

Bread for your Journey

Its often the case that, in the community, when someone learns that I'm a priest, they say something like, "I better be on my best behavior." On the one hand, its not altogether unwelcome to think that when people are around me, they're going to try extra hard to be decent people. On the other hand, it's kind of sad—sad that people think of Christianity as nothing but a moral judge, itching to condemn *sinner*s.

Certainly, we must stand for what is right, for righteousness in society. But I hope I--we, care about people, as the Father does. Because if we care as our LORD cares, our motive won't be to condemn anyone, but that all people might be free: free from anything that destroys human dignity. After all, righteousness isn't a random thing; its what works right, what leads to abundance in life. Holding the two together, righteousness and grace is always a challenge.

Grace and peace be with you in the Holy Spirit,

Theron +

Announcements August 21st, 2010

Welcome our New Director of Music Ministry!

Ruth Schubarth joins us formally this Sunday to serve as our director of music ministry. Last week, she jumped right in, got sounds out of that little keyboard we didn't dream possible, and truly led worship through music. Ruth brings to us a lively personal faith, depth of experience as an accompanist and as a set and mural painter in Colorado Springs schools and for the annual production of *The Thorne*. She plays piano, guitar, recorder, drums, and is eager to bring in our people into leadership in creative ways. She will also be directing the choir—we aim to have two rehearsals and one performance per month. *The choir will meet tomorrow at 9:15 for an organizational meeting.* **Welcome Ruth!**

Grand Opening/Welcome Celebration: September 19

What's the point, aren't we already open?

*Yes we are, but this is about a concentration of effort and resources to **reach people who need the freedom we find in Christ Jesus**. This is about opening ourselves in a grand way to welcome others into the ongoing ministry of God, in the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Vision: Finding Freedom in the love of Christ.

Leadership: Andy Cooley, because no one in our congregation knows better how to concentrate effort and resources to make an impact than this retired Major General USAA.

The Day: 10:00 a.m. Worship followed by Fellowship

We are renting a tent for fellowship, hiring a caterer (simple fare), working on calling a nursery director and church musician, engaging in a big publicity push, and more.

You can Help: The most important thing you can do is INVITE people, and our focus in the weeks prior to the event will be on encouraging, coaching, and providing materials to make that a positive experience. Other opportunities to serve abound.

UNCLE CLEOPAS WANTS YOU!

Fun Run: Saturday September 18th

You can register for the
Saturday morning 1 mile or
5K at: Register online at
Active.com

http://www.active.com/page/event_details.htm?event_id=1875955

Fair Parade Thanks!

Many households provided water bottles and labeled them. All totaled, we gathered about 1,800 bottles and gave 1,700 away at the parade! Thank you!

Special thanks go out to the Holsts for providing the trailer and truck, the Wolfes for organizing, decorating, and driving, to the Suros for decorating, to Caroline Cooley for sound, and to the 15 children and 15 (or so) adults who showed up on parade day.

Impact: First, we spread the good word of freedom—our freedom in Christ's love. Second, we reminded people that the source of political freedom is faith in God. Third, we spread the word about Emmaus—we had 108 visits to our web site last Saturday (about 100 more than normal). Well done!

Facility Update

The sanctuary has been rearranged to accommodate more chairs, and improve visibility and hearing. Our new chairs arrive early September, and on a crowded day, the room can seat as many as 100.

Nursery Space: The new nursery right across the hall from our sanctuary is open! Thanks to Lisa, Emma, Wendy, and Donna for cleaning the room, and to Cullen for donating his trains!

Update on New Rooms for Children's Chapel and Formation: The landlord wants a professional builder to clean out the rooms to determine what is salvagable. When all the ceiling tiles, fiberglass insulation, duckting, etc... is gone, we'll need to vacuum, wash walls, and move in. More details to come.

Community Service

Our community is growing! While serving at the St. Francis Center, Joe Clements met a visiting Anglican/Kenyan priest, Fr. Stewart Daniel Odthiambo. He is here as a guest of Christ Church, Denver (Episcopal) to deepen relationships, and to raise funds for orphans in his parish. Fr. Stewart joined us for worship, formation, and lunch last Wednesday, and told us about what the Spirit of God is doing in Pe Hill, Kenya. This was a divine appointment, one more example of God opening doors for us to love and be loved! Now, we are in the beginning stages of developing a “sister-parish” relationship, one of prayer and mutual encouragement. We are also working on becoming God-parents to these orphans by providing them with lunch at school. For \$62 we can feed lunch to 100 orphans for a day. We can make a direct difference in a child’s life! Let us always remember the words of the Lord Jesus, who said, **“It is more blessed to give than to receive.”**

Spiritual Formation

Sunday: The Freedom of Grace

Wednesday: 9:45: The Law, the flesh, life in the Spirit, and freedom.

Serving Sunday

Server: Jacob Wolfe

Crucifer: Virginia Holst

Lector: Lura Wolfe

Prayer Team: Carla Holst and Denise Walker

Chalice Bearer: Erin Cook

Ushers: Alan and Pam Hotchkiss

Emmaus Dinner Group Extraordinaire (EDGE)

The Emmaus Dinner Group had its initial gathering with the Oordts hosting.

There were 15 people attending and we consumed about 20# of Applewood Smoked Ribs in addition to the delicious salad, vegetable, and desserts. We all agreed that ending with Complaine was a great way to draw the group together and to close the evening.

The vote was unanimous that our new name would be EDGE. It was also decided to try having a 2-month window for each host to get their group together; thus, Aug/Sept groups, Oct/Nov, etc. This will make it more flexible for scheduling to make it work for everyone.

Hosts for Aug/Sept will be assigned shortly and they will, in turn, invite those in their group for that 2-month period. We will begin with 3 hosts who will each invite from 4-7 others making each group from 6-9 people. This smaller size group will make it possible for each host to reach out to others if they have room, making this an outreach possibility. To allow for flexibility and creativity, each host will assign their group what food to contribute and whether it be dinner, brunch, picnic, or whatever.

With the 2-month window, this allows for anyone who wishes to do so to have a spontaneous gathering in between and invite others who may or may not be part of EDGE.

The goal is to remain flexible and spontaneous and to think in terms of outreach. Nothing is set in stone, so this may be an evolving project as needs and ideas arise.

Parish Treasurer Change

Ben Contreras has passed the treasurer's torch on to **Mary Renton**. Thank you Ben for bringing your experience at St. Philip's to Emmaus, for setting us on the path of right stewardship, and for the tremendous gift of your time and passion! May God bless you, and we look forward to seeing what ministry the Lord calls you to next!

Thank you Mary for taking on this task—a vital ministry in our common life. Thank you Larry for sharing your wife and friend with us. God bless you. To contact Mary: 303-660-9534 or email at mary.renton@dcsdk12.org

Vital Signs

There are two quick indicators of our individual and common life: our

treasure and worship. The offering for was **\$1,571**. We need about **\$2,000 a week**. Because of “start up funds”, we are not in anything like an emergency. Last Sunday **30** attended worship, and we are averaging **39** on the year.

Service Opportunity

Donna Sullivan is inviting others to join her and Tom Cook in a loosely rotating ministry of assembling the Sunday worship notebooks. One time and on-going participation welcome. Talent in folding, cutting, punching holes and inserting printed paper into spiral notebooks required. Average time involved: about 1 1/2 - 2 hours on Friday afternoon or Saturday. Please respond to Donna in person, by telephone or email. 303-681-2827; donnasullivan7@gmail.com.

August-September Schedule

Sunday August 22 Worship 10:00

Followed by Coffee and Adult Formation.

Wednesday August 25:

9:00 Holy Communion 9:45: Formation

6:30 Leaders' Meeting 8:00 Council

Saturday Morning, September 4: Emmaus' Morning at the St. Francis Center

Saturday Morning: September 18 at 8:00: Fun Run for Freedom!

Sunday September 19 at 10:00: Welcome Celebration