

Community of Christ
Fairbanks Congregation Happenings
July 26, 2006

The theme for this Sunday is “Be Filled”

Faith
Inspiration
Love
Life
Enthusiasm
Desire

This week the theme is “Be Filled”. It almost sounds like a command. Well at least it did to me. So the church website says that we are to “be filled”. Ok what am I to be filled with? What do I want to be filled with? What does the world church person that sets the themes mean by this?

Have you ever been told that you are “full of it”? How did you take the comment? Did you perceive it as a nice and good thing? Did it have a negative almost insulting connotation?

What comes to mind when you think about possibilities of things that you might be filled with? Is it food, anger, love, fear, hope, joy, insecurity, doubt, wonder, awe, the ideas in the above acrostic? What is it that first comes to your mind? Why?

When you are filled, are you still unsatisfied, are you still searching, seeking? Are you plump and content, complacent? Or are you fulfilled and satisfied – complete?

I would venture to guess that we have felt all of the above- dependent on what we were full of at the specific snapshot in time that we are analyzing.

You see, I like many - have been so full of food and have been miserable – and might I add very plump! I have been full of anger and felt very justified and correct- even empowered. I have been full of love and felt very complete but have also been full of love and very alone. I have been full of fear and felt very insecure. I have been full of hope and felt invincible but also fearful of a future failure. I have felt and been filled with all of the emotions and “things” mentioned in the previous paragraph – and many more if I thought long enough and was honest to myself.

As we ponder what we have been filled with in our lives or what we have wanted to be filled with in our lives, think about if you have ever been filled with the presence of the Holy Spirit. How did that feel? Were you full and satisfied? Was it a different type of “feeling and awareness”? Describe it to yourself and say it out loud so you can hear what you are saying.

What did you do or not do that allowed the Holy Spirit to fill you? Can you repeat it? Can you help another person experience the fulfillment of the Holy Spirit in them? Fulfillment is not necessarily the same as fullness. Do you exude what is in you? Can others see what you are filled with? Are you deliciously quenched were your needs and desires are met?

Maybe next time when someone comments that “you are full of it” –stand tall and thank them. For – you see - they may be seeing Jesus radiating from your fulfillment. I suggest that being full of it might be a good thing- What do you think? Are you filled and full? My hope is that all of you are **“FULL OF IT”! I hope you hope the same for me.**

Announcements:

Sunday Morning Prayer Gathering - Each Sunday morning for those that wish to be part of the prayer team for our congregation's missionary outreach, we will be meeting **at 9:45** for a time of prayer and consideration. This is not a traditional prayer meeting, but instead a focused time to pray for guidance for our growth as witnessing disciples of Christ. This is in preparation for the Witness Community Training that is scheduled for September 23 and 24 and will continue after to support witnessing and community. We will meet in the class room closest to the front of the church. Sue Turner is facilitating this event.

Ragamuffin Gospel class – 10:00 Class will discuss Chapter Six- Grazie Signore – Martha Romig will be facilitating

Collecting School Supplies for HOT – Please bring school supplies to the church.

Collecting Items for a box that will be shipped to a **soldier serving in Iraq** – Please bring donations to the church.

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

August 14th – Congregational Business Meeting – Agenda items will include election of congregational officers and a budget resolution to add Outreach International to the budget.

Aug 20th – Stone Soup – Mission Center event at Fairbanks – 9:00 am- 4:00 pm –

Sept 10th – Joint service with North Houston at North Houston church

Sept 15-17th- Mark Scherer – World Church historian will be visiting Fairbanks. A dinner is planned for Friday night, a full day session is planned for Saturday with a free will offering – fund raiser for HOT and on Sunday he will preside over the Sunday School class and give the message during the services. Mark you calendar and plan on attending this special weekend. Mission Center congregations will be invited. Bring a friend and listen and learn about your church history. Details will be provided as they become available.

Sept 23rd -24th– Witnessing Community seminar - Make plans now to attend this event.

October 14th – 5th annual HOT Golf Tournament – See Carole Caesar or Margie White for details. Mark the date.

See Mission Center web page for more information

See the mission center web page for camp and reunion information

The following is a schedule of those that are currently scheduled to deliver the message for the 2nd 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 30th – Gary Chatburn

August 6th - David Romig

August 13th – Gary Chatburn – Testimony Service

August 20th – Mission Center Stone Soup
August 27th – Doug White
September 3rd – Ruth Chatburn
September 10th – Joint Service at North Houston
September 17th- Carole and Leo Caesar – Church Historian visiting
September 24th – Gary Chatburn

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

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