

Trinity Notes
& Grace *October*



Vacation Bible School

THANK YOU FROM VBS 2017!

MAKER FUN FACTORY: CREATED BY GOD – BUILT FOR A PURPOSE.

It may be fall now, but this weather is a lot like VBS Week in July. HOT!! Fortunately, our Factory at Toccoa Presbyterian had great A/C!

Welcome to our Maker Fun Factory! God is our Creator and Master Builder. Our theme was that God created each of us in a wonderfully complex way and that He made us for a purpose. What a vital message to share with all of the young people- 29 participants and 21 teenagers as Youth leaders! There were 36 adults who were directly involved in VBS set up, clean up, and serving as leaders. Once again, God blessed us with an incredible week together, working and playing in His name and sharing His love with each other. It was a very powerful experience.

A Big Thank You to our phenomenal CREW LEADERS!

Preschool: Donna Voll, Phallon Stoltz, Hannah & Christina Pruitt, and Tammy Gunn. K – 7th Grade: Dorothy Klein & Faith Brown, Jamie Rades & Christina Crawford, Lane Tucker & Nick Johnson, Paul Young & Skylar Lanois, Trey Keister & Sughey Hernandez, Jane Ann Quartel & Josiah Hall. They are energetic, resourceful, caring leaders who were so dedicated to their demanding leadership roles!

An equally Large Thank You to all of our terrific STATION LEADERS!

Sound Wave (Opening): Mona Keister, Janice Parker, DC Stoltz, Little Lionberger

Bible Discovery: Pastor Dave Kehret



Game Makers: Joseph Handwork, Kyle Pruitt, Danny Handwork, Xander Kenny

KidVid Cinema: Jan Evans, Amber Ramey, Bri Arnold, Jaylon Brown, Matt Magin

Imagination Station: Sally Hodges, Walker Jordan, Nate &

Anna Gene Standridge

Maker Music: Mona Keister, Janice Parker, DC Stoltz

Snacks Factory: Judy Ling, Polly Dellinger, Doe Sawicki, Bruce Norris

Fun shop (Closing): Mona, Janice, DC, Little

PLUS! Two very special additions---

Art Shop: Faye Farmer, Samantha Lindvig

Tinker Table: Larry Wertan, Dudley Voll, Brian Keister

Another Huge Thank You goes to our steadfast SUPPORT STAFF!

Factory Time Keeper: Hank Sawicki

Registration & Security: Jan Baird, CeCe Hennig, Peggy Saum

Transportation & Security: Jerry Klein

Technical Support & AV Equipment: Pastor Kehret, Janice Parker, Trey Keister

Photographer and creator of the Video for the Friday program: Pastor Kehret

Snapshot and video photographer: Sid Lionberger

Administrative assistants: Judy Lance, Samantha Lindvig, Brian Keister

Prayer Warriors: Janice Parker, Paul Young, Pastor Kehret, Kyle Pruitt

Secretaries: Janet Chitwood, Robin Hubbard

An Enormous Thank You to our Artistic/Craft making Talented Volunteers!

Doe Sawicki, Joanna Jones, Peggy Pelfrey, Bettye Brantley, Lane Tucker, Judy Lance, Barry Hodges, Phallon Stoltz, Samantha Lindvig, and Trey, Brian, Audrey & Caleb Keister

We had two **Mission Projects** this year. The global outreach mission was OPERATION KID-TO-KID. The goal was to collect cash to send to help the children of Peru

have clean water. Participants filled a plastic “water bottle” with change. We sent \$288.07. That’s a lot of change! Our local outreach project was TOCCOA LIFE. This organization helps mothers and babies in the Stephens County area. We took them \$100 in cash donations and a car full of baby items, such as clothes, diapers, and toys. This outreach of caring and generosity from the VBS family was an important part of our week.

What a joy it was to go to work in God’s Fun Factory! All of the decorations and extra details for the various rooms created a great construction environment, thanks to Margit Adams and her talented team! Margit spends many hours for many months, researching and planning all of the decorations and set designs. Thank you!!! She is already working on VBS 2018! Also, we appreciate all of the volunteers who set up, cleaned up, and moved lots of stuff between the two churches.

We gathered first in the sanctuary for the introduction to the daily Bible verse and Bible point. Everyone loved the puppet show with “Donkeyhote & Ian,” performed by Janice and DC. Music director, Mona, with help from Janice and DC, taught us the songs and motions. A favorite one was “Let’s Get a Little Crazy!” –and we did!! Whenever we heard the Bible point during the day, we responded with a LOUD “Wow, God!”

Next was Games outside with Joseph, Kyle, Danny, & Xander. The activities helped to reinforce the Bible message. Each crew of five was mixed ages and it was fun to watch them work together. And, of course, there is WATER DAY!!! Lots of work for the leaders, but so much fun for everyone!

KidVid Cinema showed a different video story each day about real kids living out their faith in their daily lives. Examples: Three young boys didn’t want anyone to feel left out, so they created a Buddy Bench for kids in their school. Or Kyle who faces his diabetes. Thoughtful discussion was led by Jan and Amber.

Our Snacks were truly delicious AND creative. Judy, Doe, Polly, and Bruce assembled the “parts” and the crew members constructed what they ate, such as Nacho Plan, Marshmallow Fort, Mozza-Roll-Up, and Maker Mix. Lefto-

vers were gratefully devoured by volunteers!

Music time with Mona, Janice, and DC was always a lively experience! The preschoolers loved “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands.”

Playing instruments, dancing in the aisles, praising God in song---what could be better?

A visit to Bible Discovery was an exciting adventure! Who will forget following Pastor Dave up the back stairs (to the balcony) to hide from soldiers on the roof of Rahab’s house! Or placing paper sins on a cross, and being reminded that Jesus will always love us.

Then it was on to Imagination Station! Whirly Gigs, Perplexinators, and G.U.T.S.Y Bears, oh my!! Sally, Walker, Nate, and Anna Gene kept everyone interested and involved. There were lots of creative and fun things to take home. The kids also took home a carabiner with five memory buddies with the daily Bible verse printed on them.

During snack time, the kids could visit two special places in Fellowship Hall—the Art Studio, where they could color that day’s Bible Memory Buddy. Kids of all ages still love to color! Thanks to Faye and Samantha for keeping their shop open before VBS started and while kids were waiting for their rides to go home. AND---the Tinker Table. Larry, Dudley, and Brain supervised the dismantling of many old (donated) machines and gadgets, so kids could see how they were made. Wonderful idea, Larry!

Friday was a big day – wrapping up the final visits to the stations, and getting ready to welcome the families to the Closing Celebration. Thank you to our music team for leading the program. It is amazing to watch all of the kids performing the songs they have learned. Thank you to Pastor Kehret for taking videos all week and



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Octoberfest will be on Saturday, October 14th from 1:00p.m. until 3:00p.m. Grace will furnish brats and buns and everybody else please bring what will compliment brats.

Desserts, drinks and side dishes please.

Prayer Post

By Jan Evans

Man, by nature, is sinful. His wrongdoing – sin – separates him from God; he falls short of the Father’s glory (Romans 3:23; for more complete understanding, read verses 21 – 24). A key word in verse 23 is “all;” all – there is not one human being that is without sin, except our Lord Jesus Christ. It took His death on the cross and His resurrection to save us from ours.

The deceitfulness of man’s sin hardens his heart and his sinful nature cannot please God. This man listens to and follows the desires of his flesh rather than listening to and following Jesus. He is hostile to God and disobeys His Law. He is stubborn (see Jeremiah 7:23, 24; 8:18,19; 9:13, 14; and Titus 3:3), arrogant, and haughty (Isaiah 13:11).

We read in Isaiah 29:13, “These people come near to Me with their mouth and honor Me with their lips, but their hearts are far from Me. They worship Me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.” This man, in his sinful nature, is dead in his transgressions and sins when following the ways of the world; and the ruler of this world (Satan) is now at work in the disobedient (see Ephesians 2:1-3, author’s paraphrase). 1 Corinthians 10:7 tells us that

the heart of the sinful man is set on evil things: idolatry, pagan revelry, and sexual immorality.

Finally, this sinful nature of the man who walks by the flesh results in misery and death. He weakened the power of the Law and God sent His Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering, condemning sin in order that the righteous requirements of the Law might be met according to the Spirit. “Through Christ Jesus the Law of the Spirit of life sets us free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8: (1), 2).

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In contrast to the man who walks according to the flesh, the Spiritual man thinks, speaks, and acts like Jesus. In the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12) we see some of the characteristics of Christ; attitudes of the Son of God that He desires us to emulate:

Humility, charity, and brotherly love.

Jesus's focus is on the transformation of the inner man by the renewing of his mind (see Romans 12:1-3). The Spiritual man's ideal is to reflect the heart and mind of Christ in his thoughts, words, and deeds, and to be "Jesus" to all with whom he comes in contact.

In the 12th chapter of Paul's letter to the Romans, we find these characteristics to which the Spiritual man aspires:

Sincere love (verse 9)

Honor one another above yourselves (verse 10)

Be zealous; keep spiritual fervor; serve the Lord (verse 11)

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer (verse 12)

Share with God's people in need, practice hospitality (verse 13)

Bless, do not curse, your persecutors (verse 14)

Rejoice with those rejoicing, mourn with those mourning (verse 15)

Live in harmony and humility; be willing to associate with people of low position and be willing to do menial work (verse 16)

Do not repay evil for evil; do what is right in everyone's eyes (verse 17)

Live in peace (verse 18)

Do not take revenge; leave room for God's wrath (verse 19)

Overcome evil with good (verse 21)

These traits reflect our words and deeds; they issue from the thoughts inspired in us by the indwelling Holy Spirit.

My prayer is:

Holy Spirit, let the thoughts in my mind and the words from my mouth come straight from the mind and mouth of Jesus to my mind and mouth. Help me

Speak love, compassion, and encouragement to everyone, even myself. Precious Holy Spirit, remind me this day that words can be helpful or hurtful, loving or hateful, kind or angry. Please put a guard at the door of my lips, that the words I speak – be words like Jesus speaks – words that help bring healing and wholeness to this broken world. Let all that I do be done for the love of God and the building up of His Kingdom. In Jesus's Holy Name I pray. Amen.

By showing Christ to the world through our thoughts, words, and deeds, we lead others to believe and obey God (Romans 15:18). Jesus commissions us in Matthew 28:19,20:

"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." And His promise: "surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."



Please pray for these families during the month of October: Kevin & Becky Brockschmitt, Ruth Ann, Chris, J.C., and Justin Duncan, Chris & Jan Egeland, Eve Erwin, and Leon & Helen Estep.

If you have a prayer request please contact the office to speak with Pastor or Robin.

The Prayer Post will now be a monthly addition to the Newsletter.

Vacation Bible School

producing a DVD for all of us to enjoy seeing. A very time consuming project! It really was a great way to look back at all of the people and activities (and listen to the music) that made our week together so much fun. What a wonderful VBS keepsake. Then about 70 of us headed to Fellowship Hall to enjoy our traditional Pizza Lunch! Thanks to Gary & Judy Lance for all of their contributions to the week. We appreciate the Youth Leaders who were the servers. Thanks to George Adams for again providing the best watermelon ever.

The Bible is God's blueprint for His creation and we

are part of that creation. One of the songs, THE MAKER, has these words:

Your love is like a mighty fire deep inside my bones.

I feel like I could climb a thousand mountains all at once.

And I never have to wonder if somebody cares for me.

I love the Maker,

And the Maker loves me.

How blessed we are to have a loving God who calls us by name to be a part of His holy plan. Two churches, one VBS. Together we serve in His name and to His glory. Thanks be to God!

Little Lionberger

Stewardship

The contribution letters, with a summary of giving through the third quarter, will be distributed/mailed at the end of October into the first week of November. The pledge sheets for 2018 and the individual TIME & TALENT sheets for 2018 will also be included.

Coming in November-YARD SALE

Pictures from the Past



There will be a combined YARD SALE at Trinity Lutheran Church! That's right, Grace Lutheran and Trinity Lutheran are teaming up to have a huge YARD SALE at Trinity.

Saturday, November 4, 2017 * 8 a.m.- 1 p.m.

The set-up will begin Sunday, October 29th after the service and will continue throughout the week from 9 a.m.- 3 p.m. daily.

Bring your donations in during the week of 10/29-11/3.



Trinity and Grace Lutheran will be having a joint yard sale at Trinity Lutheran on Saturday, November 4th. The yard sale begins at 8 a.m. and ends at 1 p.m.

Setup will begin on Sunday, October 29th after the service

at Trinity Lutheran and continue through the week from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. daily. Please bring your donations in between those hours. Let's make this yard sale the most successful yet!!!