

Bread for your Journey

For freedom Christ has set us free. (Galatians 5:1)

Doesn't that quote seem funny? Why else would Christ set us free except for freedom? It seems that people don't always want to be free. Free people are accountable for their actions, servants can always focus on someone else. *Slaves* don't have to think too hard, act on their own, or own up to what they have or have not done with their life. If something gets done, it's because someone else made them do it. If something doesn't get done, it's because someone else didn't make them, or provide for them, or whatever.

Freedom and responsibility, especially for oneself go hand in hand.

In the letter to the Galatians, Paul is dealing with Gentile converts who got it in their heads that faith in Christ, and the freedom from sin and the freedom to a fruitful life in the Spirit wasn't enough. They started keeping a few portions of the ceremonial law from the Old Testament. I suspect it was, in a way, comforting. They were turning Christianity into "check that off the list and know that I'm ok religion." They were running from the responsibility of freedom. And that is something that makes me go, "hmm."

Theron+

Announcements

August 8, 2010

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.** We're open, but it's time for some grand!*

Vision: Finding Freedom in Christ Jesus

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.

Getting the Word Out:

This Saturday: Parade: Theme: Faith and Freedom!

UNCLE CLEOPAS WANTS YOU!

Fair Parade Saturday August 7

For freedom Christ has set us free. (Galatians 5:1)

"Freedom is not a gift bestowed upon us by other men, but a right that belongs to us by the laws of God and nature." *Benjamin Franklin*

You can Help:

Provide Water Bottles

Label Water Bottles: About 300 left to go. Well done!!!

Decorate the Float: 8:30 a.m. Tomorrow. We will gather in the staging area at Safeway.

Ride the Float or Walk to Hand out H2O. Since the parade begins at 10, and we are number 93, if you arrive sometime shortly after TEN, you'll be on time.

“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.” *Bill of Rights, 1st Amendment*

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. (2nd Corinthians 3:17)

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!

Spiritual Formation

Sunday: The Council of Freedom

Wednesday: 9:45: One Church: Jew and Gentile.

Serving Sunday

Server: Nani Ciafone

Crucifer: Cullen Walker

Lector: Jim Sullivan

Prayer Team: Denise Walker and Becky Brennan

Chalice Bearer: Ben Contreras

Ushers: Art and Pat Suro

Hospitality: The Wolfes in thanksgiving for Nate's birthday.

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 Compline 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.

August-September Schedule

Saturday August 7: Parade and Community Service at St. Francis Center.

Sunday August 8: Worship 10:00

Followed by Coffee and Adult Formation.

Wednesday August 11:

9:00 Holy Communion 9:45: Formation

6:00 Supper 6:30 Council

Sunday August 15: Worship 10:00

Followed by Coffee and Adult Formation.

Wednesday August 18:

9:00 Holy Communion 9:45: Formation

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 18: Fun Run for Freedom!

Sunday September 19: Grand Opening/Welcome Celebration