

SAINTS ALIVE!

October 2006

Shenandoah Congregation

What Is Your Month About?

I usually view months by some 'theme,' so to speak. The theme might be centered around a single aspect of the month or on several. November is our Anniversary and Thanksgiving. December is Christmas. March is Spring and my birthday. July and August are hot, swimming, BBQs, and did I mention, hot?

This October, we are going to have a continuing fabric within our worship themes. The thread we will follow during worships in October is Attacking Hunger. Our five Sundays do not have 'Hunger' in the themes, but the themes support a consistent reference to hunger during the offertory.

During this month, we will ask people to bring non-perishable food each week. These items will be accumulated and taken to the food bank at the end of the month. Each offertory will acknowledge this project and will focus on our role as Christ's hands to provide for those in need. Each theme will focus on an aspect of our responsibilities to help others.

We live in a nation of plenty and our first theme is "Pass on the Plenty." This theme is absolutely consistent with our job as God's children to share our excess with those in need. In the second week, we are urged to "Send No One Away" as we seek the needy. It is, after all, in serving strangers that Hebrews 13 reminds us that some have served angels.

If we wonder what hunger calls of us specifically, the third theme is "What Must I Do?" - this is certainly a theme that may fill you with ideas of how you can be part of the solution.

The last two themes are "Serve Others" and "Take Heart." In my understanding these two themes work well together, for it is in giving service that we see goodness. We see the kind of goodness that is part of our very creation. We were created in the image of our maker and seeing the goodness of God's work cannot help but make it easier for us to take heart.

I have used this example before and to summarize the October themes, I would like to suggest that some churches liken your personal salvation to a life jacket; but our church likens our personal salvation to creating the Kingdom of God on earth for all God's children, like a life boat.

So this month, I invite you to envision yourself as part of the solution. Don't dwell on how many hungry we are unable to feed. Dwell on the ones we can and let's make the lifeboat ready for more!

By Co-Pastor Jim Burdick

New Officers Elected at September Business Meeting

Church Officers were selected at a brief business meeting on Sept. 10. Re-elected to the Co-pastorate were Jim and Carol Ann Burdick and Carol Deane White, who filled those roles this past year. The election was by acclamation after the nominating committee proposed those three candidates. In other elections, Ginger Walker was named Congregation secretary and two persons were elected to the Long Rang Planning Committee, Arlie Brucks and Lafe Williams.

It was also agreed that a committee be formed to work on a financial plan to underwrite the proposed renovation and expansion of the Fellowship and Education building. The Pastorate will make appointments which must be sustained at the next business meeting at 1:15 on November 12th following the Potluck dinner. Further details will be forthcoming.

We proclaim Jesus Christ and promote communities of Joy, Hope, Love, and Peace.
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www.CoastalBendMC.org www.CofChrist.org

Monthly Worship Planning

Many of you have helped by presiding over our worship services from time to time. I am sure that you know how important this ministry is and how much it can help provide a meaningful experience for the congregation. In a church of volunteers, serving in this manner is essential.

The Worship Commission has recognized your work and also recognized what may be an opportunity to give you an added influence on the services. We would like to try something and if it works, maybe make it part of our future worships. If you find yourself presiding four times a year, why not do yours all in one month?

We would like to see if a few of the folks who preside over services might take on a whole month. It might be convenient to do all of your presiding during one period. But more than for convenience, we are really looking at this as a potential way the congregation might get an added continuity during our worships. We also thought it might help the person who presides carry a theme, building one Sunday upon another sort of the way Missionary Series did years ago.

If you would be willing to try this, we will work with you and try to make the speakers you request available to you and help your vision for the month be realized. Please let Lisa Talcott or one of the pastorate know of your interest.

Garage Sale November 4th

The Crafty Ladies are coordinating plans for a Garage Sale which is to be held in the neighborhood where Edna Workman lives, at 2728 Poplar Grove Lane in Schertz. Marilyn McCrimmon says members are asked to donate household articles of all kinds, with the exception of clothing. It is expected that articles will be brought to the Fellowship building and will then be transported to Edna's place to be available on Saturday, November 4th. More particulars for the Youth Campership fundraiser will be available on the bulletin board and in bulletins during the month of October.

Congregation Fall Outing October 14

The Shenandoah Fall Festival is being combined with the activity at the home of Kathleen and Richard Cole, 19915 Park Ranch, on Saturday, October 14th beginning at 4 p.m. There will be games, food and a campfire. Directions will be on the bulletin board.

News from the Pews:

Joy Widener reports from Indiana that things are going well. She has bought a small but homey residence and she says **Haiden and Wesley** are busy in school and participating in soccer and football. She misses San Antonio and would like to hear from friends. Her address is Joy Widener, 5131 Emmert Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46221; Her phone is 317-856-4134

Katie Rose Spiekermann is playing water polo at Medical Careers High School, with tournaments every Saturday through October. **Jay Higginson** passes along family news, with the comment "How Time Flies!" **Sara Higginson and Matthew Aaron Gallion** have become engaged. They are planning a May 2008 wedding in San Antonio, and Jon **Patrick Higginson** has celebrated his 16th birthday—driving age!

New Coastal Bend Mission Center Leadership Team

The new Financial Officer is Ron Saur with Eric Cox and Ruth Chatburn as Counselors. This group along with the Mission Center Presidency (Mark Euritt, Cheryl Saur and Steve Phillips) and the Mission Center Missionary Coordinator, Joanne Chapman serve as the Mission Center Leadership Team.

October 28-29 Mission Center Conference and Retreat at Camp Sionito

Remember to elect your delegates and alternates for the fall conference. All resolutions to the conference must first be approved by a congregational conference and then submitted to the Mission Center Leadership by September 14.

The Conference will be a family event. Apostle Linda Booth, President of Seventy John Wight, and the mission center staff will be providing ministry through the weekend. It is a wonderful time to enjoy the scenic hill country and to worship and fellowship with one another. Plan now to attend this event.

Other Dates to Remember in October 6-8 Camp Sionito Family Retreat

20-22 Men's Retreat @ Livingston Community Christ

21-22 Camp Sionito Work Party - CANCELLED

Food, Clothing and other Items Needed

All during the month of October we will be concentrating on donating food items to be distributed by Christian Assistance Ministries. In addition to food, CAM also accepts donations of clothing, hygiene and household items. **SUGGESTIONS: Food List:** Canned vegetables, canned meats, canned fruits, canned soups, canned tomatoes, dry soups, pinto beans, rice, pastas, oatmeal, cereal, peanut butter & jelly. **Clothing List:** Children's socks, underwear, uniforms, shoes, winter coats. Women's larger sizes, socks, underwear, bras, winter clothing. Men's socks, underwear, jeans, tennis shoes, work boots, sweatshirts, coats. **Hygiene: (Travel-size items):** Shampoo, soap, deodorant, razors, female products, toothpaste & toothbrushes. **Miscellaneous:** pots & pans, backpacks, plastic grocery sacks, department store bags, school bags, diapers.

Attendance for August: Average, 49 per Sunday with 5 visitors; Highest, Aug 13 with 55.

October Greeters: 1-Carol Burdick 8-Wayne Talcott 15-Tuckers 22-Patty Walker 29-Edna Workmon.