

May 16, 2010

The theme for this Rejoicing Spirits Sunday was
“The Fruit of the Spirit”

We gathered for worship on this beautiful spring day to give glory to God, to share Christ’s love, and to have a warm and friendly fellowship time together afterwards. Before the service the lovely thank you note from Judy and Dave Curry, and designed by Judy, was read and shown to everyone present. We wish the Currys many happy years in their new home.

We were honored, too, that the founders of the national Rejoicing Spirits movement were also our guests. The spirit of the risen Lord was present among us all as we gathered in worship to give glory to God and to share Christ’s love.



As we **sang** -

- As Jim’s grandson Steve joined our musicians as a guitar player. He did a wonderful job and we truly appreciated having him.
- We opened our worship by singing “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High.” T.J. and Pat led our singing today, as Joan was the piano player. Along with our Rejoicers, they both did a fine job. (We missed Mariann, our faithful pianist, who was traveling to her daughter’s graduation, and therefore could not be with us.)
- We lifted our voices and spirits together in chorus to tell of the Lord’s love for us, which is “Higher Than The Mountains.”
- Our adoration for God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost was expressed through “Father We Adore You.” *I lay my life before you.*
- As the sun was shining outside, we asked Jesus to spread his light on us through “Shine, Jesus, Shine.”
- The last song that we sang is one that has special meaning for Rejoicing Spirits: “Together in One Spirit.” *All created equal, together we belong. United in one body, rejoicing in one song.*

As we **heard God’s word** –

- Laurie read from 1 Corinthians 12:7 that *a gift of the Spirit is given to each of us for the common good.*
- Laurie then read from Galatians 5:22 about the gifts the Holy Spirit sends to us when we let him control our lives, including *love, joy, peace, patience, kindness goodness, and faithfulness.*
- Samantha and Brian shared in the gospel reading from John 14:26-27, which promises us all the gift of the Holy Spirit and the peace that only God can give.

As we heard the **message from Pastor Krewson** –

- We tried to determine which of the fruits that he brought on a plate represented which gift of the Holy Spirit and why.
- There were no right or wrong answers, but the interactive discussion was interesting, and we could see how the word “fruit” could represent the gifts that are available to all through the Holy Spirit

As we **prayed** –

- Rejoicers and guests who had individual prayer requests for intercession and prayers of thanksgiving offered them to the Lord. “Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.”
- In particular, we prayed for Pastor Bill’s wife Kathy, who was very ill.
- Samantha led us in the Lord’s Prayer.

As the **service ended** –

- Samantha provided the dismissal.
- “Go in peace. Serve the Lord.”

As we **shared** –

- We sang happy birthday to those celebrating April *and* May birthdays. Kevin, our excellent drum player, was the only May birthday present, but Sophie and Daniel Krewson were also honored, as they were not here last month for their April birthdays.
- Many thanks to Pastor Krewson for his delicious looking (!) and excellent Bible message. We all enjoyed it.
- Our fellowship time after the service was longer than usual, as we seemed to have much catching up and visiting to do.
- As always, we deeply appreciate those who bake and set-up for our gathering time, and then take down and cleanup so faithfully. Thanks to you all!