

SAINTS ALIVE!

May 2007

Shenandoah Congregation

Pastoral Corner: MAY DAY...MAY DAY

When you hear the term “May Day” what do you think about? Do you think of a summer celebration with flowers, gaily colored poles and baskets on the 1st of May? Do you think of International Workers' Day also celebrated on 1st of May, which commemorates the historic struggle of working people throughout the world, and is recognized in every country except the United States, Canada, and South Africa. The holiday began in 1880s in the United States, with the fight for an eight-hour work day, even though the US now celebrates Labor Day in September. Or do you think of a distress call from a plane or ship that is about to crash or sink?

The themes for May could make you think of all of these ideas. “Christ Died For All” and all who were present during the days between Good Friday and Sunday experienced considerable distress. Jesus most of all, he knew it would be the end of his physical life, but he also knew what was in store for him. The disciples did not know what was in store for them and they probably felt like they were about to sink or come apart in some way. How did they think they would ever be able to “Proclaim the Good News”? They probably were scared and didn’t think there was much good news.

Do you think they asked themselves the question “What Must I Do To Be Saved” or do you think they even had a concept of salvation at the time of Christ’s death? Probably not. However, Christ showed himself three times to his immediate followers. They had the opportunity to know first hand that Jesus was resurrected, he was alive! Jesus had told them that they could do all the things he could do and more, he told them he was not leave them alone, but sent the Holy Spirit as a comfort. But as time went on maybe they said, “Wow, this is hard work and I sure can’t do it all in an eight hour day, the pay is pretty lousy too”. Peter might have said, “I think I’ll just go fishing”

Even the remarkable events of the Resurrection and its aftermath could not, in and of themselves, overcome the feelings of separation the disciples felt because of Jesus’ physical absence. If it had not been for the experiences of Pentecost and the empowerment of the Holy Spirit, we probably would not remember that little band of frightened, disillusioned Jews. God has promised “I Will Pour Out My Spirit”. The early church already celebrated the Feast of the Pentecost 50 days after Passover. Originally it was a feast celebrating the spring harvest, but by Jesus’ time it had come to be a celebration of the giving of the law to God’s people at Sinai—a celebration of God breathing the life of law and discipline into God’s people.

Soon it took on another new meaning, a holy convocation. God’s Spirit (or breath) being experienced in profound and spectacular ways such as wind, fire, and interpretation of tongues, followed by conversions and baptisms. God breathes and the old becomes new. The Spirit descended on the gathered disciples and solidified their testimony of the risen Christ. This spiritual outpouring is the fulfillment of Jesus’ promise to send the Holy Spirit and the Prophet Joel’s words: “In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh.” The people are filled with enthusiasm and great joy. Pentecost becomes a celebration of the birth of Christ’s community—a memorial and celebration of God breathing a spirit of blessing upon the church. BRAVO, YEA, HURRAH, VIVA, MAY- DAY, Fortunately in our culture and particularly this part of the county, we don’t need many excuses or reasons to have a party. So let’s think of May Day as a colorful, joyful, wonderful celebration because the Holy Spirit bears witness of God’s grace to us in the person of Jesus, and thus enables our own witness of the risen Christ.

Carol White

We proclaim Jesus Christ and promote communities of Joy, Hope, Love, and Peace.
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HURRY! Registration forms for youth camps, reunions 1 & 2, and SPEC can still be found on the bulletin board. If you are planning to attend any of these activities you need to register as soon as possible.

Community of Christ will join the Save Darfur Coalition.

In response to the resolution from the High Priest's Quorum at the 2007 World Conference, the First Presidency has determined to join with other organizations to raise awareness and promote action in relation to the crisis in Darfur.

Changes for Your Church Directory:
 Kathlyn Graves' new address:
 Esplanade Gardens
 10790 Toepperwein, #124
 Converse, TX 78109
 Phone: 566-8315

Jay & Leah Higginson's Email Address:
jhigginson@aol.com

MISSION CENTER NEWS

Mark Euritt, Coastal Bend Mission Center President, has announced Ron Saur's priesthood call to the office of bishop. Ron's membership is in the Round Rock Congregation and the Coastal Bend Mission Center will give consideration to this call at its Fall Conference. If approved, Ron's ordination will take place the same weekend.

In Deepest Sympathy

Please remember Kelly and John Patten and their family in your thoughts and prayers. Kelly's father, a resident of Houston, Texas, passed away on Tuesday, April 24.

Current Financial Summary

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
March Receipts	\$7,525.06	Communications	\$50.70
Other Income (Fundraising, Memorial Funds)	\$93.75	Groundskeeping/Housekeeping	\$400.00
Interest Income	\$11.74	Herald-In-Every Home	\$96.00
Less World Church Funds	\$1,126.56	Leadership	\$120.75
SubTotal	\$6,503.99	Pastoral Care	\$28.37
		Supplies	\$112.50
Less Coastal Bend Mission Center Funds	\$198.00	Utilities	\$510.74
Total Net Income	\$6,305.99	Worship Commission	\$67.55
		Total Expenses	\$1,386.61
		Total Net Income	\$6,305.99
		Less Total Expenses	\$1,386.61
		Variance	\$4,919.38

MAY BIRTHDAYS

4--Stratton Callier **18-Eric Higginson**
5--Mick Rogers **25-P.J. Sifuentes**
7--Aurora Runcik **27-Devon Clark**
12-Marilyn McCrimmon
14-Lisa Talcott
17-Hannah Torkelson
 Samantha Callier
28-Victoria Smeltzer
29-Mary Fry

May Greeters

6--Jan & Arlie Brucks
13-Ruth Callier
20-Ray & Doris Jackel
27-Lisa Talcott



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED