

**Community of Christ**  
**Fairbanks Congregation Happenings**  
**May 17, 2006**

The theme for this Sunday is “Create a Better World”

Children of God  
Reaching and  
Extending to  
All  
To share and  
Expound the “Good News”

*“The Good News means we can stop lying to ourselves. The sweet sound of amazing grace saves us from the necessity of self-deception. It keeps us from denying that though Christ was victorious, the battle with lust, greed and pride still rages within us. –God not only loves me as I am, but also knows me as I am. The Ragamuffin Gospel – Brennan Manning*

1Every person who believes that Jesus is, in fact, the Messiah, is God-begotten. If we love the One who conceives the child, we'll surely love the child who was conceived. 2 The reality test on whether or not we love God's children is this: Do we love God? Do we keep his commands? 3The proof that we love God comes when we keep his commandments and they are not at all troublesome.

The Power That Brings the World to Its Knees

4Every God-begotten person conquers the world's ways. The conquering power that brings the world to its knees is our faith. 5The person who wins out over the world's ways is simply the one who believes Jesus is the Son of God.

6Jesus--the Divine Christ! He experienced a life-giving birth and a death-killing death. Not only birth from the womb, but baptismal birth of his ministry and sacrificial death. And all the while the Spirit is confirming the truth, the reality of God's presence at Jesus' baptism and crucifixion, bringing those occasions alive for us.[(s15.7)] **1 John 5 The Message**

Create a better world is the theme for this Sunday. What aspects of this thought appeals to you? Bettering world health, bettering world education, bettering world economy, bettering race relations, bettering personal economic disparity, better global or local spirituality etc? What strikes your fancy? What would you do to better any given situation? Who would you go to for assistance? How would you execute your plan? Does your plan need to be grandiose?

Creating a better world to me starts one step at a time. I know that I probably will not create a vaccine that will cure aids, but I hope that by putting one foot in front of the other, I can make a difference in one person's life and that person will carry it forward increasing the realm of influence.

It is with God's help and by His grace that we each can exert influence to make this a better world for us and for all. Through faith we can keep the hope that we can make a difference.

What do you think?

## **Announcements:**

Second and fourth Sundays of each month – Coffee Talk and Continental Breakfast- Warm hearted conversation and loving each other is the purpose of the gathering. Got an idea for the future of Fairbanks? This is your opportunity to express yourself. Coffee Talk is scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month. Give yourself a treat and be there!

Choir practice on Saturdays at the church and make a happy noise.

**May 14<sup>th</sup>**- Please bring a picture of your mother to add to the worship setting.

**May 14<sup>th</sup>** – The adult Sunday School class will be starting a new class based on the book “The Ragamuffin Gospel” which is written by Brennan Manning. Books have been purchased by the church and will be available next Sunday. The books cost \$10.00 each and if you wish you can make a free will offering in the collection plate for the cost of your book. Last week we do an intro to the book and this week we will be discussing Chapter 1.

**May 20<sup>th</sup>** There will be a lock-in at the Bay Area Congregation on May 20th starting at 7 pm. Youth in grades from 6th to 12th grades are welcome and are encouraged to bring friends. There will be a Pot Luck Dinner after the 11 am service. An invitation is extended to the parents to attend the 11 o'clock service and the Pot Luck Dinner afterwards. The only things that the youth are asked to bring are their "sleep over stuff", and 5 dollars for pizza and drinks. If there are any questions, please contact Courtney Pierson at 281.486.0464

**May 20<sup>th</sup>** – Silent Auction Talent Show Fund Raiser – North Houston- Benefits the school supply program for a local elementary school. See announcement that was forwarded under separate cover on April 12<sup>th</sup>. There are many ways to help and participate - Contact Dorothy Hibbard or Teri Portz.

**May 21<sup>st</sup> – 5:00 p.m.** - Congregational Planning Meeting - Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

**May 25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup>** – Mission Center Young Adult Retreat at Camp Sionito Contact Diane Solorio or the Mission Center webpage for details.

**June 4<sup>th</sup>** - Congregational Conference - Tentatively planned for 10:30.

**July 30<sup>th</sup> – Aug 4<sup>th</sup>** – Congregational Leaders Workshop – Lamoni, Iowa – See Mission Center or World Church webpage for details.

**August 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>** – Witnessing Community seminar. Make plans now to attend this event.

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

**April 22- 23<sup>rd</sup>**- Sionito Work Party

**May 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>** – Young Adult Reunion – Sionito- Contact Diane Solorio.

The following is a schedule of those that are currently scheduled to deliver the message for the 2<sup>nd</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.

May 21<sup>st</sup>- John Reimer  
May 28<sup>th</sup> - Jeff Whitehall Sr

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)

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*