

Trinity UMC Playschool Newsletter Summer 2009



Camp Edge Rocked!

This year Trinity United Methodist Church sponsored its annual Vacation Bible School. Our theme was Camp Edge. VBS ran from June 22nd – 26th. It was a huge success that brought over 60 children out to experience God through song, crafts, games, and Bible dramas.

The entire week was full of exciting camping themed activities. The church was decorated inside and out with tents, sleeping bags, lanterns, and other camping supplies. Each evening began with an opening assembly that had the children hopping and singing the Camp Edge songs they were learning. Shelly Black and Sparks the Fox acted out a quick lesson each night and then told to the kids to be on the lookout for a special symbol of the night which was hidden somewhere around the church.



So many volunteers came together to make this VBS a great success. The campers enjoyed making nylon backpacks and other crafts that went along with the Bible School key phrase of the night. Bible story was great this year as always. A drama team acted out a new story each night for the kids so that they could get a true life-like feel for it. Snack and recreation went great too! Slushies and Golden Graham Smores were a hit while water games and backpack relays anchored a week of outside fun. Finally, what would VBS be without fun songs and dances? All of the children did so well and were excited to learn the Camp Edge songs with Cheryl and Ms. Doris.

We want to say a Big Thanks to all of the parents for brining your kids to VBS this year. It was AWESOME! There were so many children both from our Playschool and Church congregation. It was so much fun let's just do it again next year! ☺

Come enjoy our **ONE**
Summer Sunday Service!



DATES TO REMEMBER

- July 9th - Last Day of 1st Summer Session
- July 14th - First day of 2nd Summer Session
- July 25th - Trinity Night with the Knights



LOOKING AHEAD

- August 6th - Last Day of 2nd Summer Session
- September 7th - Memorial Day
- September 8th - First day of Fall Playschool

2nd ANNUAL TRINITY NIGHT AT KNIGHTS CASTLE!!!

Join the Charlotte Knights
and support the
Montana Mission Team



Check out this exciting event:

- ❑ **Trinity UMC Night with the Knights**
Saturday July 25, 2009
7:15 Game time
6:00 Gates Open
- ❑ **Blocked seating**
\$11 includes group Lower Reserved seating,
and transportation to and from the ballgame. Proceeds go benefit the Montana Mission Team.
- ❑ **Post-game Fireworks!!!**

If you are interested in signing up for this event, come by the playschool office and see Shea Hartsell for a ticket order form.

With Love from Claudia:

This is the section where our director shares her thoughts and shows her love for God and this Playschool. We look forward to her articles returning this Fall!

Sunday School (all ages): 9:15am - 10:15am
Combined ONE Service: 10:30am - 11:30am

Every Sunday in July we will be combining our Celebration and Traditional services into ONE BIG Service. Come check it out. All are welcome!!!

Fun at Playschool



All of the children are doing so well during this first Summer Session. We have over 75 children who represent six different classes. Our young ones have adapted to being at playschool for the first time and our “seasoned veterans” have enjoyed strengthening the friendships he/she made last year.

Your children are having a blast learning everything from colors to the Seasons of the year through music and creative play. They are so much fun to watch!

We want to say thank you for sharing your children with us this summer! For those returning for Session 2 we look forward to another great four weeks. We wish everyone else a Happy and Safe Summer Vacation!

“Living In The Real World”

by Roz Bertone

If you read my last article, “Enjoy Them Now,” you might appreciate the following story. In “Enjoy Them Now,” I addressed the “grandparent” figures that stop busy moms toting whiny young ones around the grocery store only to say, “Enjoy them now... they grow up so fast.” As a tired and weary mother of four, I felt certain that these people were from another planet – at least I did at the time.

Like many independent women of my generation, I took advantage of President Reagan’s tax incentives and cultivated a successful small business that I alone sustained, with the help of 15 employees. For nearly a decade, “Great Shape Fitness Studio” featured 40 exercise classes a week and was frequently featured in many local magazines, newspapers and prime-time television spots. During that time, I also won a national fitness title which made “Great Shape” the hot spot of its time for budding fitness enthusiasts.

And like some of those same women, I chose to give up my career – my life’s work – when it came time to marry and have children. My husband and I agreed that we would raise a “traditional” family; he in the workforce and me at home - with a chain

around my waist that would reach from the kitchen to the laundry room. This stay-at-home-mom thing would not be my “dream job.” But just as my mother-in-law would assure me in those early days, the benefits of my “sacrifice” would reveal themselves later and make my misery all the worthwhile. As always, she was right. God Bless Mary Jo!

It would be easy to assume that staying home with four kids and being married to an Italian from Cleveland for eighteen years, might turn a girl’s mind to mush. Grant it, I am not as “sharp” as I once was and at nearly 50 my memory’s failing me somewhat, but I remain just as “smart” as I was when I was running that booming business. Only now I possess a deeper, richer *wisdom* of the world that can only come with time and experience – and having committed *everything* to living, breathing and *bleeding* in the trenches of real, honest life. I understand the world -- and God’s purpose for me in it and, although I don’t always like my “assignments,” I try to be as faithful a servant as possible.

So you can imagine the disdain I felt when, in the midst of a “marital discussion,” my hard-working husband said something stupid like, “You don’t know what’s going on in the business world. You don’t *live* in the “real world” anymore!” Well, God was with me at that moment -- which is the only reason why John is still breathing in and out – and without hesitation I replied, “Excuse me, Big Man, but it is *I* who is living in the “real world.” It is *you* who is out there working in a “fake world.” In your fake world, there is an abundance of competition, lying and deceit. Every day, decent people compromise their principles to get ahead.” “No, Johnny,” I repeated, “*I* live in the “real world.” In my world there is *love* and *kindness* and *caring* – *feeding, clothing and nurturing*. “My world” makes *everything* happen!” Then, as if by “magic,” I swear I saw God turn that light bulb on in his head – and he nodded in agreement and said, “You’re right, Rosebud, you’re right.” “Good answer,” I thought. “Good answer!”

Rosalind Bertone is a Huntersville resident and a long-time member of Trinity Church. This is her second time writing for our Playschool Newsletter. Her first article was entitled “Enjoy them Now...” and ran in May. She is currently working as a

freelance writer and Certified Life Coach. Roz specializes in matters relating to marriage, family and parenting. You can reach her at rozbertone@carolina.rr.com or 704.301.6848.
