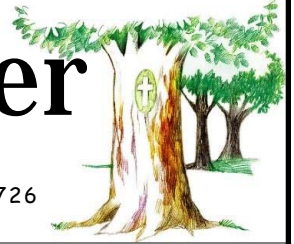


THE GOOD NEWSletter



Sharing the Good News of Christ

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May / June 2009

Children, age 4 through those who are currently in 6th grade, are invited to take a walk on the wild side **June 15 - 19** at Big Woods Bible Church. We will be going on an exciting Prayer Safari with Gospel Light's Kingdom of the Son Vacation Bible School. We will

journey into the Serengeti — the wonderful grassland region of Tanzania and Kenya — to discover exotic animals, create safari crafts, play exciting games, sing upbeat songs, hear missionary stories, and eat delicious safari snacks! More importantly, we will go on an expedition into the pages of God's Word to learn to talk to God as we explore the Lord's Prayer. Each day's theme will



teach the kids that God Listens, God Provides, God Forgives, God Protects and God Rules.

In order to go on this exciting prayer safari, we need lots of adult and teen volunteers! You can be a missionary and serve God this summer ministering to

young children without even getting on an airplane! Statistics show that more people come to know Christ through a VBS than any other outreach ministry. Join the team and be a part of this important evangelistic outreach to our community. Contact Yvonne Butville at 753-5373 or 337-4979 to join the VBS safari team.

Fun at the Friendship Trek Reunion

The VBS Friendship Trek Reunion was held at Big Woods on Saturday, March 7. For the 24 children who attended, the morning began with make a snake craft.

This was followed by a lively time of singing all of the songs, viewing a few of the skits, reviewing all the Bible verses, and a captivating retelling of the Bible stories. Then the children played a game of "Friendship Tag" trying to get everyone involved in a single line. The next game had two teams trying to cross the forest floor standing only on three "leaves and logs". It took cooperation between the two friends on each team to accomplish their goal.

Next came craft time. Each one made their own individualized butterfly, and a pom-pom skunk holding a note containing information about the coming VBS. At the end, the children ate a snack of raisins and bug shaped crackers. The morning gave them a great time of remembering and an anticipation for the VBS that will be held this coming summer.

Thank you to the many adults who were there that morning to keep things running smoothly.



Baby Shower Update

On Thursday, March 26th, over 25 women attended the Baby Shower held at Big Woods Bible Church to support the Pregnancy Care Center of Williamsport. There were two main reasons why the event was presented. One was for those in our congregation to help supply the many baby items needed by the clients of the Pregnancy Care Center. The other reason was to provide information and enlighten the participants of that evening of two agencies serving women in this area and the differences between the two.

Pam Burkholder from the Pregnancy Care Center showed a DVD containing testimonies of several clients talking about the services they have received at the center, and how their lives have been changed. Their clients are not all young pregnant women. They help people and their families through weekly counseling, parenting skills training, supplies of maternity clothing, equipment, baby food and clothing for infants and young children, and referrals for medical care, legal and financial help, and other social services. This is a Christian organization that also shares the Word of God and His love to those who need to know Him. The Pregnancy Care Center offers all of these services free of charge.

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From My Heart
to Yours
by Evelyn Dingess

“A Life Lived In Fear is a Life
Half Lived”

Did you know there is such a thing as ballroom dancing competitions? Did you know that during these competitions the only dance steps you are allowed to take are strictly ballroom dance steps? Well, what's that got to do with a life lived in fear and all that? There is a movie called *Strictly Ballroom*. In this movie, the main character dances exquisitely in the ballroom style. He is destined to be the next champion. However, he also creates beautiful dance steps of his own which he longs to intermingle with the ballroom dance steps. His family and friends (and, of course, the judges) think this is very wrong. He is *afraid* to disappoint everyone. Only one person encourages him saying a life lived in fear is a life half lived. Will he do what makes him feel most alive? Or, will he play it safe, and make a decision based on fear?

I never thought of myself as a fearful person until the Holy Spirit began pointing out the decisions I've made that were based on fear. The number was great, and the decisions varied in size. For example, last summer a neighbor suggested we take our kids strawberry picking and then make strawberry jam. Well, I've never made jam before, and I was *afraid* I'd mess that up. Plus, I have picked strawberries before, and I knew even when done in the early part of the day, it would be hot work. I immediately *feared* the groans of my kids, especially from the ones that were used to sleeping late. So I decided to say no. But my neighbor encouraged me with her “can do” attitude. So I changed my mind. In the end, everything went well and I felt a little silly for being afraid at all. Can you imagine being afraid of strawberry jam and tired children? I can't anymore.

Now, I am more keenly aware of the fear factor when I am deciding something. If I am tempted to decide not to do something, I will ask myself if I am basing that decision on fear. Now, keep in mind that when I speak of fear, I am speaking of sinful fear not healthy fear. There is a healthy fear that protects — like the healthy fear that makes you decide not to cross the railroad tracks because the railway warning lights are flashing and the warning bell is ringing. But, over and over again, the Bible tells me to fear not because life is full of wonderful things to experience. Can you imagine saying no to an opportunity to walk on water? Peter asked for it, did it, then fear told him he was crazy to think he could do it. Jesus asked why? Why listen to fear? Listening to fear will only keep you from living life fully. And, that is the offer. Jesus said, “I have come that you may have life and have it to the full.”



Women's Prayer

How is your relationship with God the Father, our Creator and Lord Jesus Christ? Have you been spending time in prayer individually and also with your sisters in Christ? We have the great privilege of coming before our Lord to pray together. The women of Big Woods Bible Church are constant prayer warriors, bringing the needs and concerns of the church, its leaders, our nation, and one another before God.

There are several times throughout the month when ladies regularly get together to fellowship and to lift our prayers to Him. All women are invited and encouraged to share in these times of blessings.

- Thursday mornings at 6:00 a.m. at Linda Gray's home in Lock Haven (893-1253).
- Friday mornings at 6:00 a.m. at Lynel Gaunt's home in Woolrich (769-7224).

The third Saturday of each month, the women of Big Woods enjoy breakfast together at an area restaurant or home, followed by a short devotional and a time of prayer together. These are great times to fellowship with each other. The theme throughout this new year will be Growing in Wisdom, using the book of Proverbs as our guide. The Women's Team is encouraged to see more women able to attend the breakfast gatherings since the time was changed to 8:00 a.m.

- May 16th— 8:00 a.m. — Laura Leslie's home in Bellefonte (we will carpool from the church)
- June 20th—8:00 a.m.—Restless Oaks

Ministry Contact — Yvonne Butville— 753-5373



(Continued from page 1)

Cheryl Reeder spoke of the Lock Haven Women's Center and the work they do. Their main emphasis is helping those who are affected by domestic abuse. They provide assistance to those who need to find a safe place to live, assist those going through the legal and medical procedures that have resulted from domestic abuse, and also refer clients to other appropriate social services.

Through the presentations of the two women and a few interesting games, the women who attended the Baby Shower went home knowing a lot more about baby development and the services provided by these two agencies.

The evening also included some taste treats including a delicious baby shower cake baked by Janell Myers. At the end of the evening it took a mini van and an SUV to transport all the donated items to the Pregnancy Care Center in Williamsport. Thank you to everyone who donated items.

The pagers are in and are working well. This allows nursery volunteers to page parents if they are needed in the nursery and also allows for our children to remain safe and be picked up by the proper parent/person.



There are some Nursery Ministry Opportunities:

1. **Do you have carpentry skills?** We are looking for someone who would be willing to build a cabinet to house the pagers.
 2. **Nursery Greeters.** Nursery greeters will be responsible to hand out the pagers and assist parents in signing-in their child.
 3. **Back-up volunteers.** Back-up volunteers will only be needed, if there is a large number of children in the nursery and an extra hand is needed. Back-up volunteers will be given a pager and will be paged if needed.
- If any of these opportunities peak your interest, please contact Ellenee Barrett at 748-5941 or ellie976@hotmail.com.

Date	8:00 a.m.	Babies 10:30 a.m.	Preschool 10:30 a.m.
May 3	Zeller Family	Danielle and Adam Hardy, Janell Myers	Art and Linda Gray
May 10	Zeller Family	Susi Gray, Marian Conn, Terina Marconi	Kelly Eck, Seth Barzona
May 17	Zeller Family	Mike and Tara Remick, Teri White	Rachelle Sheets, Kimber Brady
May 24	Zeller Family	Todd and Sue Powlus, Jillian Best	Jim and Linda McCloskey
May 31	Zeller Family	Brian and Bekah Cygan, Haylea Myers	Billy and Donna Powell
June 7	Zeller Family	Drew and Lynn Talbot, Helen Barrett	Thane and Rachel Turner
June 14	Zeller Family	Ken and Jessica Hall, Linda Justice	Mike Remick, Katia Hartman
June 21	Zeller Family	Art and Linda Myers, Janell Myers	Rachelle Sheets, Kimber Brady
June 28	Zeller Family	Susi Gray, Marian Conn, Kathy Marcell	Terina Marconi, Sherry Haffley



Soldier Care Package

Big Woods is collecting items to send a care package to Samantha Driebelbeis, daughter of Christine Engel, who is currently serving in Iraq with the U.S. Army. There is a collection bin and a list of suggested items in the Welcome Center.



Ladies Scrapbook & Stamping Day

Do you like to scrapbook or stamp? Do you enjoy working on your craft projects but hate all the clean up? Are you stumped for some new, creative ideas? Do you enjoy fellowship with other women as you work? Then we have an event for you!

Come when you can, leave when you must on Saturday, **June 13th** from **9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** at Big Woods. Bring your creative idea and projects to work on. We will also have a table set for those of you who wish to share supplies.

Lunch will also be served, but please RSVP so we know how many to prepare for. Look for a sign-up sheet in May. For more information, please contact Joy Weaver or Laura Leslie.

The card ministry is seeking donations of cards for:



- Birthday — Women, Men & Kids
- Anniversary
- Christmas

If you have cards to donate, please put them in the card ministry box underneath the table by the mail folder cart in the Welcome Center at the church.

Newsletter Deadline



The deadline for the **June/July 2009** newsletter is **Sunday, June 21st**. Please submit your articles for the newsletter by email to tracifotorny@embarqmail.com or place it in Traci Fotorny's mail folder at the church.

BWBC Men's Golf Outing



Don't miss the next outing on Saturday, May 16 beginning at 2:00 pm on the Challenge course at White Deer. The \$25 cost includes a cart. There are only 24 spots available, so sign up ASAP. All payments must be received by Friday, May 8. Contact Brian Cygan at 748-3624 or at brian.cygan@gmail.com for details.



A flashdrive was found at the church on top of the coat rack in the basement. The owner may claim it at the coat rack.

On A Mission With Bill Stankiewicz

In my most recent adventures, I journeyed to Albuquerque, New Mexico, from March 5-7. There I attended a training seminar, called "Emotional/Spiritual Care in Disasters" through the University of Maryland (International Critical Incident Stress Foundation) that enables continuous preparation/training for events that surround a disaster. The training is another tool in our proverbial tool box to aid in disaster. This course is particularly important because of the psychological impact that occurs during a disaster where everything that was normal becomes abnormal. I have been involved in disaster relief since Katrina in September 2005. After gathering the knowledge and insight as to how to be able to carry out the duties and responsibilities as a chaplain during the stress-filled time frame of a disaster, the more rapid occurrence of disaster events has caused the government to be more concerned about qualifications of those who serve in disaster recovery. Certifications as such are becoming more preferred. Those who have these certifications are requested for deployment and have preferential treatment in the face of disaster.

Every time I go to a seminar I expand my acquaintances of believers in the family of God. The course was taught by Les Palmer, a brother in Christ and fellow chaplain in Billy Graham Ministries. Les called me in January to see if I wanted to come to Albuquerque. I was excited to attend to see what the Lord had in store. Les picked me up at the airport and we retreated to lunch. The waiter asked if I wanted "red or green". Curious, I asked, "red or green what?" Unknown to me, I found out "red or green" chili peppers are served with every meal in New Mexico. While in training, there was a feeling of God's presence and love just radiating off the others in the room. No one asked me why I came all the way from Pennsylvania because everyone was so engrossed in the work whole heartedly. It is such a delight to be in the community of disaster relief. The friendships have been enduring, with the same desires to serve through our Lord Jesus Christ. I am proud to go to these events to effectively reflect Big Woods in the grand scheme of all that I do.

Since the Lord has put this calling on my hear, I have enjoyed working with those in disaster relief, but also with those working in the recovery phase. It is my desire that everyone feel the joy I have experienced. I will be attending additional trainings at the Cove, sponsored by Billy Graham Ministries June 15-18, 2009. I will report back on the success of that as well. Thank you for your continued prayers as I work for the glory of the cross.



VBS Prayer Requests:

- Good weather
- Health & safety of children and workers
- God's guidance of our words, actions, examples and love
- That each child understands the Gospel message
- For those who respond to God's call and growth in faith.
- Cooperation of children and parents
- That God would bring the children He wants to come.

A MESSAGE FROM THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

As we enter the last month of Ted's sabbatical, the elders would like to take this opportunity to thank the Big Woods family for all that you have done "above and beyond" during this time. Some of you have done more visible things and many have served in equally important though less obvious ways. Those who have been faithfully praying have provided a special immeasurable blessing.

As we have heard often over the last weeks, the church is a body with Christ as its head and we are thankful for each part of our local body. What a great God we serve and how wonderfully He provides for us. Let us continue "to consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds" Hebrews 10:24.

Please join us on Sunday, May 3rd from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. for an informational meeting to discuss the elder survey.



Please let the church office know if you would like to continue to receive a paper copy of our newsletter, or if you want it emailed to you, or if you'll get it from the church website.

MAY

2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Women's Prayer 6:00 am	2 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:30 am
3 Informational Meeting 6 pm	4	5	6	7 Men's & Women's Prayer 6:00 am	8 Women's Prayer 6:00 am	9
10 Mother's Day	11 Elder Mtg 7pm Change for the Better mtg	12	13	14 Men's & Women's Prayer 6:00 am	15 Women's Prayer 6:00 am	16 Men's golf outing Women's Prayer Breakfast 8 am @ Laura Leslie's
17	18	19	20	21 Men's & Women's Prayer 6:00 am	22 Women's Prayer 6:00 am	23
24	25	26	27	28 Men's & Women's Prayer 6:00 am	29	30
31	Memorial Day					

- 1 - Evan Muthler
- 2 - Matt Barrett, Traci Fotorny, Isaiah Blazina
- 4 - Pastor Ted Justice, Linda Hale, Larry Fink
- 5 - Rachael Montei
- 6 - Rick Ardner
- 7 - Kaci Kwiatek
- 10 - Camille Brady
- 11 - Sue Johnston, Joshua Montei
- 12 - Linda Simcox
- 13 - Sue Powlus
- 15 - Angelyn Trumbull, Garrett Remick



- 19 - Linda Justice
- 25 - Tony Beyer
- 26 - Brooke Remick, Kara Heckman
- 27 - Vicki Stout
- 28 - Denny Marconi



- 14 - Dan and Sue Ulmer
- 21 - Matt and Angelyn Trumbull
- 24 - Carmen and Patty Russo
- 28 - Zeb and Heather Zellers



2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Men's & Women's Prayer 6:00 am	5 Women's Prayer 6:00 am	6 Men's Prayer Breakfast 7:30 am
7	8 Elder Mtg 7pm Change for the Better mtg	9	10	11 Men's & Women's Prayer 6:00 am	12 Women's Prayer 6:00 am	13
14 Flag Day	15 VBS	16 VBS	17 VBS	18 VBS	19 VBS	20 Women's Prayer Breakfast 8 am @Restless Oaks
21 1st day of summer Father's Day Newsletter Deadline	22 Elder Mtg 7pm	23	24	25 Men's & Women's Prayer 6:00 am	26 Women's Prayer 6:00 am	27
28	29	30				

- 5 - Jordon Sheets
- 6 - Kayla Borges, Avery Hagaman
- 10 - Jean Conn
- 12 - Brian Cygan
- 15 - Elliott Gaunt
- 19 - Thane Turner
- 24 - Keirstan Strophe
- 25 - Cheryl Karstetter
- 29 - Adrienne Smith, Julia Smith
- 30 - Kraig Brady, Sheila Stabley



- 1 - Mike and Tara Remick
Rich and Yvonne Butville
- 6 - Dan and Julie Borges
- 8 - Pastor Ted and Linda Justice
- 11 - Bill and Cindy Sackett
- 14 - Phil and Abby Douglass
- 15 - Ron and Sherry Haffley
- 16 - RJ and Charlotte Conser
- 17 - Thane and Rachel Turner
Jerry and Hased Fourroux
- 18 - Kevin and Janell Myers
- 23 - Tim and Kathey Blazina