

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness
for they will be filled." Matthew 5:6

There seems to be such a hunger today. I don't mean only a hunger for food. There is always a need to respond to those who cannot find or have enough food. There are other hungers and thirsts. I'm speaking of spiritual hungers and thirsts. If we look, those hungers and thirsts are all around us.

The child who has a look of one who does not have a caring family life. You'll see them, they have a lean and hungry look.

The battered wife who desperately needs/wants to stay in the supposed safety of her family—her husband's abuse makes it/that impossible. She has a lean and hungry look.

The tween or early teen seeking to belong will try in any way to belong, sometimes at their error of decision. You'll see them more and more these days. Lean, thirsty, hungry.

The husband or wife who hears the words "I don't love you any more" stresses. They look it--

The one who has been fired, the child failing, the one who thinks they are too fat or skinny, the bully, the bullied, the rich who has amassed a great fortune yet finds "no satisfaction," the one who's lived past their years, "the salesman who never knew who he was," the one who has no idea what his purpose is for living—these and so many others are hungering and thirsting. You'll see them if we look hard enough. The one who wonders where God is—"I need Him, " they cry! The one who wants to be right with God but hungers and thirsts, how? The answer is Jesus.

This Sunday this month we'll celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit. Our Father has sent what Jesus had promised. God sends His Holy Spirit to those who will lift a prayer for help to heaven above, who in faith calls upon the Father. God lifts the humble and refuses the prideful ones.

There is Good News for those spoken of at the beginning of this monthly letter. The Holy Spirit, the comforter, the counselor, the giver of life is here—He'll visit and respond to the one who calls and cries out to Him, especially the one who wonders if they are saved or not.

This Christmas and Epiphany celebrated the coming of Jesus into any life who'll receive Him. Jesus has ascended to the Father, God in Jesus sends us the Holy Spirit, who is Jesus resurrected, to any life who will welcome Him. Help is on the way. Come Holy Spirit.

Thank you, Father.

Thank you, Jesus.

Blessings in Christ,
Pastor Bill Ahlfeldt