

# Community of Christ

## Fairbanks Congregation Happenings

October 26, 2006

The theme for this Sunday is “God Is By My Side”

**Be** with me and  
You every minute and every day

This week’s theme is “God Is By My Side”-

Do we remember this or do we tend to forget? And is He just by my side but maybe not on yours or his or hers?

With God by my side, the feelings of fear and loneliness should not exist. I should feel strength and companionship.

Today David and I went to the funeral of a very dear friend of mine. She was 76 and fought a valiant fight with cancer for the past several years. She knew that God was by her side her whole life. She was active in her church and lived a good life – always looking for the good in all persons and situations. People that met her and spent any time with her knew that God was by her side and inside her being. She was full of joy and life yet exuded peace and comfort. She was not famous or flashy. She was not loud or had what people might consider a position of power or importance. Yet all that knew her loved her and respected her and she made a positive difference in many ways and in many people’s lives. She hunted and fished so well that the men on the deer lease would almost be embarrassed that a woman – and a woman in her years- would be better shot than them. She was a real person living a real life. Sometimes we think that we cannot live a real life and still be walking with God. Sometimes we think we have to be “holier than thou” or always quoting chapter and verse to show that we are true believers and true Christians. My friend never tried to preach to people yet the way she lived was the best testimony or sermon that anyone could ever deliver.

She knew God and she knew God was always next to her. I am sure that many of you know people like this. What is it about these people? They figured out something that on the surface seems to be an easy concept yet it must be harder than it appears – for you see many of us forget that God is always by us.

I often wonder why our faith journey is so difficult for some and for others it appears to be so easy or at least appears easier. Is it because always know that God is on their side and others forget periodically?

God sent His Son to redeem our sins and to grant us eternal salvation. His Son returned to Him and then He sent His Spirit to be with us and in us to provide comfort, peace and solace. I believe that He also sends people like my friend into our lives to bring us joy, friendship, companionship and to show us that God is with you, me, her, him and you.

Where is our faith? Why do we doubt?

My life and my job have exponentially gotten busier and more complicated lately. Hopefully, there will be a light at the end and things will normalize to at least the chaos of my life as it was pre-August. I only mention this so you will understand that each week I try to sit down and send out the “happenings”, but have not been able to “to gitter ‘er done”. So I apologize in advance and in arrears. I have been sending out announcements as I receive them from the Mission Center and our congregation.

Recently, I have started having difficulties with Yahoo and reaching some distributions limits. Yahoo must have changed its tolerance levels recently. If you are not receiving the newsletter, it can also be found on the Mission Center webpage under our congregational information. Larry Haywood has been very good about posting all newsletters he receives in a very timely matter.

Let me know what is happening so I can include it the newsletter.

### **Announcements:**

**Pass the Plenty** continues through the month of October. Please remember to bring non-perishable items to church this Sunday.

**October 29<sup>th</sup>** – Baby Blessing

Ragamuffin Gospel class – 10:00

**November 11<sup>th</sup>**- Missionary Seminar- Presented by John Wight – President of the Seventy – North Houston

**November 12<sup>th</sup>**- Thanksgiving Pot Luck after the service

**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 4<sup>th</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.

October 29<sup>th</sup> – Dick Davies

November 5<sup>th</sup> – Ruth Chatburn

November 12<sup>th</sup> – Sue Turner

November 19<sup>th</sup> – Gary Chatburn

November 26<sup>th</sup> – Jeff Whitehall Sr.

December 3<sup>rd</sup> – Carole and Leo Caesar

December 10<sup>th</sup> – David Romig

December 17<sup>th</sup> – Sue Turner

December 24<sup>th</sup> - Ruth Chatburn

December 31<sup>st</sup> – David Watson

The nursery schedule cannot be posted in the family center for October - December 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*