A Mustard Seed Faith - (Children’s Sermon)

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." Luke 17:5-6 (NIV)

Have you ever seen a mustard seed? The mustard seed is one of the smallest of all seeds. The mustard seed is so small that you can hardly even see it. Some people wear a necklace that has one of these tiny mustard seeds inside of a piece of glass. They wear this necklace as a symbol of their faith in God. Do you know why the mustard seed is considered a symbol of faith?

One day, Jesus was talking to his disciples when one of them turned to him and said, "Lord, increase our faith." Jesus answered and said, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it will obey you." Can you imagine what it would be like to have that kind of faith?

I heard a story about a man who read this verse in the Bible and decided to put it to the test. There was a large tree in his front yard, so he went out to that tree and said, "In the morning when I wake up from my sleep, I want you to be gone." That night the man went to bed. When he woke up the next morning, he went to front door, opened it, and looked out into his front yard. "Just as I thought!" the man said. "It's still there."

Well, first of all, the man didn't have mustard seed sized faith, did he? In fact, he didn't have any faith at all. When he told the tree to be moved, he never expected it to happen. In the second place, I think that the man misunderstood what Jesus was trying to teach his disciples.

Jesus was not suggesting that you and I go around trying to move trees just to prove that we have faith. What Jesus was trying to teach his disciples -- and what he wants you and me to learn -- is that it doesn't take a great faith to produce great results. Why? Because the results don't depend on us, they depend on God. If the results depended on the size of our faith, I have no doubt that we would probably go around bragging about our great faith.

What have we learned about faith today? This is what I hope we have learned: Don't ask for a great faith so that we can do great things -- ask for faith the size of a mustard seed so that we can see God do great things!

Vacation Bible School 2013 Was a Success
**Generation Y.E.S.**  Mentor meetings 1st and 3rd Wednesdays @ 6:00 pm

**Mortgage Burning (Miracle Sunday) - Phase II**  *Bricks*  - $220: You receive a 4x8 brick which allows you to engrave up to 4 lines with 21 characters per line.  *Quarry Tile*  - $500: You receive an 8x8 tile which allows you to engrave up to 8 lines with 21 characters per line.  The deadline for final payment will be announced.

**Health and Welfare** is planning a CPR training here at the church on an upcoming Saturday.  Cost for certification for adults and children will be approximately $35.  Please contact Yvonne M. Jenkins (832.754.1456) to sign up and for further information.

**BUMC Membership Ministry** is in the process of updating the membership status records.  There are forms located in the narthex.  Please fill out and place in the update box located in the narthex.

**Swingout Classes** - Beginning Tuesday July 2, 2013 at 7:00pm:  "Do Your Dance" Sept. 13, 2013

**Finance Meeting** – July 8th @ 6:30 pm

**Gospel Skate** – “Keeping Kids Off the Streets” - July 15th @ 5:30 pm Lockwood Skating Rink - 3323 E. Lockwood.  Looking for rappers, praise dancers and all kind of artists, children of all ages and groups to attend.  Prizes will be awarded.  Transportation will be provided by BUMC, see Donna Henderson if interested.

**An Evening of Purpose and Prosperity  "Celebrating the Pillars of Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow"**  Friday, September 13, 2013 @ Bayou City Event Center  Cocktail Attire – Live Entertainment – Silent Auction  Sponsorships: $60 Per Ticket and/or $600 Per Table of 10 - Payment Plan is available

**Family & Friends Day** – September 15th @ 10:00 am
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<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00am</td>
<td>Gathering Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30am</td>
<td>Ministry Track 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00pm</td>
<td>Conversation Time (Lunch)</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30pm</td>
<td>Ministry Track 2</td>
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<td>2:00pm</td>
<td>Conversation Time</td>
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<td>Ministry Track 3</td>
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<td>3:30pm</td>
<td>Plenary</td>
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<td>Closing Conversation</td>
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### SCD 2013 Satellite Experience

School of Congregational Development 2013

For the second year in a row, School of Congregational Development is offering offsite participation through Targeted congregations in our five jurisdictions on Saturday, August 17. Who should attend? Clergy, laity, ministry team leaders, lay speakers, young adult leaders, in other words as many of your creative leaders and members as you desire. Those attending the Saturday event in one of the congregations will be able to participate through a live webcast, innovative group interaction and discussion.

The presenters for this event will be Rev. Dr. Dottie Escobedo - Frank, Rev. Rudy Rasmus & Charles Lee. The “Church Revolution from the Edge” Ministry Track will share the latest insights and strategies for turning around declining congregations through revolutionary and insurgent change. Rudy and Dottie will lead the conversation around moving to the edge in order to find a new way to be the church of Jesus Christ in this day and age.

For registration go to: http://www.scd.gntv.info/scj.htm

there is a 50% discount to the first 49 participants.
Building Community One Family at a Time