



Summerhill Community Ministries, Inc.

Sewing Inner-City Youth and Families

Sponsor a Child for Christmas

In this day and age, our children are enticed with the notion that Christmas is all about the gifts they receive. Here at the Summerhill Community Ministry's After School Program, we are continuing to encourage the children to embrace the act of giving. We have asked our students to make a list of 2 gifts they would like to give to someone else, and one gift they would like for themselves.

In order to "purchase" the gifts, the children eagerly and willingly do extra chores around the house, at school and by helping in their community, to earn "Christmas bucks." An adult will sign a form to note that he or she has completed a task.

On Thursday, December 22nd, we will have a "wrapping party" where the children will purchase the gifts from their wish list using their "Christmas bucks" and wrap them for loved ones.

Here is how you can help!

Upon deciding to sponsor a child, you will receive an index card written by one of the children with their 3 gift wishes. After purchasing the gifts, please return the presents to a SCM representative by Monday Dec. 19th. Please put the unwrapped gifts in a bag with the child's name on it. If finding time to shop is an issue, feel free to send a donation to cover the cost of the gifts for a child. Remember that all donations are tax deductible. Thank you so much for enabling a child to give back to their loved ones. You are blessing the children and us by your generosity.

Upcoming Events

Nov. 20 - Flag Football Dinner

Dec. 3 - Christmas Crafts with East Cobb PCA

Dec. 10 - Christmas Basketball Tournament for 18-under team

Dec. 22 - After School Program Christmas Party

Jan. 7 - Official Basketball Season begins

Mondays at After School Program

"Is there something about yourself that you would like to be different? To change? Are your feet too big? Too small? Are you fat? Skinny?" The kids are on the floor laughing now. Justina continues, "Is there something about yourself or your circumstances that makes you think God can't use you? Today you will hear about someone who God chose to be the next king. From the outside he did not seem like the best choice. He was even the youngest. His name was David. God chose David because of what was in his heart. God can use every one of you too. Don't ever think he can't because God can do anything. Let's listen to see how God chose David ..."

That was exactly the word of encouragement I needed that day. Let me explain. On Mondays the kids unload from the van...wash hands... several kids pray then snack.... several kids pray then devotions...several kids pray then split up into smaller groups for homework...later, we come together for an enrichment activity. We finish up at 5:30 and drive everyone home.

I love to take the "Washington Street" kids home. Of course, we have the usual fuss over the front seat, give out the peppermints, buckle up and off we go.. On Monday October 31st the atmosphere on the streets was different than on other evenings; more volatile than usual. Lots of people were outside

hanging around. The kids sensed it. From the back of the van I heard, "Ms. Anne - roll up the windows - you'll get egged... really Ms. Anne - they will do it." When we arrived at the entrance to the apartment, several young men were arguing with the people inside a car that was blocking the way. A woman was yelling at them from the sidewalk, "You'd better stop - Now!" Dialing her cell phone she yelled, "I'm calling your mother right now - I'm dialing her number! Get out of here - Now!" The gang stormed off. -one of the Summerhill kids told me afterward that more "thugs" returned later that night.

Driving back to Marietta I reflected over the various things I had seen on the street. The street is tough. This is where these kids live. With what they are exposed to, is it possible to affect real change, or is my involvement a

(Continued on page 2)



Note ASP Close Dates

from Atlanta Public Schools 2005/2006 Calendar

11/23-25th	Thanksgiving Holidays
12/23- Jan.6th	Winter Holidays
January 16 th	ML King Holiday
February 20 th	Presidents' Day
March 17 th	Teacher Planning Day
April 3 rd - 7 th	Spring Break
May 18 th	Last Day of ASP
May 26 th	Last day of School

(Continued from page 1)
waste of time? Completely overwhelmed and full of doubt, my heart was heavy and burdened to pray.

Over the next few days God was gracious and helped me realize my eyes were focused on circumstances rather than Him; I was looking at the storm instead of my Savior. I was not trusting God. There is hope because our God is a God of miracles. He can take that which is meant for evil and use it for good. He promises His Word will not go out void. These kids are seeing the love of Christ in practical and real ways. They are hearing the truth of the gospel.

Recently, Justina asked the kids during devotion time, "Do you remember last week we learned about faith? What is faith?" All together, without hesitation they recited loudly, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for and the evidence of things not seen." Amazing! God is at work in these kids and sometimes He lets us see.

Anne Burlas - Volunteer

2005 Summerhill Flag Football

My second year of coaching the Summerhill 18- under Flag Football team was even more enjoyable than the first. Many of the kids from the football team had also played on the Summerhill Basketball team and were therefore familiar with each other and with myself. Similar to the basketball team, I was once again

overwhelmingly impressed with the character displayed by our young men (and young woman) over the course of the year. We finished the season undefeated (6-0), but many of the games were close and came down to the wire. Our young athletes never gave up or dissented among one another, and in times of adversity they worked together to overcome all obstacles. Although I was in awe of the athletic talent that our players possessed, I was most impressed this year with the sportsmanship displayed by each player on the Summerhill team and the opposing team. I am hard pressed to remember being part of a football team at any level where such a feat occurred. God really

blessed our team this year, I believe He honored their commitment and positive attitudes with a fun and joyful season, as well as with the championship.

Philip Yarberough



The 18-under Flag Football Team won the championship trophy and each received a Path To Victory, Sports New Testament Bible.

Happy Birthday Jennifer!

Jennifer celebrated her 30th Birthday on Monday November 14th. The kids still herald Jennifer's name in the community. She keeps in touch with my family and the community kids and parents quite often. She is missed, but it's good to know she is doing well in Manteo, North Carolina.

