

Chandler Chatter

In Pre-K we are learning about arctic animals and all about snow. We have been waddling around like a penguin with a paper egg on our feet, and we have found it is hard to be a penguin and get anywhere very fast. If you try it, remember you have no hands! It's hard in Chandler, Texas' climate to predict an activity revolving around real snow, so we just tried one out. We tested ice cubes to see which would melt faster: ice on a plate, ice you breathe hot air on, ice covered with salt, ice you hold tight in your hand, ice you stick under your shirt against your tummy, or ice that is covered with tap water. Well, it was a cold test on our tummys but our ice melted the fastest covered with tap water. If you haven't ever tried this, you should. This was only a little test to see how cold the arctic weather just might be. And, it was really fun; at least most of us liked it.

We hope your holidays were as wonderful and fulfilling as all of ours were. Now we are back here together and enjoying each other. See Ya Soon! Mrs. Kiker and Mrs. Tullos

Kindergarten has been excited to start back after the Christmas break. We have been learning about winter. We have made snowmen and talked about the polar animals like seals, polar bears, walrus and penguins. We are very excited to get to our 100th day of school and all the activities that we have for that day on February 2nd. We cannot believe it is almost here. This school year has flown by so fast.

First Grade has been studying about Martin Luther King and the Presidential Inauguration. Our students are becoming more fluent in their reading. Parents, please continue to read with them every night for 20 to 30 minutes.

We are going to start a money unit. Have your child count your change and identify each coin. We are looking forward to the 100th day of school and Ground Hog Day. Our program will be February 10th. Come and see how patriotic we are. First grade is in charge of selling the Valentine key chains. Buy your favorite Valentine a key chain for only \$1.00.

Second Graders are continuing to develop their reading skills and working on fluency. Second graders should be able to read 90 words a minute by the end of the year. We encourage you to read to your child every day. We have been studying about the weather. We are looking forward to the hundredth day of school on February 2nd.; we have some great activities planned.

Third Graders have

been working really hard on our TAKS skills! We have taken several reading benchmarks to see how we are improving and most of us have made some improvements. We have also started our after-school tutorials. In December, we studied about Christmas in several countries and then compared their customs to our own. Some of the countries were Mexico, Denmark, France, and Holland. Keep studying your multiplication facts, reading your story, and studying your spelling words at home every night.

Our character word for the month is 'Responsibility.' Responsibility is following the rules, doing class work and homework and keeping up with your belongings.

Students will be recognized for perfect attendance and no tardies throughout the year. Be sure to be at school on time every day. A warning bell will ring at 7:55 and the tardy bell will ring at 8:00. Make sure you are in your class at 8:00! This month we reward all the students who had perfect attendance for the first semester with a special breakfast with Mrs. McCoy and Mrs. Smith. We had 65 students that qualified for the breakfast. Congratulations to those students.

We are collecting Box Tops again this year. Send 10 box tops in an envelope with your child's name on it. We will draw names for prizes.

Happy Birthday! Student birthdays are acknowledged in the office. Come by the office and pick up your Birthday Ribbon on your special day. Our Staff birthdays for the month of January are Mrs. McCoy, Mr. Roberson, Mrs. Spencer and Mrs. West.

Students are trying to win a free ticket to Six Flags by reading for 6 hours. Reading forms are due by February 18th.

Upcoming events: **February 2nd**, 100th day of school; **February 10th**, PTO meeting at 6:30 and 1st grade program at 7:00; **February 12th** - Valentine parties; **February 27th**, TAKS; Pep Rally at 2:00; **March 3rd**, TAKS Reading test for 3rd grade.

If you need additional information about the news, please call the school at 903-849-3400. CES loves our school, parents, teachers, students, volunteers, and community.

We had a PTO meeting on January 20th. Bill and Star gave an excellent presentation on being involved with your child's education. Bill stressed the points of being consistent, setting expectations, teaching responsibility and the importance of communication. Bill stated that it is important to remember that all children are different. They learn and do things differently, so we have to teach them in different ways. Focus on your child's strengths and they too can be a star!

and Debbie Morris. They celebrated their anniversary last Saturday by taking a trip to Kilgore for some ribs. Rev. Prather and Rebecca joined them for the celebration.

Herb and Dorothy Botts are still home sick. We pray they will be feeling better soon.

Actually, on Sunday, it looked like a lot of people were sick. There were a lot of missing faces at the service. It must be that time of year again.

Gail Johnston has announced that a musical jam session is starting. The first get-together was this last Monday at 7 PM. It's just so anyone can come together and sing, play instruments and generally

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CHANDLER U.M.C.

by Linda G Keeling

Worship times: 8:30 a.m. Praise Service; 9:30 a.m. Fellowship; 10 a.m. Sunday School; Traditional service at 11:00 a.m.

"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sin." 1 Peter 4:8

We have many verses in the Bible that address the significances of Love in the life of a Christian, but this verse provides such a visual image of how we as Christians should love. We know about universal love of the neighbor, community and the world in general; our role as Christians in leading a sinner to salvation. But this verse addresses on a personal level, the one-on-one relationship we have with each other; the type of relationship we have with our family, friends and co-workers. This love is tested moment by moment, in our interactions with others. "Love covers over a multitude of sin."

We all stray from God's path through our own human behavior. But if we truly love as God loves us, we are not only forgiven but can forgive. To be able to forgive is a wonderful consequence of love. So for Valentine Day send a love note to your loved ones, expressing your love and thanking God for the opportunity of loving. One might also want to seek forgiveness from your loved one as well, for we have all, to some degree have sinned even against the ones we love.

If you missed Reverend Pinson's sermon last Sunday, you will want to ask Gabe Grantham what he was doing streaking across the front of the Church during the service. Boy can he run!

The "Kitchen Shower" sponsored by UMW for the Salem Methodist Church was a huge success. It was announced by Natalie Smith, President, that nearly everything on the list was given to the Church except for the freezer, which was

just announced last Sunday, had also been donated. What a blessing to see the generosity of the UMW and the congregation in helping in this mission. The wonderful ladies helping bring this about included, Ruthie Callaway, Nancy Adkins, Nancy Martin and Jill McGill.

Mark your calendar - that time is near. Saturday, February 7 is "Outside church-wide clean-up day." Allen Pollard is the coordinator and he is calling for every able bodied person to bring your garden tools and join in the fun. Fun starts at eight o'clock.

Next Sunday, February 8th will be the start of the new Church schedule, the first day for our new Praise Leader, Shaun Little and the Boy Scout Fundraiser Barbecue luncheon sponsored by the United Methodist Men. Could we ask for anything more? We could do like Rev. Linda Pinson suggested and attend the Praise Service to welcome Shaun at 8:30, attend Sunday School with your friends and then take in the Traditional Service at 11 a.m. and wrap it up with some great UMM's Barbecue!

Valentine Day this coming Saturday will recognize two of the most significant groups in our congregation, the Golden Pairs and the Eighty-Plus individuals. A special reception will be from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. in Heritage Hall.

Happy Anniversary to: Benny and Barbara Westbrook, James and Laura Griffin, Gene and Helen Giger, Dennis and Shirley Murray, Alberto and Susan Romo, Charles and Dee Curtis, and Hill and Mary Alice Paddock.

Happy Birthday to: Mark Hockman, Robert Robinson, Dorothy McHam, Shirley Cherry, Edie Young, Norman Lay, Russell Bradford, Doug Crabtree, Ruth Cummings, Mark McGill, James McDonald, Tammy Kidd, Erik Hemingway, and Jake Hutchins.

Thought for the Week: "I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership."

-Philippians 1:3

St. Boniface Catholic

by Sue Beams

On the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time, members of St. Boniface continued their reflection on the theme of discipleship. The theme of the readings of the day was the fact that the salvation of the Lord will prevail!

In his homily, Fr. Luke spoke of God's use of power and authority. At the time of Moses, prophets were commanded by God, what they spoke was of God. The life of Christ was full of power and authority. In His dealing with the Scribes and the Pharisees, unclean spirits, the Jewish people, the paralytic, the adulteress, the repentant thief, and those who were victims of injustice, Jesus used His power and authority. He consistently taught with this power and authority as well as touched, healed, and was compassionate and merciful.

We see His use of His power and authority to break the power of evil. He welcomed the sinner into repentance. We all have the potential for evil. Jesus uses His power and authority to heal us, to lift us up, when we need to change; when we struggle. As Christians we are commissioned at our Baptism and given the power and authority to speak the truth, to stand for truth and justice.

Fr. Luke went on to say that the Word of God can be a double-edged sword. When we use His word, we can be hurt and we can hurt others. Show understanding and mercy to the broken and lonely. When we allow Jesus to

use His Power and Authority on us we, in turn, can use our power and authority on those who need it.

Today, our parish along with thousands of other parishes across our nation will sign postcards urging Congress to oppose the "Freedom of Choice Act" (FOCA) and to retain existing laws against government funding and promotion of abortion. Sign a postcard, affix postage and send it to your Senator/Representative. Let your voice be heard.

Refreshments were served following the Mass.

February 6th is First Friday. Mass is at 9:00 am followed by Adoration until Noon.

Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors will be commissioned for two years of service next weekend at the respective Masses (Feb. 7 and 8).

On next Sunday, February 8th at 5pm, Fr. Luke will prepare his famous Chicken Curry meal for parishioners as a fundraiser for the Church. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. Door prizes and great fun are promised!

Congratulations and best wishes to all who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries. We pray for the sick and suffering that they may find comfort in the Lord. We remember too, the faithful departed. Our deepest sympathy goes to the Francisco Duran family and the Ruth Avalos family. May they rest in the peace of the Lord. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families. We pray for the men and women who serve our great nation in the armed services. May they return home safely.

God Bless You!

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