

“Asking for Greater things”

¹² I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. ¹⁴ You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

John 14:12-14 (NIV)

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During Lent we walked with many missionaries to learn from them. Each one lived a Faith that had a reality to it. Faith that guided, shaped, sustained, and influenced all of their daily life. Faith that was more than a Sunday morning expression of singing and prayer in worship. Faith was lived each moment of each day. Their lives and witness are for us to learn from, grow from, and even more to the point, to do the same in our lives. For as they lived, all disciples are to live with complete trust in their heavenly Father. I share from with you from the lives of Hudson Taylor and Samuel Morris.

Hudson Taylor expressed his Faith in the Lord this way when asked how he proposed to go to China:

“I did not at all know; that it seemed to me probable that I should need to do as the Twelve and the Seventy had done in Judea - go without purse or script, relying on Him who had called me to supply all my need.”



The Joyful Noise

As the years passed in the mission field, Hudson Taylor become more than ever convinced that the Lord supplies all things. He wrote:

I am more than ever convinced that if we were to take the directions of our Master and the assurances He gave to His first disciples more fully as our guide, we should find them to be just as suited to our times as tot those I which there were originally given.

Do you want more reality to your Faith? Faith that breathes through all you do? Begin with completely abandoning your life into the Father's care. An event from the story of Samuel Morris may help give insight into our hearts.

Remember how Samuel had crossed the ocean by faith in his Father to learn more about the Holy Ghost from Mr. Stephen Merritt. Samuel was with Mr. Merritt traveling through New York City. Mr. Merritt was pointing out the sights such as Central Park, the Grand Opera House and so forth. Samuel interrupts the tour, "Mr. Merritt, do you never pray in a coach?" Sammy kneels to pray and pulls Stephen Merritt down to his knees. With them in the coach are two Methodists ministers, and they bow their heads. Sammy prayed:

"Holy Ghost, I have come all the way from Africa to talk to Stephen Merritt about the Holy Ghost. Now I am here, he shows me the harbor, the churches, the banks and other things, but does not say one word about You. Take out of his heart the things of the earth, and so fill him with Yourself that he cannot speak or write or talk of anything but You?"

Sammy came to be taught by Mr. Merritt, yet is was Sammy's Faith that taught Mr. Merritt.

Faith needs to be full of humble **Trust** in the **Father**. Trust in the Word of God as THE WORD OF GOD is essential too. This means that the promises made to the disciples are not

constrained by time in the past, but are just as real and vividly true even today.

Sammy trusted his Father and great things happened. Hudson Taylor trusted his Father and great things happened. Let us all put into actions these words from your Father:

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and
lean not on your own understanding;

in all your ways acknowledge him, and he
will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3:5, 6

Trusting my Father,

Pastor Jeff

Prayer Moment:

We beseech Thee, O Lord, not only for ourselves and for them whom Thou hast already called to the true understanding of Thy heavenly will, but for all peoples and nations of the world, who as they know by Thy wonderful works that Thou art God over all, may also be instructed by Thy Holy Spirit to believe in Thee as their only Saviour and Redeemer. But for as much as they cannot believe except they hear, and can hear only by preaching, and none can preach except he be sent; therefore, O God, we beseech Thee to raise up faithful evangelists of Thy truth, who, renouncing all worldly prospects, may both in life and doctrine seek only Thy Glory.... Amen.

John Knox (1510 - 1572)

Building Churches in partnership with Gospel for Asia

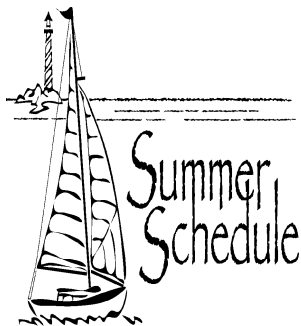
We are partnering with Gospel for Asia and raising funds to build churches in Asia. By God's great grace, we raised funds in 2013 to build one church. Now we are looking forward building a second church and be a blessing for a second Christian community of faith in Asia. Offerings for Ash Wednesday, the five Thursday's of Lent, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday are designated to this ministry.



**Praise God for we are at \$7,152.19
towards the \$11,000 Goal.**

Sunday Worship during Summer will be at 10:15 A.M.

After numerous informal conversations over many months, it has been concluded NOT to shift to a summer schedule. We will worship at **10:15 A.M.** like we do throughout the year.



Walking in the Word – Tuesday Night Bible Study will meet May 20th and May 27th beginning at 7 p.m.

Soon the mantle will be passed from Elijah to Elisha. See the mighty Hand of God in the life of Israel and Judah. Come and share in this faith deepening time together with your brothers and sisters in Christ. We concluded by 8:15 p.m.



Children's Sunday School 9:00 A.M.

We have had an awesome year. We will be wrapping up this month. Our schedule in May will be:

May 4th - Sunday School and Children's Choir

May 11th Sunday School and Children's Choir

May 18th Last Sunday School and no Children's Choir.



We'll begin again next August!

Faith in Christ Summer Creative Arts Ministry

Do you have a creative arts skill you would like to pass on to the next generation? Or Can you give an hour a week of your time to just be present and get to know the precious children of the community? No commitment to teach, just be there for them and love them as Christ has loved you.



Summer Creative Arts Ministry is the opportunity for community children who have completed 3rd through 8th grade to learn creative arts, and hang out too. We meet on Monday and Wednesday mornings 10 am till noon through the summer. During Day Camp week FIC Summer Creative Arts takes a break.

Please See Pastor Jeff to help as we get together and love these children into the kingdom of God, for Christ's sake.



Loyal Followers of Christ - (LFC)

Will meet on Friday, May 2nd at 12 Noon in Bay Breeze Restaurant for fellowship, lunch and a brief business meeting. Newcomers are always welcome!

Sewing & Service Circle

Has cancelled all meetings at this time.

Women of Today

Will meet for their regular meeting on Monday, May 19th at 3:00 in the church.



*Beginning
May 4th*

*BLESSINGS IN A BOTTLE
FUNDRAISER*

On Sunday, May 4th, the Women in Service (WinS) Group of FIC will once again have colorful baby bottles for you to pick up, fill with money and return them to the church the end of June. These months contain the special days of both Mother's Day and Father's Day so are very appropriate for this special fundraiser to benefit our youngest angels.

ALL FUNDS COLLECTED WILL GO TO BENEFIT WOMEN

AND CHILDREN IN NEED.

P.S. This project is only one of the many Outreach Projects sponsored by FIC. Our Outreach Committee is made up of:

Pat Kunce, Chair

*Members - Dixie Schmid, Cindy Post,
Vicki Hartley*

Special Offering Designation

Upcoming "Special Offering" designations are as follows:

Pentecost - TWIGS ministry to IHN

TWIGS ASK FOR YOUR HELP

"I am the vine, you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit. This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit showing yourselves to be my disciples" (John 15:5 & 8). Just as trees need good soil, light and water to grow, so do our TWIGS (Teens Working In God's Service). FIC's 7th-12th grade youth are heading to North Carolina July 13th-19th on a combined mission/adventure retreat. This trip is designed to give them the spiritual nourishment they need to continue to serve Him as well as time to enjoy themselves in His creation. We will be working for two days in the greater Asheville, NC area and then relaxing at Lutheridge Camp and enjoying activities such as whitewater rafting and hiking. We ask for your prayers as well as financial support. The cost for each teen is \$350. Parents of the TWIGS have already paid half of this cost, and we are asking the congregation to help offset the rest of the fees. Please look upon your hearts and see what you are able to give to help support these amazing disciples of Christ who give so much to our congregation.



TWIGS

Dear Church Family,
I want to thank everyone for their prayers, cards, calls and visits following my recent surgery. They have meant a lot to me. It is really nice to be able to be back in church once again.

God Bless You All,
Bobbie Mayes



Dear Faith in Christ Members,
What a pleasant surprise to receive that lovely Easter card signed by all of you. Thank you so much for remembering me. I am still in the nursing home for therapy. I can't believe how weak I am. They say I am improving and some days I agree with them and other days I wonder.

My goal was to be home by Easter and to go to church. Guess I didn't reach that goal and will have to set another one. They had written on one of my papers expected discharge date as Tuesday, May 27th – I hope I'm not here that long!

Today after therapy they were having a church service - a nice message and communion and lots of nice music.

Thanks again.
Love 'n hugs,
Betty Lou Theiss

"Celebration of FAITH" Service



on Sunday, May 4!

TNT youth will be sharing their faith
through messages, music, and more!

Mark your calendar and join us.
A luncheon will follow the service.



Praise You In This Storm

an original video sharing God's
transformational love and mercy

Presented by the TWIGS

` Teens Working In God's Service `

May 18th

Join us for this special worship opportunity.

Congratulations
to our
2014 High School graduates ~



**OUR 2014
GRADUATES**

There will be a special fellowship hour on
Sunday, May 18 following worship
in their honor.

There will be cake, punch and a basket for cards!

ATTENTION FISHERS OF MEN

*DON'T JUST STAND THERE CUTTING BAIT,
IT'S TIME TO START FISHING FOR FISH!*

AND MAYBE WIN SOME PRIZES!

EVERYONE WELCOME - FUN FOR ALL AGES

2014 **FISHING TOURNAMENT**

WHEN: SATURDAY MAY 24, 2014 8:00AM - 3:00PM
(RAIN, SHINE, SLEET OR SNOW)

**WHERE: THE POND
AT FAIRHAVEN**

**BRING YOUR LUNCH AND
SPEND THE DAY**

PRIZES:

BIGGEST FISH (LENGTH) \$100.00

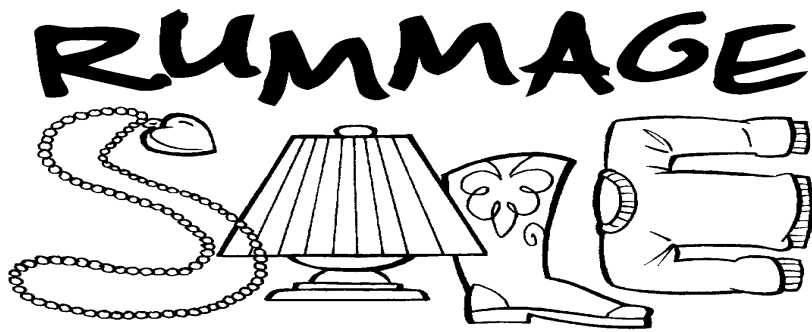
SMALLEST FISH (DAVE SIZE) . \$50.00 

MOST FISH (ANY SIZE) \$75.00

FOR THOSE WHO DON'T FISH LOTSA FUN

FOR ANY OTHER DETAILS SEE CATHY KING





Friday, June 6th 9am-4pm

Saturday, June 7th 9am-12noon

Located at Faith in Christ Lutheran Church
1603 Moorefield Rd., Springfield

The Boy Scouts of Faith in Christ Lutheran Church are graciously accepting donations Monday June 2-Thursday June 5 from 6pm-8pm. Please call Traci at 937-342-1174 if you need us to pick up your donation!

**GET
RID OF
YOUR
STUFF**



A big thank you goes out to ALL who helped with our recent Lenten dinners and worship! Thanks to all who brought one of the delicious soups or desserts, those who helped set up and/or clean up, those who washed dishes, those who helped with worship and those who helped out in any way. We couldn't do it without all of your help!

A sign-up sheet is now on the table in the entrance hallway for you to sign-up to help mow the church lawn. Pick your dates and sign-up now. If you have any questions, please see Tony Rogers.

