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# THE BETHANY BANNER

September, 2007

## Rev. M. J. Kim to Preach on Consecration Sunday



Consecration Sunday will be held on Sunday, Sept. 30, with guest preacher Rev. M. J. Kim in the pulpit. Rev. Kim served in the Virginia Conference for 38 years prior to his retirement in 2002. Rev. Kim was born in what is now North Korea. Through the work of missionaries from America he and his family came to faith in the Lord. Rev. Kim came to the United States in the late 1950's, not speaking a word of English. Through hard work and dependence upon God, Kim rose to become a District Superintendent, the pastor of a 1700-member church, and a delegate to General Conference. He is currently director of Asian-American Ministries for the Virginia Annual Conference. He is married and has two grown daughters and a grandchild. Rev. Kim will be preaching a dynamic message at both services on that Sunday. You will not want to miss his message.

During the Consecration Sunday service we will be challenged to commit ourselves once again to God's work at Bethany Church. We will be challenged to support the church by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, and service. We will be challenged to trust in God's abundant resources, who supplies all of our needs. An opportunity will be presented to make a faith commitment of our resources to the church for the upcoming year.

Following the second service we will exit to the Warren Belvin Fellowship Hall where we will enjoy a delicious meal prepared by Nardozzi and Leigh Caterers. There is no charge for lunch, but reservations will be taken. Please mark Sept. 30 on your calendar so you don't miss any of God's blessings!

## Our Mission

To know the love of God personally through Jesus Christ,  
To share the love of God through fellowship as a congregation,  
To spread the love of God throughout our community and the world.

## Sermon Topics for September

- Sept. 2: "Extreme Hospitality" based on Luke 14:12-14
- Sept. 9: "The Importance of Planning Ahead" based on Luke 14:25-33
- Sept. 16: "The Frugal Housekeeper" based on Luke 15:8-10
- Sept. 23: "Shrewd for Heaven's Sake" based on Luke 16:1-9
- Sept. 30 CONSECRATION SUNDAY:  
Rev. M.J. Kim

## Thank you

The family of James Leslie Hudgins would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all for the flowers, cards, food, prayers, calls, and visits during the loss of our loved one. We would also like to express a special thanks to Rev. Young and his wife Susan for their many visits and support.

May God bless you all,  
Marilyn, Cindy and family

## General Board of Church and Society

Every summer, the General Board of Church and Society (GBCS) and the Inter-Ethnic Strategy Development Group convene young adults from the five ethnic caucuses of the United Methodist Church (Black, Hispanic, Asian, Native American and Pacific Islander) to Washington, DC for an eight-week internship program. These (12) interns represent a wide selection of annual conferences both in the United States and in Africa. During their time in the nation's capital, the interns are assigned to various placements based on their specific areas of social justice concerns.

The typical week of EYA (Ethnic Young Adult) Interns is as follows: interns spend Mondays through Thursdays at their placements sites where they work in various campaigns and projects within their organization. On Fridays, they gather for seminar sessions which are geared towards more in-depth explorations of specific social issues, as well as linking these concerns of society with personal faith. EYA interns live together at George Washington University, where they meet weekly for Bible study and devotions. They also attend church together every Sunday and are highly encouraged to explore the nation's capital during their free time. The program also includes a visit to the GBCS office in the United Nations in New York City. For some interns, this weekend trip marks their first visit to the Big Apple.

This excerpt was taken from the GBCS website -- <http://www.umc-gbcs.org> -- from an article written by Elaine Atim, entitled, "Summer Time."

## JOY, JOY, JOY

No, not the musical selection, but in fact Bethany's JOY Circle, which will begin meeting on September 4<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Let's get this group going again and put a "little Joy" in your heart!

## Missions

The **Esther Thompson Cottage** is both a line item in the Administration portion of the Bethany budget and a designated fund for those who wish to support this worthwhile ministry of Bethany UMC.

### What is the Esther Thompson Cottage?

It is a WWII house near Bena. The **Gloucester Housing Partnership** was asked to do much-needed repairs. But GHP determined that the house required too much expense for one client. Esther Thompson, the elderly owner, agreed to deed her house, with life rights reserved, to the community, to be used as emergency housing in exchange for the repairs. **Bethany United Methodist Church Trustees** agreed to assume ownership when she could no longer live there. An **Esther Thompson Cottage Committee** was created with Wily Cross as Chairman. The **United Methodist Men** accepted responsibility for maintenance.

Ms. Thompson died recently.

### Who uses this ministry?

Below is the story of the second (and current) client.

"Mold covered everything in my mobile home after Hurricane Isabel. FEMA gave me money to move my family into another house, but by then my lungs were infected. I was working at 3 jobs. I lost all the jobs and my insurance."

It's really hard when you have no where else to go. I have no relatives near here. My ex-husband took off several years ago. He pays some child support, but that barely covers expenses. My mother died years ago. I don't even know where my stepfather lives. I hardly know my stepbrother, but I know he lives in CA."

"I was so weak I couldn't even brush my own hair. I went to the **Laurel Shelter** to get food and help with my disability papers. Someone at the **Salvation Army** gave me the name of the **Samaritan Group**. A friend told me I had to go through the Social Services. I filled out an application and then Arliss Ketchum called me." (Arliss is a volunteer caseworker for the Samaritans.)

"I was about to be evicted from the house I was renting. Arliss arranged for the Samaritans to pay the \$880 back rent and suggested the Esther Thompson Cottage as a temporary home for us until we could get straight. I'm on a waiting list for a low income apartment. I've been accepted at the **Free Clinic**. I didn't even know there was such a thing. I've always had insurance, so I haven't needed this kind of help. The doctors have connected me with a pulmonary specialist and my medications are back on track."

"Sometimes God puts us in places we don't understand. But when the bad times come, you gotta find the good in it. I feel like I've got a new start. We're blessed and we're grateful."

The Gloucester Housing Partnership, the Salvation Army and The Samaritan Group are all line items in the Mission Outreach portion of the Bethany Budget. They, The Gloucester-Mathews Free Clinic and the Laurel Shelter are also designated funds for those who wish to support these needed community organizations.

## Rev. Jim Ward to Preach at Homecoming

Rev. Jim Ward, pastor of Bethany UMC from 1980-84, will return as our Homecoming preacher on Sunday, October 28. On that Sunday Bethany will celebrate 120 years as a worshipping congregation at this location. JoAnne Lewis and her committee are pulling out all the stops for a memorable day! We'll only have one worship service that day (at 11:00), followed by a covered dish dinner and a special music program. Don't miss this once-every-five-years celebration!



Church Anniversary

## Please Note!

The Women's Bible Study will not meet on Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## Women's Monday Evening Bible Study

We meet Monday evenings from 7:00-8:30. We are a group of women seeking God's will for our lives. We meet in the Faith Classroom. For more information on what we are currently studying please call Dolores Hart (642-0933).

## Walk to Emmaus

Are you being called into a closer relationship with Jesus Christ? Do you need to know God more? Men's and Women's Walk to Emmaus weekends are coming up!! The Walk to Emmaus program is a 72 hour weekend designed to guide you in your Christian walk. Walk to Emmaus gets its name from Luke 24:13-35. The dates are as follows: Men's Emmaus Walk - October 11-14; Women's Emmaus Walk - November 1-4. Application deadlines are September 11<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> respectively. If you are interested in attending an Emmaus Walk weekend please contact the church office.

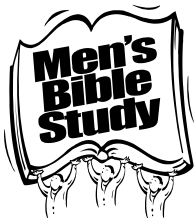
Have you been on a Walk to Emmaus, Chysallis Flight or Cursillo? Join us on Thursday evenings at 6:30 pm for our Bethany Reunion Group. We are brothers and sisters in Christ who meet weekly to talk about our week and see how our spiritual journey is going.

## Pastor Offers Membership Classes

Pastor Steve will be offering three classes for adults who are considering membership at Bethany Church. Each class will be held during the Sunday School hour (9:45-10:45 a.m.) in one of the classrooms in our fellowship hall. The classes are as follows:

Sept. 2: "What It Means to be a Christian"  
Sept. 9: "What It Means to be a United Methodist"  
Sept. 16: "What It Means to be a Bethany Member"  
Any interested person may attend any or all of the classes.

## Men's Monday Evening Bible Study



We will begin meeting on September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Journey Classroom. We will be studying Job: Wrestling with God. Come join us as we study and learn about God. For more information please call David Chapin at 642-6822

## New Short-Term Disciple Bible Study

Cokesbury, our United Methodist Publishing House, has recently published a new short-term Disciple Bible Study on both the Old and New Testaments. The study on the Old Testament was offered at Bethany in early 2006. The New Testament study will be led by the pastor on eight Sunday evenings this fall, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., beginning on Sept. 9. Advance registration is a must.

## Bethany Members Invite Their Neighbors

On Sunday, Sept. 2, attendees will be challenged to place at least one invitational door-hanger on the door of a house in their neighborhood. The attractive door-hangers are part of our denomination's advertising ministry, which will also be in evidence on several cable TV stations during the month of September. Each door-hanger will include specific information about Bethany, as well as a warm invitation to visit.



## Annual Picnic Scheduled for Sept. 16

The Family Life ministry of Bethany Church is sponsoring our annual church picnic on Sunday afternoon, Sept. 16. The picnic will begin at 2 p.m. with fellowship and games, and we'll eat around 5 p.m. All ages are invited to participate. Watch for further details in the Sunday bulletin!

## Bethany Blesses the Animals

Bethany will celebrate the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi with a "Blessing of the Animals" service on Thursday evening at 5:30 p.m. on the grassy field to the north of our church building. Members are invited to bring their pets to this service of thanksgiving and prayer. Each pet will receive a special blessing by the pastor.

## DISCIPLE I: BECOMING DISCIPLES THROUGH BIBLE STUDY

...gives equal time to both the Old and New Testament.

This is a 34 week study that will move us through the Scriptures from Genesis to Revelation. We will study 70% of the Bible in chronological order during this study.

We will meet on Sunday evenings from 4 - 6 p.m.

September 16<sup>th</sup>                      Orientation  
September 23<sup>rd</sup>                    Disciple I begins

If you are interested in joining this study please fill out the form below and drop it in the offering plate today. Class size is limited to 12.

For more information please call Dolores Hart @ 642-0933 or Marsha Miller @ 642-9352

Disciple I Bible Study

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

## The "Mother Teresa" of Phnom Penh to Speak Here



Clara Biswas, United Methodist missionary to the poor of Phnom Penh, Cambodia, will preach at Bethany at both services on Sunday, October 14.

A covered dish luncheon will be given in her honor following the second service. Bethany supports Clara's salary through our church budget, and there will be a special opportunity to give to her work. Please be present for this special and inspiring event!

## Conference Preacher on DVD at Bethany

Rev. Trevor Hudson, the outstanding guest preacher from South Africa who spoke at Annual Conference in June, will be bringing his three conference messages, courtesy of the DVD and our big screen, at our Midweek services at Bethany in September. Rev. Larry Jent, who brought the message on the first night of conference, will begin the series on Sept. 4. All interested persons are invited to join us on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m. in the church sanctuary

## New Church Directories Available

Twice a year Bethany updates its church directory to include a listing of new members, address changes, new phone numbers, etc. The summer edition is out and available for you to pick up at both entrances to our sanctuary.

## Congratulations!!

A most happy welcome to Mitchell Carlyle Brown, born on May 5, 2007 to Matt and Lisa Brown. He weighted 6 lbs 10 oz. and was 20 inches long. Welcoming him home were Francesca and Fletcher, his older sister and brother, and of course grandparents Carlyle and Frances Brown

## New Church Leaders Elected

Bill and Diana Birkett, our Communications Coordinators, have moved to Fort Belvoir, Va., and the Administrative Board has elected Mark Goetz as the new Communications Coordinator and Kevin Kiley as the new Webmaster. To assist our Lay Leader, Archie Leigh, while he is wheelchair-bound, Roy Bauschatz has been elected as assistant Lay Leader.



## Bethany Helps Provide Food to the Needy

Thanks to the thoughtfulness of Scott Stilianos, a Bethany attender who works at the Cheatham Annex, two truckloads of frozen food were salvaged and delivered to the Salvation Army, the Laurel Shelter, and the food ministry of Union Baptist Church. Pastor Steve, Mike Andersen, and Patrick Kiley were all instrumental in coordinating and making the deliveries.

## Alpha Course in Church Library

The DVD containing the 15 sessions of the Alpha Course is available to be checked out of our church library. You can now watch Nicky Gumbel's unique combination of Bible teaching, humor, and touching stories in the comfort of your homes.

## Bethany Members Glean Corn for the Hungry

6900 pounds of corn were gleaned from the field of a local farmer on July 12 and 14 by 26 youth and adults from Bethany UMC and several volunteers from Gleaning Baptist Church. The corn was delivered to the Peninsula Food Bank, the Laurel Shelter, and to A.B. Fulcher's food ministry in Achilles. Thanks to Mike Andersen, Missions Chair, for organizing the gleaning, which was an outreach of the Society of St. Andrew.

## The Most Comfortable Furniture at Bethany

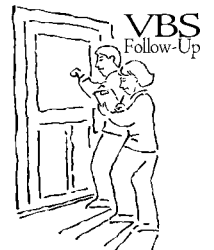
The Bethany UMYF, under the leadership of Sondra Colbert, has recently purchased several large sectionals for the youth classroom. For a number of years the youth have participated in fundraisers to raise money to replace the outdated and worn sofas that were previously in their classroom. The youth use the classroom every Sunday morning for Sunday School and every Sunday evening for UMYF meetings. Attendance in the youth group continues to grow.

## Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Graders Promoted to Youth Group

A strong class of rising sixth graders was recently promoted from the Bethany Bible Buddies into our Youth Fellowship. The young people moving up are Hannah Kidd, Hannah Wilburn, Kennedy Wilburn, Trip Vaughan, Hunter Tipton, Elizabeth Brock, Charlie Teclaw, and Ashley Reynolds. The addition of these eight brings the enrollment of our UMYF up to 29 youth.

## Vacation Bible School a Grand Success

Seventy-six children participated at our Avalanche Ranch Vacation Bible School in July. Fourteen youth served as helpers, six older children served as "Junior Ranchers", and thirty-two adults offered their help in a variety of ways. Kris Kent, our Children's Director, did an outstanding job of organizing and leading the VBS. Children learned about the Bible and had fun at the same time. Wahoo!



## Marvelous Resource for Seniors Available

Thanks to Bethany member, Sharon Smith, Senior Advocate Resource Guides are available at no charge for every member who desires one. The Resource Guide contains helpful lists of resources of interest to senior citizens, e.g., home health care providers, assisted living facilities, medical equipment and supplies providers, Alzheimer's units, rehabilitation services, etc. Sharon's daughter, Stephanie, is the editor of the publication. Please pick one up from the table at either sanctuary entrance..

## DISASTER RELIEF



*Help those in need*

### Ready to Face a Hurricane

Bethany's Disaster Preparedness Committee is helping our church get ready for the busiest part of the hurricane season. Part of our responsibility as a local church is to check on the well-being of every member of our congregation after a major storm hits our area. To do so we must have accurate contact information. Although we have home phone numbers for most of you, we realize that phone lines may not be operational after a severe storm. We are also trying to develop a complete list of cell phone numbers of our members to use in the face of an emergency. If you have not done so yet, would you kindly provide us with your cell phone number? Also, please let us know if you live in a flood plain area. You may leave the information with the church office at 642-2110. Thank you for tending to this important matter.

### Kendall Elected to Board of Discipleship

At Annual Conference Paul Kendall was elected to serve on the Virginia Conference Board of Discipleship for a three-year term. The Board of Discipleship is responsible for providing vision, leadership development, and practical models that local churches can use as they seek to make disciples of Jesus Christ and nurture members in spiritual growth. Congratulations, Paul!

### Bethany Bell Secured

Thanks to the foresight of the Board of Trustees, our church bell, which currently is mounted on the brick wall outside the front entrance to the Warren Belvin Fellowship Hall, has been secured with the erection of a undergirding steel frame. A depression at the top of the bell where it was attached to the frame led to the collection of water and the accumulation of rust, leaving the bell vulnerable to collapse. Now the bell is absolutely secure and safe. The iron bell was a gift to the church from Mr. E. A. Jenkins in 1943, and it rang in two different church steeples at Bethany from 1943 until the time of the devastating fire in 1982.

### Petitions to General Conference

Did you know that any United Methodist layperson can submit a petition to General Conference? The next General Conference will meet from April 23 through May 2, 2008 at Fort Worth, Texas. At the last General Conference about 18,000 petitions were received from laypersons, clergy, local churches, annual conferences, and boards and agencies. Similarly worded petitions are grouped together and first considered by committees composed of General Conference delegates, before being voted on the plenary body. If you would like to propose a legislative change to our Book of denomination, see the guidelines listed at: <http://www.vaumc.org/repository/GeneralConference/2008InstructionsforPetitions.pdf>

The deadline for receiving petitions is October 26, and they may be sent to [petitions@umpublishing.org](mailto:petitions@umpublishing.org)

### A Visit with Clara Biswas

This is the final installment of Juanita Csontos' report of her visit to Clara Biswas in Cambodia in February of this year.

"We are into the 'hungry' season here. One of the things you notice is that there are no overweight people. Cambodians are rail thin. In my ignorance I wondered why some children in the resettlement area appeared to have bleached hair. Clara let me know right away that the color of the hair was an indication of malnutrition. Speaking of the resettlement area, Clara has finalized arrangements for sewing classes for the young women in that place. Since there is a garment factory going up nearby, that skill will be useful. The factories here employ a considerable number of women and are not as bad as the sweatshops elsewhere. Cambodia abides by higher standards than do most other countries, so they are very concerned that China will replace them as an exporter of finished goods. Check your labels for 'Made in Cambodia'."

### Bethany Says Good-bye

This summer Bethany said good-bye to two families who have moved away. Michelle, Chad, Phillip, and Page Dermeyer moved to Michigan, where Chad has taken new employment. They were not members of the church but attended Sunday School and church on a regular basis. Bill and Diana Birkett moved to Fort Belvoir, for Bill's new civil service job. The Birketts did great service for our church in the area of technology, revamping our church website, providing high speed wireless internet service to our church, and purchasing a projector, computer, and DVD player for audiovisual presentations on our big screen.

### Van Angels

It is with deep appreciation that Bethany gives its thanks to some special people who have helped to keep our church van in tip-top condition. First, thanks go to Mark Montefusco, who has volunteered to change the oil at no charge and to perform regular maintenance tasks on our van. Second, thanks go to Bill Polk (father of Bridget), with help from brother Bobby (father of Ashleigh), for detailing the interior and exterior of the van. It looked like new when they finished with it. Thanks, gentlemen, for your gift of service to Christ and his church!



### Office Upgrade

Thanks to a gift from the Memorial Fund, lovely new office chairs have been purchased for the Pastor's Study at church. The study has also received a more powerful computer and flat-screen monitor, while the old computer will be available for Sunday School use. The walls of the Pastor's Study were recently painted white to brighten the room, and the walls of the secretary's office were repainted. These improvements are appreciated by all!

### Thought!

I have three chairs in my house: One or solitude, two for friendship, and three for company – Henry Thoreau



# Pastor's Report

## Pastor's Column: Bethany's Commitment to Children

*Jesus said: If anyone should cause one of these little ones to lose his faith in me, it would be better for that person to have a large millstone tied around his neck and be drowned in the deep sea. (Matt. 18:6)*

Jesus took very seriously the care and protection of the souls of little children. He gave the direst warnings to those who would put a moral stumbling-block before one of these little children that would cause them to lose their faith.

Bethany UMC shares the deep commitment of our Master to the safety and security of the children and youth given to our care. We pledge to work and pray and adhere to safeguards so that no child that comes through our doors would ever suffer abuse of any kind. To that end Bethany adopted a Child Protection Policy a number of years ago that was reviewed and updated last year.

Since we have a number of new members at Bethany, some of whom are not familiar with the policy, I believe that it is important to review the specifics of this policy that our church has pledged to abide by. I have noted some of the salient points below:


- We do not recruit or accept as a volunteer in children or youth ministry someone who has been in the church for less than six months. New persons may serve in other areas of ministry. But for those who work with our children and youth, we need time to get to know them, to ascertain their gifts, and to become confident of their trustworthiness
- Every worker with children and youth will be screened for previous convictions of child abuse. Paid child and youth workers will undergo criminal background checks. No one who has had a past conviction will be permitted to work with our children.
- All workers with children or youth must read and sign our Child Protection Policy, indicating that they will follow it, before being permitted to serve. Every first-year worker must attend a training session during the year that explains the particulars of our policy.
- At all church-sponsored programs for children and youth, there must always be at least two adults present. This includes the nursery, Sunday School classes, children's fellowship activities, youth group, outings, and retreats. For children's activities (above age three) and youth activities there must be one adult present for every eight children. For instance, a group of 24 children or young people must have at least three adults present. But for a group or class of as few as one or two children there is still the need for two adults over 18 to be present! This provision is one of our greatest challenges as we seek to staff our nursery and children's classes.

- One-to-one mentoring must take place in the plain view of others.
- When it is necessary to discipline a child, verbal abuse (demeaning put-downs) or physical punishment is never acceptable. Rather, a child may be isolated in the classroom or removed from the classroom, if necessary, and his/her parents notified.
- All classes and groups of children and youth may be visited by others, including parents, at any time and without prior notice.

I appreciate the great efforts of our staff and our congregation to comply with our policy. May God enable our children always and everywhere to worship, learn, and serve in safety.

*Pastor Steve*

## XYZ Club



Calling all seniors aged 55 and up to become a part of Bethany's XYZ Club. We meet on the third Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. in the WBFH for a covered dish meal (sometimes a furnished meal), and a program. Please join us on September 19 for a covered dish lunch. Following lunch Roy Bauschatz will bring us a preview of what's in store for Bethany's 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, which is coming up in October.

## Book Corner

True Light by Terri Blackstock

In the face of a crisis that sweeps an entire high-tech planet back to the age before electricity, the Brannings face a choice. Will they hoard their possessions to survive or trust God to provide as they offer their resources to others?

Return to Me by Robin Lee Hatcher

Roxy has crashed and burned. She's squandered an inheritance, lived a wild life, and wasted her talent. Desperate and ashamed, she now must return to her father and sister, neither of whom she's talked to in seven years.

Roxy's father welcomes his daughter with love and tenderness. But his easy acceptance is hard on Roxy's sister.

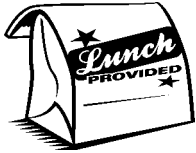
After years of being the dutiful daughter, Elena feels resentment and anger toward her wayward sister.

The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis

C.S. Lewis delves into moral questions about good vs. evil, temptation, repentance, and grace. Through this wonderful tale, the reader emerges with a better understanding of what it means to live a faithful life.

Captured by Grace: No One is Beyond the Reach of a Loving God by David Jeremiah

Amazing Grace how sweet the sound! By following the dramatic story of the "Amazing Grace" hymn writer John Newton and the Apostle Paul's encounter with the God of grace, Dr. David Jeremiah helps readers understand the freeing power of permanent grace and mercy.



### CONSECRATON SUNDAY

Consecration Sunday is September 30,2007. This year our congregation luncheon will be catered by Leigh and Nardozzi Caterers. The Stewardship Committee truly hopes you will attend. Arrangements are being made expecting an overflow crowd. We are hoping to require the use of several Sunday school rooms for additional dining.

Be a part of this exciting day, be a part of our exciting church, and take part in our wonderful church family.

See you there!

The Bethany United Methodist Church  
Stewardship Committee.

### Mini-School of Missions

Bethany United Methodist Women will host the Rappahannock District Mini-School of Missions on Saturday, September 15 from 10a.m. - 3pm. Women are asked to bring a bag lunch, with dessert and beverage provided by the ladies of Bethany. The following classes will be offered after the opening in the Sanctuary:

**Israel/Palestine:** Teacher, Mrs. Addie Haynes,  
Pres. Of Conference UMW (Read April Response)

**Singing Across the Walls:**  
Leader, Rev. Kevin Haynes

**Globalization:** Teacher, Rev. Steve Hassmer

### DR. DEMITRI SHTEINERG RETURNS

Bethany has a concert scheduled for October 7 at 4pm. At this time no detailed information is available. Be sure to watch your Sunday bulletin for complete details.



Join your friends every Sunday night for worship, fellowship, and an opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of others! Enjoy dinner from 6:00 p. m. until 6:30 p.m. - followed by MYF until 7:30 p.m. Hope to see you there! For further information please contact Sondra at 642-0467

### THANK YOU PARTNERS!!

There are few words to express the pride and gratitude I felt on Monday, July 16th at 9:00 AM. There were children in the sanctuary filled with such anticipation they could hardly sit still! "What's going to happen at this place called the Avalanche Ranch?" one wide-eyed little girl asked me. My response was, "Only God knows, but you're in for a lot of fun!!" And fun we all had as we shared the gifts of our church with 77 children. Please accept my heart-felt thanks for your prayers, contributions, dedication, hard work and talent as Bethany was blessed to open its' doors for a wonderful week of celebration in Christ's name!

WAH-HOO!

Joyfully,

Kris Kent

VBS/Children's Ministries Director



### JUST FOR KIDS



### BIBLE BUDDIES IS READY FOR FALL!!

Hey there all you new Fourth and Fifth Graders! Are you ready for a new, really cool way to spend some time with your friends? Then bring them along to the first **Class of '08 Bible Buddies** meeting on Sunday, September 16th at 6:00 PM for a light dinner and stay 'till 7:30 PM for an hour of fun, fellowship, team sports, music and biblical discussion.

Miss Jane and I are ready.... are you? Bring your Bible and we'll see you then!

SMILES!!,  
Miss Kris  
642-6438



### MAKE WAY FOR OUR MISSION AND HAVE AN AFRICAN SAFARI!

What is all the ROARING about?  
Come to September's CCF and find out! Saturday, September 22 from 4:30 to 6:30 PM in the Warren

Belvin Fellowship Hall

"Hallo!" In honor of Bethany's Missionary, Clare Biswas and her important visit with us next month, all Preschoolers through Fifth graders are invited to attend this fun-filled, action packed adventure as we unveil The Children's Ministries' Fall Mission Project and learn about the exciting country of Africa! You can make your own African animal mask, play an African instrument, enjoy African stories and food and get in on the fun! Dinner will be provided. I can't wait to see you then! "Dankie!"

Kris Kent  
[642-6438/kentcrew@cox.net](mailto:642-6438/kentcrew@cox.net)

