

**Community of Christ**  
**Fairbanks Branch Happenings**  
**February 8, 2006**

The theme for this Sunday is "Compassion in Action"

Awareness of our spiritual  
Condition helps us lay  
The foundation and  
Inspiration to  
Open ourselves to the  
Needs of others

**Compassion - by Richard Matthews**

We have heard much about compassion lately. But just what is compassion?

Compassion can be defined as a deep awareness of and empathy for another's suffering, combined with a heartfelt desire to alleviate the suffering of another.

Sympathy and empathy are easily attainable by most people, but compassion is an outflow of the heart, a movement deep within that produces action.

Compassion is an outflow of mercy, which is the feeling that motivates compassion.

Compassion is attainable by all those that are willing to undergo the essential process of self-examination. For only those who are in touch with their own brokenness, who recognize the role that Grace, Forgiveness, and Mercy play in their own lives are capable of genuine Compassion. Only those who have experienced the compassion of a compassionate Creator can truly be compassionate. Only the poor in Spirit, the meek, the humble and those that mourn, can truly be compassionate and not pity others. Only those who are aware of their dependence on their Creator for all things can be compassionate.

Compassion is a Spirit, a condition of the heart; it is an expression of Sacrificial Love. Compassion cannot contain any element of rancor or disquiet, but is peaceful, accepting, kind, understanding and puts the well being of the other uppermost in the mind. Compassion is not self-seeking, as it takes no regard for itself.

Genuine compassion is not limited by issues of nationality, politics, religion, race or economics, it has no agenda other than the wellness and wholeness of all peoples.

Authentic Compassion is transcendent and is universal; it sees all of humanity as one without artificial boundaries or limitations on freedom.

True governance flows from the Spirit abiding in Love and not from the contrivance or institutions of men. Above excerpted from - [www.evolvegroup.ca](http://www.evolvegroup.ca)

Compassion is better defined as "Love in Action." The missionary equation should be the following:

**Mission = Passion and Compassion.**

In other words, Mission equals

## **Evangelism and Social Responsibility.**

### **Announcements:**

**Camp Sionito** is in search of a **logo**. See the Mission Center web page for information on submitting ideas for the new logo

**Herald in Every Home** – If you would like to continue receiving or start receiving The Herald, it is renewal time. To sign up please drop your check in the collection plate or give it to Paul Baird. The check should be marked that it is for The Herald and should be made out to Community of Christ for \$24.00.

The Adult Sunday school Class is looking for topic ideas for the next adult Sunday school series and the Wednesday night group might also be looking for program ideas. Check the links on [pigtownchurch.org](http://pigtownchurch.org) for possible ideas. One idea might be the link for the Purpose Driven Community – Small group resources.

**Wednesday Night Group** – Beth Herold has sent out a survey to assist in determining the interest and the focus for the Wednesday night group. Please contact Beth with your input.

**Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup> – 5:30 p.m. – Valentines dinner for adults** at the church- Catered dinner will include pasta bar with salad and deserts. Tickets are now being sold to this dinner for \$11.00 per person. See Margie White to buy your ticket.

**See Mission Center web page for more information**

**Feb. 18-19** - Congregational Leadership Retreat at Camp Sionito

**Feb. 24-26** - Exploration Group Session (Houston, TX)

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 12<sup>th</sup> – John Reimer

February 19<sup>th</sup>- Doug White

February 26<sup>th</sup> – Leo & Carole Caesar

March 5<sup>th</sup>- David Romig

March 12<sup>th</sup> – John Reimer

March 19<sup>th</sup> – Sue Turner

March 26<sup>th</sup> – Leo & Carole Caesar

The nursery schedule cannot be posted in the family center for January through March 2006. Please contact Andrea if you are interested in volunteering in the nursery this quarter.

Nursery Schedule:

**We need volunteers for the nursery. Please see Andrea 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)

**Feb 12<sup>th</sup>** – Valentines dinner at Fairbanks

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The Coastal Bend Mission Center (CBMC) has established a Youth Campership Fund to assist youth attending summer youth events. This program is not tied to any local congregational campership program. Any youth, member or friend of Community of Christ, residing within CBMC, may apply for one (1) campership per youth event (Sionito Youth Camp, IYF or Spec). Each eligible camper will receive up to \$50 per event, depending upon demand for camperships. To receive the campership, the youth must complete the application information shown below.

Please complete the application information by April 30, 2006 and forward to the Mission Center President and Financial Officer, Mark Euritt.

The options for completing and forwarding the application are:

1) online using the <a href="#">website</a> form
2) send a copy you can get <a href="#">HERE</a> via mail to:
Mark Euritt, Coastal Bend Mission Center 311 West Annie Austin, TX 78704

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*