM on Friday, February 10th and the retreat will conclude with a Sunday morning service followed by lunch.

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The cost of \$130 per person includes a private bedroom with lavatory, community toilets and showers, and all meals, beginning Saturday breakfast. Towels and bedding are provided.

Number included in this registration: Female _____ Male _____

Interests: Yoga _____ Massage Therapy _____ (\$35/half hour; paid separately to therapist)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State and zip: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email: _____

Please complete the lower portion of this form and send it by January 6, 2006 to:

Community of Christ, P.O. Box 16685, Sugar Land, TX 77496-6685.

Payment should be by check payable to Community of Christ. Please send payment with the registration form. If you have any questions, please contact Marlene by phone at 970-577-0657 or email: markru_99@yahoo.com

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