

Summerhill Community Ministries



September 2010

Camp Highlights

We are so grateful to all of our faithful supporters that allowed us to provide camp this past summer with a special thanks to those that came through for us when we thought we would have to close down early. It was more of a blessing than we could have known to be able to keep the doors open.

During our last week of camp, we had a daytime program in which all classes presented a skit, song, dance or reading, to demonstrate one of their favorite Bible lessons. Each class did a wonderful job as they performed with enthusiasm. The teen class which usually is the shyest class particularly stood out this summer with their presentation. Their favorite lesson was about the "7 deadly sins". In their presentation, each child gave the definition and an example of the sin. They then showed, scripture by scripture, the plan of salvation. They talked about repentance, belief in Jesus, forgiveness of sin, and God's

love for all. This presentation led to a very serious talk afterward. The kids were all attentive, along with our youth workers. You could sense the presence of God all around. I asked if anyone wanted to pray to receive Christ into their life and offered that if they did not fully understand what this

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meant, we could explain further and they could make this decision once they were ready.

Those that were ready to make this very important decision were asked to stand and pray. Twenty-six campers ranging from 7 years old to 17 years old, stood and prayed to receive Christ into their life - some with tears in their eyes and others praying very intensely. It was incredibly moving to see these kids open up to the Lord and receive His Grace.

Heaven rejoices over one sinner that comes to a repentance and so do we! Please pray for these new converts as they grow in His grace.

Thank You!

Thank you God for your provision for volunteers, donors, the Brake family gift of a minivan, the Beverly Black food program, and for praying and supporting churches. What would we do without each other? More and more we find out how much we need each other.

Our volunteers were simply wonderful this summer!

Many thanks to those that made it possible for Summer Camp to go forward. Your gifts made it possible for our staff and volunteers to provide a safe and fun place for Summerhill kids to be this past summer. We could not have done this without YOU!

"May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 15:5-6

I received an email from the Margaret Brake one day. She said, "Justina, I know you all need a 15 passenger van, but could you possibly use a minivan?"



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I was blown away! This had been a long standing personal prayer request. We needed a minivan for running ministry errands and for transporting small groups throughout the year. We also needed another vehicle to help out on summer camp field trips. This was a specific answer to prayer. Thank you Don and Margaret Brake!

Special thanks to our supporting churches and companies that sent groups of hard working volunteers and food this summer - Redemption Fellowship, East Cobb, The Rock, Westminster, and McColgan & Company. You really helped us run a smooth program!

...and to all of our camp field trip drivers. Field trips are so important to the kids. We would not have been able to transport our group of 70-75 people without your help. Thank you so much!

"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 in the gospel from the first day until now..." Philippians 1:3-5

- Justina Dix



Women from The Rock PCA with lunch coordinator Ms Sue Schnarr

Dix Family Update

Emanuel Sr. is attending Redemption Fellowship Church with his family and is also faithfully attending NA meetings. He is encouraged and learning a lot about himself, the affects his challenged childhood has had on him, and how to overcome addictions and the things that led him to it. He covets your prayers.

James now works in the Detective Department of the Atlanta Police Department. He is also the keyboard player and minister of music at our church, Redemption Fellowship.

Emanuel Jr. is working hard on his job on the night shift at Schwan's Bakery.

Justin does part time security work and helps mom in the ministry, in all programs. He also plays drums for morning worship at Redemption Fellowship.

Joel is the General Manager at J.R. Crickets.

Ashley is a junior at Talladega College. She is majoring in Biology. They won Nationals in basketball earlier this year, and she is now playing soccer on an all boys team at the college. She has made history of being the first woman on the team.

Jeremy is a sophomore at Maynard Jackson High School. He is playing the snare drum in the marching band and loving it.

Myleodre is in 5th grade and plays flag football.

DreLeon is in the 3rd grade.

Tyquantis has started kindergarten.

They are all doing very well academically.



Family Prayer Request

This month we lost a very close friend and a family member.

Momma Bennett, who was a special part of our family, passed on August 7th.

My nephew Nick Turner, age 26, was shot and killed in front of eye witnesses. The shooters took Nick's body and until this day the family, does not know where he is and have no closure. Because this was drug related the shooters don't intend for us to find Nick.

My sister-in-law wants to bury her son. The police have aired this on 3 major news channels, but so far we've had only false leads. My personal prayer request is that God will speak to the hearts of the Dix family through this tragedy. Pray for "openness to Him" and life change.

- Justina



Camp Westminster invited our camp to come out for a day. Special thanks to Rosalie Townsend and Jason Stephenson for a fun day of rock climbing, horseback riding, swimming and good grilled food! The kids had a ball.

Ongoing After School Program Needs

- Snacks for 40 ASP kids (4 days a week)
- Paper Goods (towels, napkins, toilet paper, plates, silverware, cups)
- Cleaning supplies (big garbage bags, table, bathroom, & floor cleaning "stuff")
- Copier paper (white and colored)
- Stamps, envelopes
- Kroger/Publix gift cards (lately many families have food needs)
- Gift cards to Office Depot/ Staples or Wal-Mart for office supplies
- Boxed cards for birthdays, encouragement, illness, condolences
- Basketballs, footballs, and soccer balls
- Gatorade, bottle water
- Gas cards for vans
- Ongoing monthly contributions and one-time gifts.
- After school homework and tutoring helpers

Thank you to Keller & Williams for supplying the kids with book bags filled with school supplies and gift cards for the older teens to purchase school supplies!

After School Program

The after school program has begun and our enrollment has grown to 40 kids. The extra transportation has allowed us to accept a few more kids. This school year we are putting a lot of focus on math skills. Reading at SCM is constantly emphasized.

After talking with several teachers from elementary, middle, and high school, we understand many of the children struggle in math because they are not getting down the basic math skills it takes to advance to the higher math levels like Algebra 1 and 2, Geometry, Trigonometry and Calculus.

Most of the kids struggle with 2 and 3 digit addition and subtraction and most importantly, many have not memorized their multiplication facts before going on to middle school. Faithful volunteers are returning this year to help us make sure the kids complete their homework assignments and help them to advance in their comprehension of the basic math and reading skills that is required for these students to succeed.

Please prayerfully consider helping with homework or tutoring 1 or 2 afternoons a month from 3:30 until 5:30. Bring a friend to help on the same day!



In Loving Memory

Jacqueline T Bennett - "Momma Bennett"

1/20/47 - 8/7/10



Jacqueline Bennett came to us by way of her daughter, Elisa Bennett, who serves on the Board at Summerhill Community Ministries and has volunteered since 2001. When Ms. Bennett moved to Atlanta she immediately got involved in community service, not only at Summerhill, but also her church, Total Grace Christian Center. She also volunteered with the World Missions & Evangelism Street Team, 7 Bridges To Recovery, and the Gilgal Girls Organization. In addition, she was a member of Sisters By Choice breast cancer support group.

Momma Bennett had a great impact on the kids at Summerhill. She knew just how to communicate with them and they respected her. She chaperoned on camp field trips and volunteered in our after school program as a tutor and mentor. Ms. Bennett had such a special rapport with the kids.

Earlier this year, her fight against breast cancer became more difficult. Hardly a day passed without one of the children closing our devotion time in prayer for Momma Bennett. They all made her a card with hopes to encourage her. They constantly asked how she was doing and if she would be able to come to the Center anytime soon.

This past Valentine's day she graced us with her presence - and what a silent lesson on Love she taught us. She was weak, but pushed through just so that she could see the kids. She even stopped by the store and got them a treat. We were concerned about her being comfortable and not in pain. She assured us she was just fine.

After our party, we broke into homework time. We checked on Momma Bennett to see if maybe she was ready to leave. There she was in the 3rd-5th grade classroom helping a couple students with their homework. She looked and smiled. Not quite ready to go, she pressed through whatever was going on in her body to spend just a little more time with us - That's Love.

That Valentines Day was her last time volunteering with us and we are so grateful to have had her be a part of our lives.

Thank you Momma Bennett.

We will miss you.

