



The Crossbow

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AUGUST 2005
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Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is underway at Mooreland Baptist Church. We prepared this year in ways I have seen us prepare before. The difference this year, however, has been the intensity and determination along with complete reliance on God to see this VBS succeed.

First, speaking for myself, I prayed each day for at least a month that Bible school would be successful and have a positive and lasting effect in our community and in our church family. So far, this has happened. For example, we have people bringing their children who have not visited with us in the past. Subsequently, I have met many new and pleasant folks. Also, I have introduced newcomers to our church family and in many cases discovered that most people already knew each other.

Second, Mooreland prepared for VBS with the prayers from our church family. There was no huge display of public prayer or special event of prayer, although these ideas would have been great. Nonetheless, people mentioned VBS in their prayers during the worship service. Also, based on personal statements to me, most of the prayers were said in private or in a smaller group setting such as Sunday school. Our VBS has been "covered" with prayer and I am grateful.

Third, we prepared for Vacation Bible School by advertising with the most efficient and effective method proving to be "word of mouth." Our entire church has "talked up" VBS this year. Embedded in this "word of mouth" approach has been lots of energy. Our folks have released their energy into this Bible school this year in several ways. The youth, for example, were on a mission trip the week before Bible school and returned to us charged up and ready to go. Their enthusiasm has carried over into VBS through sharing with others what Mooreland is doing in Bible school. Also the youth, along with adult supervision and help, completed a playground area for

the children about a week before VBS began. Believe me, the children have enjoyed themselves this week on the equipment. And the parents of these children in VBS now see we at Mooreland have prepared, in what may seem small to some folks, to welcome and work for their kids. We had adults to share the word of VBS with people who live around them. I told the parents of children who know, play, and attend school with my children. In brief, so many people have helped with this area of preparation for VBS and God has blessed and honored their faithfulness and work.

Finally, we invited the Holy Spirit into all of our intentions and efforts. In short, we asked God to help us, guide us, give us strength and wisdom, and to do the same, and more, for anyone He sends our way this week.

Now, this said, we are certainly going to maintain contact with people who were with us this week and in doing so attempt to share the good news of Christ with any unbeliever. At the same time, we are inviting un-churched or marginally churched people to come back and find their niche here at Mooreland. In other words, we are preparing internally to receive the people God sends our way.

I firmly believe that preparation for VBS, or any other church event, must include what the church is willing to do internally to receive people as well as what it must do to reach out to invite and evangelize. Not all churches will do the same things, but that's not the idea anyway. The point is to serve God in all things that we do ranging from what we do to reach out to others and to receive them also.

Grace and Peace,

Clarke Hawkins, Moderator

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School Kit Project

Please include a message from your organization with each kit.

* Please bag in LARGE ziplock bags, Back packs, or plastic grocery bags before delivering. REMEMBER to assemble kits before delivery.

- Pencils
- Pens
- Erasers
- Colored Pencils
- Wide and College ruled loose leaf paper
- Composition books
- dividers
- pocket folders
- 3-ring binders,
- Crayons
- blunt scissors
- glue sticks
- rulers
- back packs.

Deliver kits to the Elementary School in your community

Dates to Remember

- August 15th– Called meeting of the Clothing Center Volunteers 12 Noon special. Guest, Rev. Liz Emrey
- August 19-20- Ministers Wives Retreat, Cross Roads Conf. Center
- August 26-27-Praise Team Weekend at Eagle Eyrie
- September 11 -18– Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions Week of Prayer Emphasis

SNACK PACK MINISTRY

Wednesday, August 24th.

Directions for the snack packs:

1. Buy some brown or white lunch bags.
2. Have your children at church decorate them like we did at Swift Run Baptist church.
3. Announce that you need items to fill your bags. For example: chips, pretzels, crackers, cookies, gum, life savers, tootsie pops, hard candy.

NO CHOCOLATE! It melts in the heat and makes a mess in the bags.

Distribution at the BSU and the Bridge Wednesday, August 24. Call for more information: Patty DeCourcy, Swift Run Baptist Church 434-924-1428 School of Architecture (work)

Fluvanna Baptist Day Care Center Closes

On July 24th, 2005 at Belmont Baptist Church, the Messengers to the Association voted 31 to 20 to close the Daycare August 12th. We thank the many workers and volunteers , as well as the Director, Joylyn Tolliver, who have blessed the children and their parents with their love and devotion.



Clothing Center Corner

815 Bolling Ave, Charlottesville, VA 22902
434-977-6876

We will have a called meeting of the volunteers on August 15th at noon with a Special guest, Rev. Liz Emrey.

Rev. Emrey will discuss with us procedures for handling difficult patrons.

Needs:

Large sizes

Volunteers

Linens & towels
good condition

No toys or dishes.

\$2 level bag full



Center hours
M, W, F, Sat 10-12
Tue & Thur 9-11
Referrals Wed & Fri

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