



# Saints Alive

February 2008

## Inspiration

by Carol White

### INSPIRATION--WHAT IS IT AND DO YOU HAVE IT?

It seems to me that November and December media blitz are full of buying this, that, or the other and eating like it's the last meal of your life.... then in January we are bombarded with advertisements about the debt reduction plans, the best diet or the best exercise plans. These TV, radio, and print media are all designed to motivate and inspire us to do better, be better, and live our best life. I hope to pose a series of questions that will lead you to some personal inquiry of what inspires you and what are you doing about it?

Inspiration---what is it? It may refer to artistic inspiration, sudden creativity in artistic production. Or a revelation, an uncovering or disclosure of something hidden via communication from the divine. It may be biblical inspiration, the doctrine in Christian theology concerned with the divine origin of the Bible. It may be inhalation, the movement of air into the lungs. What is inspiration to you?

I heard a radio commentary show the other day about how RAP and hip hop music inspired someone to handle their life issues in a more productive and positive way. Of course the person admitted that much of that kind of music promoted violence and hate, but she pointed out several examples of artists that provided a positive theme. I laughed out loud at that story, but it caused me to think about what kind of things inspire me.

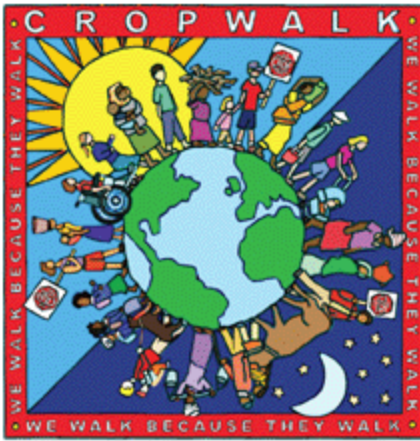
There are many things that inspire me and I often use them in classes, workshops, and even sermons. My list is not inclusive, nor in any particular priority, but things that inspire me are: Sacred and secular books, Music, Movies, People in history, Nature, Worship services, Classes, TV shows, Retreats, Reunions, Workshops, Volunteer service in the community, Tended gardens, Meditation sites, Prayer, World Conference, Friends, Family, Some celebrities in entertainment or sports, Art, Poetry. Sometimes I even inspire myself when I have done well on a completed a project.

Recently, I saw on a church sign that inspired me, it said "Trust God and Clean House". I laughed and cried at the same time because it was the exact message I needed with personal doubts and a messy house.

### What inspires you?

Does the Word of God inspire us? Does the life of Jesus Christ inspire us? Does the history of the ancient Americans and Jesus interaction with them as told in the Book of Mormon inspire us? Does the word of our prophet and president as recorded in the Doctrine and Covenants inspire us? If so, can we recall chapter and verse and what it means for our lives? And if so, can we see the effect of that inspiration as positive action on our part? But if not, can we articulate why and what we wish to do about it?

It's nice to be debt free and lose weight, something I would sure like to do as well, but I think inspiration to find a better connection with God, inspiration to be more like Jesus Christ, inspiration to become a servant for each other because we love each other.... these are the real important goals in this life. I pray for God's blessing as we all grapple with these questions for at the beginning of this New Year.



## CROP WALK

The 25th Annual San Antonio CROP WALK- Walk for Hunger will be held Sunday, March 2, 2008 at Mission County Park, 6030 Padre Drive at 2:00pm. The crop walk benefits the San Antonio Food Bank and the Christian Assistance ministries as well as hunger projects around the world. CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. The CROP WALK is people from different faiths, cultures, and ages, walking together to take a stand against hunger in our world. Together we raise awareness and funds for international relief and development, as well as local hunger-fighting agencies. Some 2,000 communities across the county take part each year. We walk because hungry people in developing countries typically walk as much as six miles a day to get food, water, and fuel, and to take their good to market. We walk to be in solidarity with their struggle for existence. We walk because they walk.

If you would like to represent Shenandoah Congregation this year in the walk, please sign up to walk with Carol White. All those who can't walk, please support those who can with your dollars. Our goal this year is 5 walkers and \$500 raised.

## Fellowship Activities

Look for these Shenandoah activities in the up-coming months:

- 2 MARCH--Crop Walk
- 19 APRIL--Fiesta Dinner--Fund Raiser for Camperships
- 16-18 MAY--CBMC Gathering at AirPort Hilton Hotel
- 12 JUNE—(tentative) Vacation Bible School Day at the Park
- 24 AUGUST--Ice Cream/Game Night Back to School
- 26 OCTOBER--Fall Festival at Cole
- 30 NOVEMBER--Program at Homeless Shelter

## Missing Videos!

So many of you have enjoyed the Rob Bell videos that we used in the 2007 services. You enjoyed them so much that several of you asked to borrow them for friends/family to view outside of church. That's WONDERFUL and we are so happy to lend them to you for those purposes. But now we want to re-use them in our services for 2008 because we will get even more out of viewing them for the 2nd time; however, several of them are still being used elsewhere and we don't have access to them. If you know that you borrowed some and have not returned them, please do so now so we can share them with even more people at our services. The videos we are missing are:

- |               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| 007 – Luggage | 010 – Lump |
| 012 – Matthew | 013 – Rich |
| 014 - Breathe |            |

## Temple School

The Austin congregation would like to extend an open invitation to all near by congregations to join us for the Temple School below. Please contact Belva Koerth (512-441-1496 [bkoerth@cofchrist-austin.org](mailto:bkoerth@cofchrist-austin.org).) as soon as possible to make a reservation.

Temple School Class  
 “SS101 An Introduction to Understanding Scripture”

Class Instructor: Mark Euritt  
 Location: Austin Congregation  
 2132 Bluebonnet Lane  
 Austin, TX

Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm  
 Starting Tuesday, February 19th through Tuesday, March 25th

This class is open to all friends and members of the Community of Christ. Priesthood members are encouraged to attend to help fulfill yearly continuing education expectations. The subject matter is not an overview of scripture content but a discussion about how to approach and use scripture. It covers the Bible, Book of Mormon, and the Doctrine and Covenants and how to use and study scripture from a variety of perspectives. Mark Euritt brings a wealth of knowledge of scripture and will provide a challenging learning environment.

*(If there are people interested, maybe a car pool can be arranged!)*

## Texans to "Gather" in San Antonio

The Multi-Mission Center Gathering is scheduled for May 23-25, 2008 at the Hilton Hotel (near the airport) in San Antonio, TX. Coastal Bend, Heart of Texas, Mexico-Texas, Rio Grande, Oklahoma, and Arklatex Mission Centers will be invited to attend. President Becky Savage, Apostle Rick Maupin, and President of Seventy Ruben Landeros will be providing guest ministry. Activities are planned for all ages and more details will be communicated in early February. Everyone from the Shenandoah Congregation is encouraged to attend and avail yourselves of this wonderful weekend of ministry. The Shenandoah Congregation will not hold any services that Sunday so that everyone can benefit from attending the Gathering.

### Young Adults (ages 18-30)

An email data-base of young adults is being compiled to distribute information regarding upcoming young adult events. Please forward young adult email addresses to Mark Euritt ( [meuritt@austin.rr.com](mailto:meuritt@austin.rr.com) ).

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

**1--Shelley Plummer**  
**6--Aaron Jackel**  
**8--Brian Fuller**  
**8--Marsha Torkleson**  
**15-Jerry McCrimmon**  
**15-Karl Runcik**  
**17-Ron Jackel**  
**19-Margaret Galbraith**  
**23-Sтивен Smeltzer**  
**25-Dawn Higginson**  
**29-Lafe Williams**

## TEXAS WOMEN'S RETREAT

The Annual Texas Women's Retreat is just around the corner. On March 7-9 the women of the Coastal Bend MC, Heart of Texas MC and Texas-Mexico MC will meet in retreat at Camp Sionito. Apostle Linda Booth will be our guest minister for the retreat.

Apostle Booth has chosen "Resurrection" to be the theme for the weekend. Usually when I think of Resurrection I think of Jesus. For our retreat Apostle Booth is looking at "Resurrection" from a different perspective. The idea is where or what or when have we as women encountered "Resurrection" in our own lives? I know we all can relate a testimony or a life experience to "Resurrection" when it is viewed in this way.

We will be sending out registration forms soon . Watch for them in your Email. For those of you that know some of our ladies that do not have Email please copy and pass this Email on to them. Thanks for your help with this.

I am excited about Apostle Booth being with us. For those of you who have sat under her ministry before you know what a blessing that is. For those of you who have not experienced Apostle Booth's ministry in a retreat experience you are in for a real treat!

Mark your calendars, and make plans now to be there. See you in March! Joanne Chapman, Coastal Bend Mission Center, Missionary coordinator: [EarthAngelCCM@aol.com](mailto:EarthAngelCCM@aol.com) Cell - 979-220-0206

### 2007 Attendance Report

Average attendance for 2007: 39 members with 3 visitors.  
Most member attendance on April 15th with 58 attending.

December 16 we had 54 members attend  
February 11 and December 9, we had 51 members attend.

## Nominate "Heros" at Camp Sionito

The Derrell Dee Webb Lifetime Service Award was established in 2005 pursuant to action taken by the Board of Directors of the Sionito Campgrounds Association. The Award spotlights and honors individuals who have dedicated their lives to outstanding service to Camp Sionito.

The recipient(s) of the 2008 Derrel Dee Webb Lifetime Service Award will be announced on or before May 15, 2008 with presentation to occur on June 22 and July 6, 2008 at the Sionito Community of Christ Reunions. Information pertaining to the selection process as well as the nomination form [can](#) be found on the Bulletin Board.

### Summer Camps and Reunions

The Sionito Camping Program is a wonderful place to fellowship, to nurture your spiritual development, and to grow in your discipleship. There are camps for all ages. Please plan to attend one or more of these events. The Mission Center and Camping Committee have worked hard to make the program affordable for all. If you would like to attend and are having difficulty finding the necessary resources please visit with your congregational leadership and the Camp Directors.

## New Ministers

**In the Shenandoah Congregation during the February 10<sup>th</sup> service, Kelly Patten will be ordained to the Office of Deacon.**

**In December, David Siddall was ordained to High Priest joining Eric Cox and Jim Burdick as newly ordained High Priests in 2007. In addition, Ron Saur was ordained a Bishop and Francisco Trevino was ordained a Seventy. We appreciate the willingness of each of these persons to respond to a new area of ministry.**

## Herald Requests!

Do you have:

- Someone in your congregation who has accomplished something worthwhile?
- An event that your congregation has participated in?
- Vacation Bible School news?
- Contributions to Outreach International, Chattanooga Kids, and others?
- Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts honored?
- Anything newsworthy happening in your congregation?
- Someone celebrating an anniversary of 60 plus years?
- Fundraisers for congregation youth?
- Hunger/Feinstein Challenge
- Leaders Workshops
- Special Reunion events
- MEADS classes attended or sponsored
- RV Association members

accomplishments EUR Church sponsored events

These are only a few of the many suggestions for Herald News stories and Snapshots and Snippets.

There is always the need for your Herald News or Snapshots and Snippets submissions.

Consider submitting the accomplishments, birthdays, anniversaries, and others of your congregation and/or individuals to [news@cofchrist.org](mailto:news@cofchrist.org)

News stories for a full page are to be 2,500 cws (characters with spaces); and 1,200 cws for a half page news story. As always, photos are needed. For digital photos, please submit photos of 260 dpi or better. You may also send via mail photos that can be scanned. Mail these photos to Community of Christ Herald, attn: Patty Wilson, 1001 W. Walnut St., Independence, MO 64050.

Thank you for all the great Herald News and Snapshots and Snippets that you have provided to us and the world over the years. I am looking forward to more news from all of you.

### ***What's A Tupperware Party?***

*One evening after dinner, my five-year-old son Eli noticed that his mother had gone out. In answer to his questions, I told him, "Mommy is at a Tupperware party." This explanation satisfied him for only a moment.*

*Puzzled, he asked, "What's a Tupperware party, Dad?" I've always given my son honest answers, so I figured a simple explanation would be the best approach.*

*"Well, Eli, " I said, "at a Tupperware party, a bunch of ladies sit around and sell plastic bowls to each other." Eli nodded, indicating that he understood this curious pastime. Then he burst into laughter.*

*"Come on, Dad," he said. "What is it really?"*

## 20 Birthdays

In the list of birthdays for this month, you might have noticed the last entry—Lafe Williams will celebrate his 20<sup>th</sup> birthday this month on February 29<sup>th</sup>! Lafe's birthdays only come once every four years because of Leap Year. When Lisa turned 11, she became older than her dad! (Of course, Lafe manages to celebrate every year, on some convenient day. No one wants to miss out on cake and presents just because of a calendar quirk.)



## BAKE SALE

The Crafty Ladies will be having a bake sale on February 3<sup>rd</sup> between Sunday school hour and 11 o'clock service and afterwards. We would appreciate any contributions you would like to make such as bakes breads, cup cakes, cookies, pies, etc. And of course you can help buy purchasing baked goods too! All proceeds will go to the Campership Fund.

### *February Greeters*

3--Jeeta Caraballo

10-Carol White

17-Pat Campbell

24-Evelyn & Lafe Williams