

Rejoicing From the Hills

"The little hills rejoice on every side."

-Psalm 65:12b-

Vol. 20, No. 5

A Publication of the North Hills Bible Church

September, October 2012

Missions Conference September 22-26

Our annual missions conference will take place September 22-26.

The theme will be "Send the Light" based on John 1:7, "The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through Him might believe."

We have arranged the conference so that it will coincide with our Church Family Picnic. We have invited the missionaries for the conference to be with us during the picnic on Saturday, September 22 so that we may visit with them and get to know them before the preaching sessions begin.

The conference missionaries will include the Sam Moss family going to Uganda, Africa;

Kevin and Trina Mayfield serving in Ecuador, South America;



and Curt and Lori Young working in specialized and deaf ministries around the world.



This year we will once again have the morning sessions on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday at 10:30 AM. There will also be a luncheon for the ladies on Monday at 12:30 PM.

Please pray for the conference and plan to attend all the sessions.



on a grill. Also bring a hot or cold dish to share. Hot grills, condiments, beverages, and all paper products will be provided. Devotions will follow lunch at about 1:30 PM. This will be the unofficial beginning of our missions conference as the missionaries will be with us and share during the picnic.

Church Family Picnic September 22



Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 22. This will be the day for our church family picnic at John Rudy Park. Once again we will be in the Bluebird pavilion. A map of the park will be provided showing the location of this pavilion.

We will share our lunch at 12:30 PM. Arrive about noon and bring your own meat to cook



Games are being planned for all age groups. Everyone is welcome to enjoy this day of recreation and fellowship with one another. Please remember our testimony for the Lord Jesus Christ and please dress modestly.

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*Note: Pictures of our various church activities can be seen on our church website. To find the link to the newsletter, open the NHBC home page at [www.northhillsbiblechurch.org](http://www.northhillsbiblechurch.org) and click on the "Resources" link in the navigation menu at the top of the page. The current newsletter is always the first text link at the top of the Resources page, just below the navigation menu. The link says "Current Issue" and is just below the opening paragraph about Rejoicing from the Hills.*

**A GOSPEL MESSAGE FOR YOU**

Have you asked Jesus Christ to save you? If not, will you accept Him as your Saviour now? The following will explain what you need to do.

1. **ADMIT THAT YOU ARE A SINNER.** The Bible says, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23
2. **KNOW THAT GOD HAS ALREADY PROVIDED FOR YOUR SALVATION.** "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16
3. **KNOW THAT YOU CANNOT SAVE YOURSELF.** "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us." Titus 3:5a
4. **REPENT OF YOUR SIN.** "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of." II Corinthians 7:10. "Except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:3
5. **ASK JESUS CHRIST TO SAVE YOU.** "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be **SAVED.**" Romans 10:13. "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be **SAVED.**" Acts 16:31
6. **CONFESS JESUS BEFORE MEN.** "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead thou shalt be **SAVED.** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." Romans 10:9-10

If you have any questions or would like further spiritual help, please contact us at the North Hills Bible Church. Our phone number is 757-1316.

# Library News

by Brenda Hamme, Librarian

These new biographies in the CHRISTIAN HEROES: THEN & NOW series share the lives and ministries of two men who made it a priority over the years to "Send the Light" - the theme of our Missions Conference this year.

### **Clarence Jones: Mr. Radio**

His work began in Chicago where he helped pioneer something unheard of - Christian radio broadcasts. God then led Clarence to Ecuador where he co-founded Radio HCJB. His legacy of broadcasting the light of the gospel to the ends of the earth still soars on the airwaves today.

### **Brother Andrew: God's Secret Agent**

Redeemed by God after serving with the Dutch Resistance against Nazi occupation, this Dutchman became a daring messenger of hope, smuggling Scripture through closed borders and equipping persecuted Christians behind the Iron Curtain. Today Brother Andrew's ministry continues to shine the light of Christ in the world's darkest places.

Some of the most read books in the library are from the above series written for older children, teens, and adults. A new series, HEROES FOR YOUNG READERS, is based on and adapted from CHRISTIAN HEROES. Each easy-to-read book provides a condensed biography in a rhyming poem format and is filled with colorful illustrations.

### **Amy Carmichael: Rescuing the Children**

Her encounter with a poor girl her age when she was still a child changed the course of her life. When Amy grew up, God used her, first in the slums on Northern Ireland and then in India, to rescue hundreds of women and children from poverty, oppression, and life without Christ.

### **George Müller: Faith to Feed Ten Thousand**

The people of Bristol, England, thought God had more important things to care about than orphans, but George, and soon the orphans themselves, knew that wasn't true. Homes, food, education, and love - God provided it all as they trusted Him!

Rejoicing From The Hills

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The North Hills Bible Church  
1951 North Hills Road  
York, PA 17406-1831

David E. Moss, Pastor  
Church Phone (717) 757-1316  
Home Phone (717) 600-2525

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#### Our Purpose

Soul winning at home and abroad  
Bible teaching conducive  
to Christian Living

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#### Our Staff

Pastor Moss - Editor in Chief  
Joyce Moss - Assistant Editor  
Ruth Warner - Staff Assistant

## The Age of Accountability

Jesus made it very clear that children are special. When His disciple rebuked those who wanted Jesus to pray over their children, He said, *Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven* (Matthew 19:14). Again, when the disciples were fretting over who would be the greatest in the kingdom, *Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoso shall receive one such little child in my name receiveth me. But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.* (Matthew 18:1-6).

But are children special enough that God does not hold them accountable for their sin? Is there an age to which children must attain before God will condemn them to hell? Is there really an age of accountability which safeguards infants and young children from the wrath of God?

The phrase "age of accountability" is no where found in the Bible. But neither is the term "trinity." The absence of a word from Scripture does not mean the concept cannot be found. We certainly believe in the trinity, so why not believe in the age of accountability if it can be observed by principle or by description in the inspired Word of God?

### Children Are Sinners

We must acknowledge first of all that children are included in the statement of Romans 3:23, *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.* In this verse, the word all is very clear. Children are not excepted. Psalm 51:5 adds to this: *Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.* The word translated "shapen" (Strong's number 02342) is used of God forming the earth in creation (Psalm 90:2), and of God's hands forming the crooked serpent (Job 26:13). In Psalm 51:5 it is used to describe how God forms a child in the womb (compare Psalm 139:15-16), and clearly states that even while a child is not yet fully grown in the womb he already possesses his inheritance from Adam: a nature

contaminated with iniquity, the will to sin. Psalm 51:5 also says that the child is conceived in sin. This expression is not suggesting that the act between husband and wife which results in the conception of a child is a sinful act. Rather, it clarifies that not only is a child a sinner as his body is being formed in the womb, but he is a sinner from the very moment his life begins in conception.

Children exhibit their sin nature from the moment of birth. God explains that one way we demonstrate our sin nature is by insisting upon going our own way: *All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way...* (Isaiah 53:6). From a child's earliest means of expressing himself, he shows this desire to have his own way.

As a child grows, he continues to exhibit this selfish tendency of the sin nature and repeatedly proves that by nature he is a sinner. The need to instruct children to obey reinforces this fact. In Ephesians 6:1, God says, *Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right.* The point is that you must tell children to obey because they will generally not do so on their own. But it is also necessary to teach children the difference between right and wrong, because they will probably not figure that out on their own either.

### At what point do children consciously choose wrong over right?

To do wrong is one thing, but to be conscious that you are doing wrong is another. For this reason, God said in James 4:17, *Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.* He then tells us that there is a time in a child's life before which he knows to do good: *For before the child shall know to refuse the evil and choose the good...*(Isaiah 7:16).

The big question is then, at what point in a child's life does he know to do good but chooses not to do good? Or, at what point in a child's life does he know to refuse the evil and to choose the good? Is this then the age of accountability? Does God not hold children accountable for their sin because they do not yet know to refuse the evil and choose the good, even though they are sinners and possess a sin nature from the moment of conception?

We look first for some insight on this matter to the event of the death of David's son by Bathsheba. David's sin with Bathsheba left her with child, but some

time after the child was born it became deathly ill. When the child died, David made a statement that indicates the child would definitely go to paradise where David would join him later: ***But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me*** (2 Samuel 12:23). Many take comfort in these words when infants die. But is there also comfort here for those who mourn the death of older children? We must ask this question: how long after David's child was born did he become sick unto death? Almost everyone assumes that the child was an infant when this occurred. But the entire event is compressed into a few verses of Scripture and may, in fact, have occurred over a longer period of time.

The Hebrew words used in the context for the English term "child" may help us understand. In the entire context, the English word "child" is used 13 times. One time "child" is translated from the Hebrew "ben" (S.N. 01121). This is a non-age-specific term that refers to a child as a son, a male child. It is used 2,978 times in the Old Testament and never once translated as "infant" or "babe." Eleven times the English word "child" is translated from "yeled" (S.N. 03206). This is another non-age-specific term that refers to a person as someone's child. It might be used by a 60 year old referring to their adult child or by a 20 year old referring to their infant child. It is used 72 times in the Old Testament and is used variously of children of different ages. One time in the above context, the English word "child" is translated from "na'ar" (S.N. 05288). This word is used 76 times in the Old Testament and predominantly is used to refer to older children, perhaps of teenage years. It is used just a couple of times to refer to an infant. For example, in Exodus 2:6, na'ar is used of Moses at the age of three months when his mother hid him in a basket in the bulrushes. But na'ar is also the word used in Genesis 22:3 when Abraham took two of his young men (na'ar) with him to sacrifice his son Isaac whom Abraham refers to as a lad with the same term (na'ar, S.N. 05288). Na'ar is used 238 times in the Old Testament. It is translated "young man" 76 times, "servant" 54 times, "child" 44 times, "lad" 33 times, "young" 16 times, "children" 7 times, "youth" six times, "boys" 1 time, and "babe" 1 time. The overwhelming evidence of its usage suggests that David's son that died might have been of a much greater age than an infant. How old exactly is impossible to know, but it is certainly **possible** this child was older than a toddler.

It is this same Hebrew word, "na'ar" (S.N. 05288), that is used in Isaiah 7:16 that tells us there is

a time *before the child (na'ar) shall know to refuse the evil and choose the good....* If the use of the word "na'ar" here refers to "babe" as in the case of Moses, then we are to understand that infants are the ones who are not able to make conscious moral choices. On the other hand, if "na'ar" here refers to a "lad" as in the case of Isaac, or a "young man" as in the case of Abraham's servant, then we are to understand that even a child of a teen age struggles with understanding how to make legitimate moral choices.

We must not assume that just because a child has the ability to repeat moral statements he fully comprehends what those words mean. Neither must we assume that a child of immature years fully comprehends the ramifications of moral choices he might make. Learning terms is a lot easier than learning the concepts those terms suggest. Some concepts may take years of experience and application for children to fully assimilate into their moral conscience.

To give Biblical support for this, let us look at Israel's wandering in the wilderness. The reason for the wandering was Israel's unbelief. The duration of 40 years was to facilitate the death of an entire generation who had failed to trust God's Word. But all those under the age of 20 were given a pass and not held accountable. Numbers 14:29 says, *Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me. Were there no 19 year olds who murmured against God? No 18 year olds? No 17 year olds? Why did God use the age of 20 as the cut off for accountability? When God first established the Law with Israel at Mt. Sinai, He included a ransom that must be paid for each individual. This was considered atonement money, a ransom for his soul unto the LORD. But only those who were 20 years old and above were required to pay. No one under the age of 20 needed to pay a ransom for his soul unto the LORD (Exodus 30:11-16). Furthermore, a man had to be 20 years old before he could go forth to war (Numbers 1:3). Could it possibly be that the age of accountability is 20 in the eyes of God?*

We are still left with an ambiguous conclusion. When the Bible says that *to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin* (James 4:17), and then says there is a time *before the child shall know to refuse the evil and choose the good...* (Isaiah 7:16), there is a clear indication that the child who does not know to do good and who does not know to

refuse the evil will not be held accountable for his sin in the day of God's eternal judgment. However, we cannot draw an absolute conclusion as to what age a child's accountability begins. We can be comfortable in the belief that infants are below the age of accountability. We **might be** equally comfortable in believing that children as old as 19 are below the age of accountability. But we cannot know with certainty.

Whenever God leaves something like this unclear, He does so for a reason. One reason may well be that the age of accountability is different for each child. Children mature at different rates. If God were to give us a more exact age for accountability, we might in our human finiteness give one child a pass who should be held accountable while we might hold another child accountable when he still lacks the ability to comprehend the consequences of his actions. Another reason for God leaving the age of accountability undefined is that He alone is the judge of men's hearts. It is not up to us to say who goes to heaven and who goes to hell. That is a privilege reserved exclusively for God. He alone knows whether or not a person knows to do good and doeth it not. He alone is able to see in a person's heart whether his profession of faith is genuine and then to witness with the spirit of man that he is a truly born again child of God.

### **How Is It Possible That A Child Could Go To Heaven Without Receiving Christ?**

The only reason anyone may be saved is because Jesus Christ paid for his sin on Calvary's cross and conquered death for him in His resurrection. It is the grace of God that delivers regeneration to a person when he believes in Jesus Christ and receives Him as his Savior.

But what if a person is not mentally capable of believing? Is he automatically excluded for the absence of faith in his heart even though faith is neither a mental nor a volitional option for a young child, or for that matter, for a mentally challenged person of any age?

Consider the language of John chapter 3 in regards to belief and unbelief. John 3:18 say, *He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.* Each word "believe" in this verse comes from the same Strong's number, 4100, "pisteuo", to believe, to

put trust in. On the one hand, there is active belief in Christ for salvation, and on the other hand there is the simple absence of faith that leaves a man eternally condemned.

Then we look at John 3:36 where it says, *He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.* Here the word "believeth" comes again from Strong's number 4100, "pisteuo". However, the word "believeth not" comes from Strong's number 544, "apeitheo", not to allow one's self to be persuaded, to refuse or withhold belief and/or obedience. According to this verse, there is still an active belief in Christ that is necessary for salvation. But the opposite is not simply the absence of faith. Rather, it is an active refusal to believe. It is a conscious determination of the will of man to reject Christ and withhold belief no matter what.

This active disbelief of John 3:36 raises an interesting question. If a young child dies before he has the conscious ability to exercise faith in Jesus Christ, or if a young child or any mentally challenged person dies without the conscious ability to actively disbelieve in Jesus Christ, does God still condemn that person to an eternity in the lake of fire? Jesus Christ did die for their sin. He did pay the price for their redemption. Does God have the prerogative to apply that redemption to those who do not have the mental capacity to call upon the name of the Lord and believe in Jesus Christ? Does God have the prerogative as a Sovereign God to apply that redemption upon those who do not have the mental capacity to consciously reject faith in Jesus Christ?

Any reasonable examination of David's words in 2 Samuel 12:23 would bring a person to conclude that God not only has the prerogative to grant redemption to young children who do not have the mental maturity to fully comprehend either saving faith or condemning disbelief, but that He actually does so. When illness threatened the life of David's son, David sought God for the child in the hope that God might spare him. During that time of agony, David would not listen to his servants' voices, he would not raise himself up from the earth, and he would not eat bread. He sought God with great intensity and vexation (2 Samuel 12:16-18). As soon as David understood the child was dead, his countenance improved considerably. *Then David arose from the earth, and washed, and anointed himself, and changed his apparel, and came into the house of the LORD, and worshipped: then he came to his own house; and*

when he required, they set bread before him, and he did eat (verse 20). His servants were amazed and inquired about this tremendous improvement in David's composure especially in light of the fact that David's son had died! It is to this that David gives these remarkable words, *While the child was yet alive, I fasted and wept: for I said, Who can tell whether God will be gracious to me, that the child may live? But now he is dead, why should I fast? Can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me* (2 Samuel 12:22-23). Where would David go to be with his son? David counted himself among the redeemed (Psalm 31:5). He believed in the resurrection (Psalm 49:15). He believed he would live in the presence of God for eternity (Psalm 23:6). David no doubt believed that his son had gone to paradise and that it was in this place of the redeemed that he would be reunited with his son. By contrast, he did not have the same sentiment upon the death of his son Absalom. When news came to David that Absalom had died, he mourned deeply for his lost son, even going so far as to say, *Would God I had died for thee, O Absalom, my son, my son!* (2 Samuel 18:33). David did not have the same confidence in Absalom's redemption as he did for the son of Bathsheba. He mourned upon the death of his adult son, but was comforted in the death of his young son. This testimony of David suggests that God sovereignly bestows redemption upon those who do not have the capacity to actively believe or consciously disbelieve in the Savior.

God has a book which is called the Book of Life. In it are the names of all those who possess eternal life. *Whosoever is not found written in the book of life will be cast into the lake of fire* (Revelation 20:15). It appears that names were written in and excluded from the book of life from the foundation of the world (Revelation 17:8). We are also told that names are blotted out of the book of life (Revelation 3:5 with Revelation 22:19). From the foundation of the world, God knows what will happen to each person who is conceived in the womb. He knows that some will never make it alive out of the womb. He knows that some will survive on earth just a very short time after their birth. He knows that some will never develop the mental capacity to consciously reject Jesus Christ as their Savior. In His sovereign grace, it appears that for all these folks, God writes their names in the book of life from the foundation of the world and never has a reason to remove them.

### **If Children Are Not Accountable, Why Teach Them The Gospel?**

We might wonder about the need to teach the gospel of Christ to young children if they are not accountable to God at that age. We might reason that we could just let them be children and enjoy their innocence until they are capable of comprehending the concepts of redemption and regeneration. But there are some very good reasons we should not wait to tell very young children the truth.


Children are inquisitive, and are always asking questions. In light of this, God told the Israelites that whenever their children asked questions of spiritual matters, the parents were to give them a full explanation. So when a son inquired about the meaning of the Passover, a father was to be ready with an answer (Exodus 13:14). And when a son asked about the testimonies and statutes and judgments of the LORD, a father was to be prepared to explain (Deuteronomy 6:20). Or when their children asked about the meaning of a stone monument set up after the crossing of the Jordan river, parents were to use that as an opportunity to teach their children about God (Joshua 4:6,21). Nothing was to be held back just because children were young.

Young children are constantly in a learning mode. The things they learn as children lay a foundation for what they will believe and live by when they grow older. Timothy knew the holy Scriptures from his childhood (2 Timothy 3:15), and became an effective pastor of a local church. David testified that God had taught him from his youth and from that young age he was able to declare God's wondrous works (Psalm 71:17). Even a young man can cleanse his way by taking heed to the Word of God (Psalm 119:9). And Jesus proclaimed, *Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God* (Luke 18:16).

Just because children may not be held accountable to the wrath of God, does not mean they are incapable of grasping the simple truths of the gospel to which they can lay hold with an infant faith. It is so much better for children to begin their lives with a simple faith that can grow and mature than to live their childhood in an ignorance that may ultimately harden their hearts to the truth in the passage of time. We must preach the gospel to children to point their lives in the right direction as soon as possible.

Besides, there is a point at which children become accountable. Ecclesiastes 11:9-10 says, *Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment. Therefore remove sorrow from thy heart, and put away evil from thy flesh: for childhood and youth are vanity.* The truth is we do not know when accountability begins in any child's life. We cannot take the chance of waiting too long. We must give each child the gospel as early as possible so that when they do become accountable they may already be safe in the household of faith. Jesus testified that children are capable of believing in Him (Matthew 18:6). We should not be like the disciples and forbid them the opportunity.

**Conclusion**

God is sovereignly wise, gracious, and merciful. In these attributes, He has given us a hint of an age of accountability for children. Whenever a child dies, whether in the womb, in infancy, or at a young age, we may take comfort in believing that in God's sovereign wisdom, grace, and mercy, He knows what to do with these children in death. But the fulness of understanding about this matter God has reserved for Himself. It is left to us to trust the judgment of God and to believe that He makes no mistakes. 

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*A lot of church members singing  
' Standing on the Promises'  
are just sitting on the premises.*



*God promises a safe landing,  
not a calm passage.*

## Elder Notes

The Elders met on June 26 and on July 31. Each time we read through a chapter in Proverbs and prayed for the needs of our church family.


We rejoiced that our missionaries, Moises and Rosa Campos, desired to have North Hills Bible Church as their home church here in the States, so we approved a recommendation to the congregation to accept them as members. (This was approved by the congregation on Sunday July 1.)

Some folks in the congregation have expressed interest in making a missions trip to Spain next summer. We gave our blessing to this endeavor and approved Nate Moss to head up the planning for such a trip.

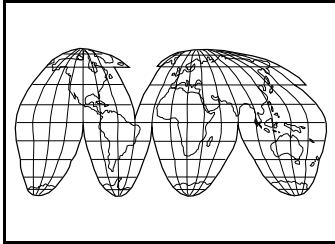
We discussed some needs of our missionaries and made some distributions out of our missions projects fund. This have been or will be noted in the weekly bulletin.

In the event that the church van may be used for the transportation of people to church for services or activities, we established some policies to insure that this is done well.

1. When children are being transported to the church in the church van, at least two adults from the church must be riding in the van: the driver plus at least one other.
2. Children who are not accompanied by a parent or guardian must be at least six years old to be transported to the church on the church van.
3. In the event that a minor child, six years old or older, desires to be transported to the church in the church van, a permission slip must first be secured from a parent or guardian which shall state the following: "I give my permission for my child to ride in the church van and attend services at North Hills Bible Church. I promise to be home when my child returns."

The Trustees recommended to the Elder Board that we purchase a new sign for the front of our church property. The cost will be \$5,869.57 plus tax. (Rules have changed as to what our church tax exemption applies.) The Elders approved the purchase of this sign. This will require the obtaining of permits, the demolition of the current sign, some electrical work, and the construction of the new sign. All of this will take some time, but it should prove to be a great asset as there is a considerable amount of traffic that passes by the front of our church property. We praise the Lord that the finances are available in our reserve fund. 

# Missionary News



*From  
Around  
The World  
and  
Here at Home*

## Len & Marie Smith

Severance, Colorado

### **Bible Studies by Mail**

Please continue to pray for Bible Studies by Mail. Many come to know the Lord through this ministry.

*"Thank you so much for the wonderful lesson you have blessed me with. I know I have a lot to work on with my walk. I have learned so much with these lessons. It's great you can help others with their walk. I want to thank you."*

Praise God - He touches hearts, He opens eyes, He urges His child to follow Jesus closely! Pray for those taking the lessons to draw near to God, taking His Word to heart.. Pray they flee from the devil and his doings.

### **Severance Community Church**

Church planting goes up and down. We usually have 12 to 15, but 20 recently attended the Sunday service. Pastor Gwin preaches through a book of the Bible. Keep the church plant in prayer.

### **Sugar Valley Bible Class**

We continue to minister to those who can not get out to church services on Sunday morning. We are almost finished with our series in Matthew. We will be starting a new series soon.

One couple goes to their church and attends our service here on Sunday morning at 10:00 AM. Another couple who have attended their church for many years say that they are learning more here than all their years attending church.

## Roberto & Imelda Livio

Philippines

Please continue to pray with us for our most pressing needs. As IPM Far East Regional Director, we are praying that we can raise high the banner of biblical truth in this region of the world with our fellowshipping churches and ministries.

After decades of no contact, I met a former high school classmate in a recent class reunion. He reminded me of those moments before when he was among those who ostracized me because of my new found faith in Christ way back in 1974. He now claims to be a born again Christian, thankful that I planted the Gospel seed to him during our teen years. His only regret is that he did not follow Christ as early as I did. I never thought that the seed I planted would still bear fruit in his life. It was a joy to see him and his three children at Foundation Baptist Church! He has indicated his desire to regularly attend FBC. Pray that he will continue in the Word.

Our contact person in the Chaplaincy is being assigned to General Headquarters in Camp Aguinaldo. He has requested that we open another class, other than what is already on-going at the Villamor Air Base, for the chaplains in his new assignment. Pray for this wonderful opportunity to shape or influence the theology of these chaplains.

The Lord, in His providence, has used our web ministry to connect us to new walk-ins in church. May the spiritual feeding they receive from the Word in our church draw them in until they become useable instruments of the Lord for ministry.

We continue with our preparations for this year's 23<sup>rd</sup> Fundamental Bible Conference in Metro-Manila scheduled for October 23-26 with Dr. Guy Simpson as the keynote speaker. Please pray that this year's conference will be a fresh visit from heaven as in previous years.

We pray that the Lord bless you a hundred-fold for being fellow helpers to the truth as we seek to fulfill the great commission of our Lord Jesus Christ generationally (both in ours and the next), locally, nationally, and regionally.





Please see pictures of our church activities on our website at [www.northhillsbiblechurch.org](http://www.northhillsbiblechurch.org) and click on the "Resources" link and find "Current Issue".

# Campers Testimonies

Below are a few testimonies from teens and juniors that went to camp this summer. Some went to Servant's Heart Camp here in Pennsylvania, some to the Wilds Camp in North Carolina, and some went to both camps. We thank God for the opportunity to send our young people to camps where they will be encouraged to take that next spiritual step..

*Well, as always, I had a great time at camp. All of the messages were great, but there was one where the preacher gave three points: (1) take responsibility, (2) live for something bigger than yourself, and (3) that God can use me for whatever He needs me for. Carston*

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OH GH HOU TUGH-SOPS I ESDU . BHD-DBI EX-THU  
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This year at camp, God helped me and showed me an area of my life that I needed to change. Austin

I FOUND CAMP WAS A GOOD PLACE TO MEET CHRISTIAN FRIENDS THAT SHARED MY INTERESTS. JONATHAN

*I had a great week at camp. I learned that God wants me to put away my sin of anger. Ian*

*Camp is a very cool place. There are lots of fun activities to do in free-time and wacky games to play. There are very good speakers whose messages speak to your heart every night. Even though there aren't any utilities, Mrs. Fry's cooking makes up for it! Henry*

The Wilds Camp is my one summer destination that I look forward to going to each year. This year I learned so much it was almost hard to wrap my mind around everything. Pastor Schettler preached one night sermon about eternal security and the assurance of salvation. Before I heard the sermon I had always combined the two. I also learned that faith is a confident conviction and that we should add to our faith. When I came back home from the Wilds I was both excited and sad. I couldn't wait to be home and share what I learned with my family, and I didn't want to leave the camp, even with the many steps. The staff of the Wilds along with all the games and activities felt almost like a second home to me. I hope to continue in my faith and grow in Christ. Please pray for me as I continue my journey in Christ. I know there will be some rough patches here and there. Sarah

I had a great time at camp. The games were fun, but the best part was Pastor Schettler's messages which brought a lot of convictions. My team counselor said, "You can't leave the way you came." A lot changed and I can't wait for next year. Chris

**Camp is really great. It really changes you for your testimony. Charles**

*I had a lot of fun this year at camp. One of the decisions I made was to be a better witness to my co-workers. I really enjoyed camp. Thank you to everyone who contributed to our scholarships for camp. Andrew*



## Preschoolers

*taught by Mrs. Moss*

This summer the Preschool Class heard the wonderful stories of Jesus, and along with it learned the Seven I Am's of Jesus (taken from the book of John) for their Scripture memory. Jesus said, "I Am the Bread of Life", "I Am the Light of the World", "I Am the Door", "I Am the Good Shepherd", "I Am the Resurrection", "I Am the Way the Truth and the Life" and "I Am the Vine". The stories about Jesus helped the children to understand what these verses meant. They enjoyed the stories of Jesus multiplying the little boy's lunch, blind Bartimaeus, the lost sheep, and others.

In September Rebecca Wertz and Hannah Ortiz are being promoted to the Primaries Class. It has been a pleasure to have them in our class. We will miss them, but I'm sure they will be a blessing as they progress into the next department.

## Primaries

*taught by Mr. and Mrs. Smith*

It has been a blessing to be back in class again with the Primaries. A big thank-you goes out to Mrs. Snyder for teaching the class for all of June and July. I was able to be a student for the last week of July and enjoyed participating with the children as Mrs. Snyder taught the lesson on Mary and Martha and the raising of Lazarus. We have spent this year teaching on the Life of Christ.

Now we have come to the end of his earthly ministry. We finished during August with His crucifixion and resurrection. We also completed our memorization of John 15:7-14.

Ian Morrow, Seth Laning, and Jasmine Moss will be promoted to the Junior class.

## Juniors

*taught by Mr. and Mrs. Cook*

After finishing our study on the fruit of the Spirit, we are now studying the armor of God from Ephesians 6. The students have their own soldiers that they are putting the armor on as we study each piece. As we consider each piece of armor, we have been emphasizing the importance of the Word of God, and how it relates to each piece. We need to be armored with truth and righteousness and the gospel of peace and faith and salvation. Where are all of these found? Only in the Word of God. We remind our students, and ourselves, of the importance of listening in Sunday School, paying attention in the worship service, and reading and learning the Word of God in our homes; or we will not be able to defend against the fiery darts of the wicked. We must then take the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God, and stand, fully armored and ready to be a useful soldier in the Lord's work.

## Master Clubs

Director - Nathaniel Wertz

What a wonderful summer of Master Clubs we have enjoyed. It is amazing how the Gospel is revealed in many of the songs that we sing. It has been interesting learning about the doctrine taught through songs such as *Great is Thy Faithfulness*, *How Great Thou Art*, *God Will Take Care of You*, and *The Light of the World is Jesus*. The children have learned that no matter what comes into their life they can depend upon God to help them through it. God loves each one of us and He will take care of us.

The beginners and the primary class have been doing a short study on the Fruit of the Spirit. Each week they have been coloring or drawing pictures that portray a specific fruit. These have been collected to create a book for each student about the fruits that should be seen in their lives as they grow closer to God.

We look forward to the new year. We are excited about having David Wertz, Levi Moss, and Silas Moss join us and we will miss Jonathan Kanost. Please pray for all those involved in Master Clubs that the Lord would continue to work in the lives of the children.



## Quizzing

by Quiz Coach, Mrs. Moss

Our teens along with some men in the church have been busily working on making the decorations for our Missions Conference for September 22 - 25. There will be a banner across the front of the church displaying our theme, "Send the Light". Scrolls above the piano and organ have parts of our theme verse, John 1:7 "The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through Him might believe." A large lighthouse and lighthouse keeper will be displayed in the front of the sanctuary. Smaller lighthouses with lights in them that the teens have painted will grace each windowsill. Bulletin boards emphasize our theme as well as posters that those in the Junior Sunday School class have made.

In the fellowship hall we have an equator display with Ecuador on one side of the 'ocean' and Uganda on the other side, representing the missionaries that will be at our conference.

We asked the missionaries that will be participating in our conference if we can make any Wordless Book items for their children's ministries. There was a need for that, and so our teens and others in the church are preparing these items to be a help in the missionaries' ministries as they go to their various fields.

## Susan Ortiz Becomes a Naturalized Citizen

I came over here (from the Philippines) to the US in November of 2005. I came here with a permanent residence status (green card) valid for 2 years. Then before it expired, I was able to renew it and they gave me 10 years to stay as a legal immigrant. In April 2012, I decided to file my

application for naturalization. It requires that the applicant should have an ample knowledge of the US history. For the last three months I was reading and studying US history (The foundation of America). I've learned a lot how the founding fathers shaped this nation in God's principles that made this one nation UNDER GOD. After taking the oral and written test, and final interview by the US Commission on Immigration Services (USCIS) last August 10, 2012, I passed. Praised GOD!!! I was sworn in (naturalized) August 20, 2012.

I'm thankful for my adoptive country! I've learned a lot why God has blessed this nation, but sad that now days the leaders of this country have turned away from the principles on which this nation has been founded.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

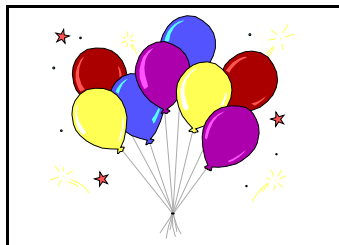
### SEPTEMBER

|                                           |                    |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2 - Teen Choir Practice Begins            | 5:00 PM            |
| 2 - Teen Choirchimes Begins               | 5:20 PM            |
| 2 - ProTeens Meetings Begin               | 5:40 PM            |
| 2 - Junior Choir Practice Begins          | 5:40 PM            |
| 5 - Teen Bible Quizzing Begins            | 7:00 PM            |
| 5 - Master Clubs Begin New Year           | 7:00 PM            |
| 9 - Pleasant Acres Service                | 1:45 PM            |
| 13 - Homeschool Classes Begin             | 9-12 AM            |
| 17 - Rescue Mission Service               | 8:00 PM            |
| 18 - Trustees' Meeting                    | 6:30 PM            |
| 19 - TAP Ministry                         | 8:00 PM            |
| 22 - Church Picnic                        | 12 noon            |
| 23 - Missions Conference 9:30 & 10:45 AM, | 6:30 PM            |
| 23 - Prison Ministry                      | 2:30 PM            |
| 24 - 27 - Missions Conference             | 10:30 AM & 7:00 PM |
| 24 - Ladies Luncheon                      | 12:30 PM           |

### OCTOBER

|                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 11 - Homeschool Classes       | 9-12 AM |
| 15 - Rescue Mission Service   | 8:00 PM |
| 16 - Trustee's Meeting        | 6:30 PM |
| 17 - TAP Ministry             | 8:00 AM |
| 21 - Manor Care Service       | 1:30 PM |
| 25 - Homeschoolers Field Trip |         |
| 30 - Prison Ministry          | 7:00 PM |

# Church Family News



## Happy Birthday

### September

- 1 - Gladys Gross
- 1 - Daniel Wertz
- 2 - Ed Cosgrove
- 6 - Richard Waltemyer
- 6 - **Marie Smith**
- 7 - Andrew Fetrow
- 8 - Bessie Boyer
- 10 - Robert Frey
- 10 - Ken Hoffman
- 10 - Don Snyder
- 15 - **Irene Campos**
- 17 - Lester Fink
- 18 - **Roberto Livio**
- 19 - Brian Hilt
- 22 - Ian Morrow
- 26 - Susan Peters
- 28 - Jean Beck
- 28 - Hannah Ortiz
- 29 - **Glenn Hilt**
- 29 - Hannah Wertz

### October

- 4 - Betty Chronister
- 6 - Gloria Hevner
- 8 - Katrina Chronister
- 14 - Wayne Laning



- 15 - Marietta Wertz
- 17 - Dawn Balcom
- 17 - Laura Cook
- 17 - **Levi Moss**
- 17 - **James Perrott**
- 18 - Sue Kornbau
- 19 - Russell Mellinger
- 21 - **Cheryl Hilt**
- 21 - Nathanael Moss
- 23 - Jeanette Scotten
- 26 - Henry Balcom (father)
- 26 - Mary Collins
- 26 - Deborah King



## Happy Anniversary

### September

- 4 - Joseph & Carol Byers
- 8 - Pedro & Susan Ortiz
- 13 - Edgar & Beverly Miller
- 27 - Jim & Shigeko Hall

### October

- 3 - John & Amy Kanost
- 12 - Henry & Dawn Balcom

### Please Note!

The purpose of printing these lists is to give the church family an opportunity to congratulate one another on these special days. The **bold print** indicates a member of our missionary family.

Please see pictures of our church activities on our website at [www.northhillsbiblechurch.org](http://www.northhillsbiblechurch.org) and click on the "Resources" link and find "Current Issue".



## Phone Number Change

### Marc & Judie Blackwell (Our Missionaries)

863-226-1976

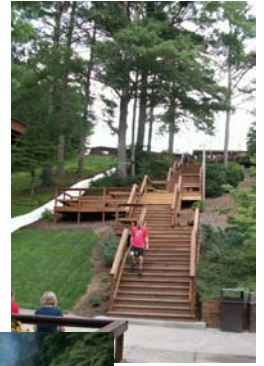
(this US phone #, via SKYPE, will be forwarded to his cell phone in South Africa. Please call between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. EST)  
They will be glad to hear from you.

## Remember Our Shut-ins



Lorraine Beath, Jean Beck, Bessie Boyer, Jeanie Geesey, Pam Grove, Gloria Hevner, Ivy Pyle, Sara Sipe, Reg Stelfox, Marian Tawney, Hilda Wallace, Elmira Wise.

# THE WILDS CAMP IN NORTH CAROLINA



# MISSIONS CONFERENCE 2012 PREPARATIONS



The teens painted lighthouses for window decorations, painted a banner with the theme, scrolls with the theme verse, put up bulletin boards, and built props throughout the summer in preparation for the Missions Conference in September, with the theme, "Send the Light".

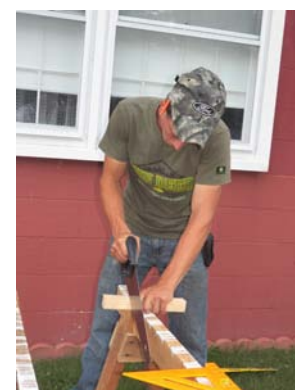


# Missions Conference 2012 Decorations in Fellowship Hall

These decorations are representing the equator with Ecuador on one side and Uganda on the other side.

These are the countries our missionaries will be representing at the conference.

The window decorations in the Fellowship Hall represent many countries around the world.





# Children's Sunday School Classes

(Note - some children are missing on the pictures)



Preschool Sunday School Class.



Hannah, Levi, and Rebecca being promoted.



Primaries Sunday School Class.



Ian, Jasmine, and Seth being promoted.



Juniors Sunday School Class.



Jonathan and Tyler being promoted.

# Susan Ortiz becomes a Naturalized Citizen



Oath Taking Ceremony (awarding of Certificate Of Naturalization)



Reciting the Oath of Allegiance