

Community of Christ
North Houston Happenings
February 3, 2006

LOTS GOING ON AT NORTH HOUSTON!!!

Read below for more info.



Valentine Dinner (Adults only) 5:30 pm at the Fairbanks Church, February 12, 06. Catered Pasta & Salad Buffet. Tickets \$11.00 each. See Dorothy for tickets. She will be sending the unsold tickets, money, and names to Margie White on Jan. 27, 2006 (Friday) so if you are planning to purchase tickets please let her know as soon as you can.



January Birthdays

- Bianca Adler Feb. 5
- Carol Nelson Feb. 6
- Pam Venable Feb. 10
- Dorothy Hibbard Feb. 15
- Teri Portz Feb. 17
- Walter Hunter Feb. 17
- Jennifer Dietz Feb. 18
- Barbara Brosemer Feb. 21



January & February Service Schedule

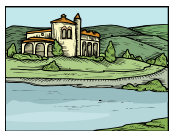
- Jan 1. Presider – Mike Turner Speaker – Dorothy Hibbard
- Jan 8. Presider – Bob Turner Speaker – Janine Turner
- Jan 15. Presider – Dorothy Hibbard CELEBRATION
- Jan 22 Presider – Joanne Chapman
- Jan 29 Presider – David Siddall Study our Roots
- Feb 5 Presider – David Siddall Study our Roots
- Feb 12 Presider – David Siddall Study our Roots

- Feb 19 Presider – Jimmie Radliff Speaker – Rhonda Radliff
- Feb 26 Presider – Janine Turner Speaker – Bob Turner



DON'T FORGET

- Please review the prayer list in the Sunday bulletin. If you have added someone to the list please update someone on the Church Leadership Team with any new information and current status of the prayer concern. Please contact Church Leadership Team if you wish to add/remove someone from the list. Pray that we will recognize what we can and should give and be able to give freely with love and joy.



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/>>

The theme for this Sunday is "Pause to Pray"

Praising
Adoring
Unceasingly
Sustaining
Edifying

Work, school, family, exercise programs, friendships, church, clubs, vacations, meals, parties, husbands, wives, children, yard work, shopping, resting, sleeping, reading, commuting etc. etc. Demands on our time and energy. Demands physically and mentally. Too many to enumerate, too many to fathom. What are we to do?

Evaluate your day. Evaluate your week. Evaluate a month. Evaluate a year. Evaluate your life. Where do all of our moments go? What do we decide to do with them either consciously or unconsciously? Many of us sometimes feel that one of our most precious and non-renewable resources is our time. Many times we feel as if we cannot dictate how we spend our time and feel that we never have enough time. Again we are asked to stop and do something. Pause and pray. Several months ago, the congregation was challenged to individually spend 5 minutes a day in prayer. This suggestion or "challenge" was discussed at an early morning worship service. 5 minutes a day. Sounds easy, yet in reality it was a very hard thing to keep up and do. Why is this I ask?

Aren't we instructed to pray and to pray unceasingly? Aren't we anxious to enter in to a dialog with our Friend Jesus or with our Father God? Aren't we blessed when we do pray. Aren't we comfortable being in prayer? Why don't we pray daily?

The other night in my Wednesday Bible Study we discussed how hard it was to pray daily and how good it felt when we did. It seems that this is not a problem that just I have. Someone brought up the fact that they used to do daily devotionals and then stopped and had a very difficult time starting again. Reminded me of an exercise program- you feel great when you exercise - but miss a few weeks and it is hard to get back into the program. Feels great when you do it so why don't we continue it.

Maybe we need to look at how we define prayer. Is it a canned recitation of prayers that were taught along the way or is it a conversation with Jesus and our God? Is there a proper and improper way to pray? Is there an appropriate or inappropriate place to pray? Do you have to be spiritually "right" to be able to pray? Does God hear one prayer over another?

I know that I feel better when I exercise. I know that I look better when I exercise. I know that I am healthier when I exercise. So why don't I exercise?

Is prayer the same way? I know I feel better after I pray? I know "look" spiritually better when I pray. I know that I am spiritually healthier when I pray. So why don't I pray?

Pause a moment first thing in the morning before your feet hit the ground. Pause a moment when you are driving to work or school. Pause a moment at your desk. Pause a moment at lunch or at dinner. Pause a moment before you fall asleep. Fill this moment with prayer. Fill yourself with the peace and blessing of a connected-ness with God.

Feel the connection with God. Welcome the Holy Spirit - shake up the Spirit so we feel it pop in us. Feel the peace. Feel the calm. Feel the love. Feel the joy. Feel the hope. Feel the companionship. Sounds easy huh? Sounds good? So let us all pause to pray. Can you do it?

Pause A Moment

There is no special time for prayer,
One can pray 'most anywhere,
When things aren't going quite your way --
Pause a moment, just to pray...

If everything seems to bother you
And nag at you the whole day through,
To dispel those awful clouds of gray --
Pause a moment, just to pray...

If there is no hope in sight,
You see the tunnel but not the light,
do not wander, do not stray --
Pause a moment, just to pray...

When all your efforts seem in vain,
You struggle hard but see no gain,
Do one thing without delay --
Pause a moment, just to pray...

When you feel there is no hope,
When with life you cannot cope,
God will help along the way --
Pause a moment, just to pray...
By Joseph Ferrara

The link below takes you to a web page with the Stations of the Cross. With each station there is a prayer topic idea- for those times that we just cannot "think of what to include" in our prayer. Also as you go through the Stations of the Cross, we reminded of the Passion of Jesus and how He so loved each and everyone of us.

<http://www.angelfire.com/md2/poor/station.html>