

# SAINTS ALIVE!

June 2007

Shenandoah Congregation

## Camping and Hot Weather

Hot weather is fast approaching and in certain Texas towns many Community of Christ families are setting up priorities for the summer; one of them is to attend Reunion and/or Youth Camp at Camp Sionito outside Bandera, Texas. Volunteer workers have been participating in work weekends for many months, anticipating the enjoyment that their labor of love will bring to campers of all ages this summer. Today Sionito has many comfortable facilities; however, it was not always this way.

Camp Sionito (which in Spanish means *Little Zion*) had its beginnings in 1948. The first reunion was held that year and the original site had 20 acres. A lot of work had to be done before any kind of gathering could take place. For instance, a rest room, tabernacle and dining hall had to be built and a well dug and put into operation. There was also one cabin built for the missionaries to use. The dining hall was deemed too small even before the first reunion was held! We must remember that one Reunion, not two, was held each year and attendance was well over 400. Several years went by before the dining hall was enlarged and, even then, it was still too small!

The first reunion was a damp one because it rained the entire week – sort of like the weather we’ve had this spring in south Texas. Campers were housed in tents and you can imagine the “rivers” of water running under, around and through the cots, clothes, shoes, etc. Mud was undoubtedly a big issue that week.

My first recollection of attending reunion was in 1953. There were a few cabins built by this time as well as the children’s center and a second rest room. Our extended family had a large tent that we shared, and we didn’t eat in the dining hall because we cooked our meals at the campsite. I can still remember how hot the outside of the tent would get in the afternoons but when we retired to our cots for “Shoes Off” time after lunch, there was usually a cool, hill country breeze moving through the tent flaps.

So many changes have taken place in the past 50+ years at Sionito. Swimming now takes place in a huge pool instead of the Medina River that borders the camp site. Concrete block cabins equipped with bathrooms and air conditioners have replaced the tents that used to cover the campgrounds, and there is a first class RV facility. The Lodge was constructed with the idea that a weekend retreat can be completely self-contained in that one building. It’s easy to see that many hours of volunteer labor have gone into making the campgrounds what they are today and lasting friendships have been formed during the monthly work weekends.

Ask any camper what their favorite activity at Sionito is and they may say “campfires,” or “worship services,” or “baptisms,” or “helping with the children’s classes,” or “chatting.” There’s definitely something for everyone at Camp and Reunion, and although you’ve missed out on early registration it’s not too late to attend. In addition, if you can’t go for the entire week of Reunion you can still attend the evening worship services; San Antonio is close enough to Bandera to make the drive up and back in an evening. Guest ministry at Reunion #1 (June 9-16) is Ken McLaughlin and Richard Kramer and at Reunion #2 (June 30-July 6) is Linda Booth and Jared Fears.

*Carol Burdick*

# News from the Pews.....

**Patty, Tom and Jim Walker** report on a fine trip to Florida where they attended the National Drill Team competition in Daytona Beach. Tom and his team from John Jay High School didn't get the results they were hoping for, but nevertheless came away winners. With approximately 90 schools from across the country representing all armed forces (Air Force, Army, Marines, and Navy) their results are as follows: 1. 5<sup>th</sup> in Overall competition 2. 4<sup>th</sup> in Inspection 3 6<sup>th</sup> in Regulation 4. 9<sup>th</sup> in Exhibition and 5. 2<sup>nd</sup> in Color Guard. Even though they don't have any more competitions this school year, they go back to practice for one more week and then will be off for the summer break. They will return to full-time practices in August two weeks prior to the start of school and one of their first performances for the new school year will be in September when the Secretary of the Air Force visits San Antonio. John Jay is one of two schools selected to perform for the Secretary.

## **Help Share the Sacred Story in Independence, Missouri**

A volunteer couple is needed to serve on the church's Visitor Services Team. They will act as Site Coordinators for the Heritage Plaza Historic Site and welcome visitors to the Temple and Auditorium. Qualifications include strong communication skills, an interest in church history, and the desire to share the story of the church today. Training, housing, and utilities are provided. For more information call (440) 339-6398 or [temple@ncweb.com](mailto:temple@ncweb.com).

## *Mark Your Calendars*

June 9-16 – Camp Sionito Reunion #1  
June 17-23 – Sr. High Camp @ Camp Sionito  
June 24-30 – Jr. High Camp @ Camp Sionito  
June 30-July 6 – Camp Sionito Reunion #2  
July 8-14 – Junior Camp @ Camp Sionito  
July 21-28 – Spectacular (bus leaves on July 20)  
July 23-26 – Hispanic Youth Camp  
July 26-29 – Hispanic Family Camp

## **Camping Information... Please Read and Heed**

Look carefully at the time registration is to begin at your camp. Leaders and camp directors strongly urge campers not to arrive until the designated time. If you are planning an early arrival you will need to make arrangements with the Campground Manager (John Werchan). You will also need to arrange for adult supervision. Camp staff will not be available for supervision because of their pre-camp training program. No youth can be left on the campgrounds unsupervised. ALSO please review this note about Camper Registration . Be sure to register 30 days before the youth camp begins. Registration fees increase by \$50 after the early registration date.

Here is some really good financial news: The Shenandoah Congregation has been able to help 11 children attend Camp Sionito this summer. Each child received \$100 toward the cost of camp. There are still funds available so if anyone wants to attend a youth camp and hasn't received a campership, please see Patty Walker.

## **Needs for Houston Outreach Task**

Since January there have been two resignations from the H.O.T. Board of Directors – Rhonda Radliff in January and Carole Caesar on May 6. Both persons have provided immeasurable service to Houston Outreach Task. Their leadership and ministry have made a profound difference for many persons. Prior to her service on the Board, Carole also served as the HOT Executive Director. In this role, she helped transform HOT into a ministry that impacted many lives and made HOT a respected organization in the Houston community. We are indebted to her many years of service.

If you are interested or know of persons interested in being board members please contact Mark Euritt (512-567-1581 [meuritt@austin.rr.com](mailto:meuritt@austin.rr.com)). The current board members are: Francisco Trevino (Vice President), David Siddall (Treasurer), Dwight Hines, Jim Burdick, David Watson, Gary Frye. HOT currently is operating from the North Houston Congregation. They can use your support. Contact Dorothy Hibbard (281-540-1993 or [dhibb@houston.rr.com](mailto:dhibb@houston.rr.com)) if you would like to assist.

## **Long Range Program of Ministry**

The brochures for the 2008 Program of Ministry will be distributed during May. All congregations are encouraged to review this material closely so that they can make a recommendation to the mission center for their congregational support in 2008. Mission Center Leadership would be pleased to make a formal presentation about the program if this would assist your congregation in its recommendation. This decision is to be reported to the Mission Center leadership by August 1, 2007.

## **Community of Christ Shenandoah Branch April 2007 Income/Expenses**

<b>INCOME</b>		<b>EXPENSES</b>	
April Receipts	\$5,321.10	Christian Education	\$36.80
Other Income (Fundraising)	\$210.80	Camperships	\$800.00
Interest Income	\$14.68	Housekeeping	\$500.00
Less World Church Funds	\$1,201.00	Herald-In-Every Home	\$94.00
<b>SubTotal</b>	<b>\$4,345.58</b>	Pastoral Care	\$75.99
		Supplies	\$36.64
Less Coastal Bend Mission Center Funds	\$165.00	Utilities	\$328.44
<b>Total Net Income</b>	<b>\$4,180.58</b>	Worship Commission	\$16.50
		<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,888.37</b>
		<b>Total Net Income</b>	<b>\$4,180.58</b>
		Less Total Expenses	\$1,888.37
		<b>Variance</b>	<b>\$2,292.21</b>

# HEART OF TEXAS MISSION NEEDS MINISTER

An opportunity for full-time ministry in the Heart of Texas Mission Center as a Youth Minister/Missionary Coordinator is now available. This is a World Church Minister position. If you are interested in applying for this position, please go the Community of Christ Website for more details <http://www.cofchrist.org/MissionSupportMinistries/WC-fieldspecialist.asp> The position description can be found at <http://www.cofchrist.org/MissionSupportMinistries/position-description-WCMFS.asp>. Contact Mark Euritt if you have questions at [meuritt@cofchrist.org](mailto:meuritt@cofchrist.org) or 512-567-1581.

## How Did We Do in April?

Average attendance for the month of April at the Shenandoah Church: 45 members with average of 5 visitors per Sunday.

April 8 (Easter Sunday) had the highest attendance of the month with 58 members present, along with 10 visitors.

Things to do: Place a string on your finger to remind you that Sunday School begins at 9:30 a.m each Sunday. Regular services begin with Family of God time at 10:30 and Morning Worship at 11 a.m. Get an early start next week. Hope to see YOU next Sunday!

## Search Underway for new Board members at Sionito

A vacancy occurred on the Board of Directors following the resignation of Doug McAlister. David Watson has been appointed to complete the unexpired term (9/1/05 – 8/31/08). The Mission Center greatly appreciates Doug's past service on the Board and David's willingness to serve in this new role.

## Opal Dorow

Our Shenandoah Church family grieves with members of the Dorow family following the death of Mrs. Dorow on Sunday May 20, 2007. She had been active in her church many years and until recent months had been able to attend services. She was 95 years old. Mrs. Dorow had lived much of her life in the Harlandale area of South San Antonio and resided in the home her late husband, Carl Dorow, built for her. Survivors include three daughters, Dorothy (Dottie] Klaus of San Antonio; Ginger Walker of Houston and JoAnn Smith of Boosier City, LA. ; sisters, Stella Suhrer of San Antonio and Johnnie Bartlett of Crowley, TX, and eight grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren and three great great grandchildren. The funeral was held on May 22<sup>nd</sup> with burial in the Mission Burial Park South.

## June Birthdays

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1—Isaac Negaard  | 8—Don Tucker         |
| 2—Joseph Runcik  | 9—Michael Theisen    |
| 4—Ginny Ford     | 12—Wayne Spiekermann |
| 5—Morgan Negaard | Paul Plummer         |
| 6—Brian Coleman  | 14—Jeffrey Cady      |
| 7—Jon Talcott    | 17--Kelsey Negaard   |
| Dotti Klaus      | 19--Reta Tucker      |
|                  | 20--Jeeta Caraballo  |

## June Greeters

- |                  |
|------------------|
| 3—John Patten    |
| 10—Brucks        |
| 17—Carol Burdick |
| 24—Patty Walker  |

## **Young Adult Reunion**

***A Young Adult Reunion is scheduled for August 10-12 at Camp Sionito. Persons who have completed high school and up to the age of 30 are encouraged to attend this annual event. You can contact Diana Solorio (512-280-7390 or dsolorio1@yahoo.com) for more details.***

**Of Special Interest:** Most of our members are aware of it but here is another reminder: If you have a computer with access to the internet with either broadband or dial up connections, it is easy to receive your monthly *Saints Alive* newsletter electronically. Just type in [www.CoastalBendMC.org](http://www.CoastalBendMC.org) then click on newsletters and then select Shenandoah and the current month. The newsletters may be printed and the church saves a LOT of money on postage and printing. Try it...you'll like it. And let us know if we may remove your name from the delivery labels. For each newsletter delivered digitally we save 41 cents reflecting the recent 2 cent increase in first-class stamps. Thank You VERY MUCH!

### **GARAGE SALE NETS FUNDS:**

Thanks to everyone who donated item—and to everyone who purchased items: The garage sale on May 5<sup>th</sup> netted \$465.50, which will be put in the building account fund.

## **CPI Weekend Update, 2007** *from Jim Burdick*

Members of the Co-missioned Pastor Initiative meet twice a year for classes, fellowship and worship. One meeting is a weekend-based seminar and the other is a week long course. I am in Cohort 4, and my weekend session is in March or April while my week long session is in August.

This April 20 through 22, my cohort met with a study emphasis on the subject of 'Spiritual Types' based on the Corinne Ware's book "Discover Your Spiritual Type." Our weekend included worships held in the Temple and a schedule full of fellowship, worship, and study-study-study.

The 'Spiritual Type' topic is intriguing to say the least. Have you ever come out of a worship service and heard one person say how much they enjoyed a service while another person says they got nothing at all out of it? You knew both people were awake and you trust and enjoy the judgment of both – so who is right and who is wrong?

Honestly, you might be only experiencing an effect of different spiritual types. I won't try to teach you about spiritual types in this report, but I will offer that this information will be taught and shared in

the congregation to try to improve the effectiveness of our worships and fellowships. We will offer the class first to the pastorate, then to the Worship Commission. But, eventually, the class will be offered to the congregation as a whole.

The class will not be taught to tell people how to become the right "Type", there is no right type. But it will help you more accurately understand yourself and your brothers and sisters.

Through all of our CPI activities, I am continually impressed with the deep love expressed by my colleagues for their congregations. All CPI pastors sacrifice significant amounts of time to study, preparation (both temporal and spiritual), and in travel and attendance for CPI functions. I am not saying this to plead for sympathy; I just want you to understand that there is a core nucleus of 100 pastors throughout North America working to bring a deeper understanding of Jesus Christ to our congregations.

Cohort IV, my cohort, will meet again in July. Our study will cover pastoral care, and roles and styles of a pastor.

Our congregation did not take on this program to educate me, Jim Burdick. We took this on to let a person gather the information and skills available from the program to pass on and share with a cadre of people that anticipate being congregational leaders over the next twenty-plus years. It is my prayer that the blessings and benefits of the CPI program will be returned to the Shenandoah congregation through its ministry to San Antonio from now on.

The measure of success for our CPI involvement will be the following;

1. Do we take personal and corporate paths that continuously bring **US** closer to **Jesus**; and,
2. Do we provide ministry to ALL of San Antonio that continuously brings **Jesus** closer to **others**?

If we will do these two things, we are doing what will help us make true the goal of "Zion, in my lifetime." God bless us all.

**Important NEW FLASH! Watch for updates about the exciting changes to Vacation Bible School this year!**



## **Saints Alive!**

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