

Youth Newsletter

December 2001

Youth Groups Collect \$200 For Bethlehem's Missionaries

During the Regular Meeting on Sunday, November 11, the Voyagers Club took a special collection for our church's missionaries, the Reilly's.

The entire Youth Group at Bethlehem contributed to this special collection, which totaled \$200.00.

Earlier in October, the Voyagers invited the Reilly's to their club meeting and received a great presentation on their missionary work in Mexico.

The Voyagers, having heard that the Reilly's had returned to the United States for the holiday season, realized that the change in environment and cost of living would present special challenges this holiday season. Thus, the idea for the special collection was born.

The Reilly's will return to Bethlehem to deliver their highly informative presentation to the entire youth group, at which time they will be presented with the collection, along with a gift basket specially made for them by the Voyagers Club.

Scooters Visit Fire Station, Plan Coleman's Nursery Trip

On Sunday, November 4, the Scooters Club visited the Suffolk Fire Station. There, they were met by a group of the city's finest firefighters and were taken on a tour of the station.

During their visit, the two- through five-year-olds learned what to do if they discover a fire in their home (run to a neighbor's house and call 911) and what to do if their clothes catch on fire (stop, drop, and roll).

After being treated to some goodies by the firefighters, the Scooters returned to church. Special thanks to our firefighters for spending time with our young people and teaching them some very valuable lessons.

The Scooters Club will be going to Coleman's Nursery on Sunday, December 2. They will be leaving church at 2:00pm, and will be returning to church in time for Youth Choir Practice at 5:00pm. Scooters may stay for dinner from 5:45pm until 6:15pm. However, the Scooters will not have Club time following dinner.

NOTE!

There will be no Regular Meeting on Sunday, December 23, or Sunday, December 30.

The next Regular Meeting following the Christmas break will be on Sunday, January 6.

We wish Bethlehem's youth and their families a happy Christmas season!

This is a **SPECIAL HOLIDAY EDITION** of the Youth Newsletter!

Because our young people are very active during the Holiday season, it is necessary to have this special 4-page newsletter, as well as a special layout, to cover it all!

The Youth Group Schedules normally on the front page can be found on page 2.

The standard 2-page newsletter and layout will return with the January edition.

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULES

SCOOTERS

December 2 Coleman's Nursery Trip, 2:00pm-6:15pm

no Regular Meeting for Scooters Club

December 9 Regular Meeting, 5:45pm-7:30pm

December 16 Christmas Celebration, 5:00pm

December 21 Living Nativity, 6:00pm-7:00pm
Pioneer Clubs Christmas Party,
7:00pm-8:00pm

VOYAGERS

December 2 Regular Meeting, 5:45pm-7:30pm

December 9 Regular Meeting, 5:45pm-7:30pm

December 16 Christmas Celebration, 5:00pm

December 21 Living Nativity, 6:00pm-7:00pm
Pioneer Clubs Christmas Party,
7:00pm-8:00pm

PATHFINDERS

December 2 Regular Meeting, 5:45pm-7:30pm

December 9 Regular Meeting, 5:45pm-7:30pm

December 16 Christmas Celebration, 5:00pm

December 21 Living Nativity, 6:00pm-7:00pm
Pioneer Clubs Christmas Party,
7:00pm-8:00pm

ALPHAS

December 2 Regular Meeting, 5:45pm-7:30pm

December 9 Regular Meeting, 5:45pm-7:30pm

December 16 Christmas Celebration, 5:00pm

December 21 Christmas Caroling at Nursing
Home, 5:00pm
Living Nativity, 7:00pm-8:00pm
Lock-In, 8:00pm-7:00am

OMEGAS

December 2 Regular Meeting, 5:45pm-7:30pm

December 9 Regular Meeting, 5:45pm-7:30pm

December 16 Christmas Celebration, 5:00pm

December 21 Living Nativity, 6:00pm-7:00pm

For more detailed information about your group's schedule, please contact your group's leaders.

Youth Preparing For Christmas Play

Dozens of young people are preparing to sing and perform in Bethlehem's Christmas Celebration, to be held in the Sanctuary on Sunday, December 16, at 5:00pm.

This year, instead of preparing a separate Christmas play, our young people will be participating alongside the adults in a special Christmas musical.

Young people will have both singing and theatrical roles, and will be an important part of the performance.

Following the Christmas Celebration, there will be the traditional reception and visit from Santa Claus in Graham Hall.

All youth group members are encouraged to take part in Christmas Celebration. The Youth Choir practices before each Regular Meeting at 5:00pm.

Pathfinders Collect Food For Salvation Army Food Pantry

On Saturday, November 17, the Pathfinders Club went door-to-door in areas of Oak Ridge and Kilby Shores collecting canned and other non-perishable food items for the needy this holiday season.

Over 170 cans and boxes of food were collected and delivered to the Salvation Army Food Pantry.

These food items will be given to Suffolk's less fortunate to help brighten their holiday season.

Special thanks to all who contributed to this mission project.



Way to go, youth!

To all those who participated in Youth Sunday, whether it was teaching a Sunday School class, ushering, singing in the Youth Choir, serving in the pulpit, or delivering the morning messages...

Great Job!

Thanks for your hard work.
It was an *outstanding* service!

Youth To Participate In Living Nativity, Visit Nursing Home

If you're passing by church on Friday, December 21, be sure to check out the manger scene. That night, from 6:00pm until 8:00pm, Bethlehem's youth will be in full costume for the Living Nativity.

From 6:00pm until 7:00pm, the Pioneers and Omegas will be participating, featuring the youngest Pioneers as sheep and other manger animals. The older Pioneers and Omegas will play the traditional roles of Joseph, Mary, the Angel, the Shepherds, and the Wise Men.

Then, from 7:00pm until 8:00pm, the Pioneers will have their annual Christmas Party, with refreshments, movies, music, and games.

The Alpha Youth will leave church at 5:00pm to visit Nansemond Pointe Nursing Home, where they will sing Christmas carols for the residents.

The Alphas will return to church and participate in the Living Nativity from 7:00pm until 8:00pm.

Following the Living Nativity, the Alphas will have their annual Overnight Lock-In until 7:00am.

Be sure to come out to Bethlehem Friday night to see and support our youth! Please feel free to park and visit the Living Nativity up close and in person, if you wish.

Alphas Trick-Or-Treat For UNICEF, Benefit Poor And Starving Children

Following the Morning Worship service on Sunday, October 28, the Alpha Youth Group went into the neighborhoods surrounding Bethlehem to collect donations for UNICEF.

UNICEF—the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund—helps children worldwide by sending food, shelter, clothing, medicine, and educational materials to areas stricken by war and poverty.

The Alphas joined young people across the country in collecting for UNICEF's "Trick-Or-Treat for UNICEF" campaign this Halloween season.

Thanks to your generosity, the Alphas collected \$102.93 to send to UNICEF headquarters.

Pioneers Show Off Costumes for Halloween Costume Contest

About 40 Pioneer Club youth and leaders were in attendance for the Regular Meeting on Sunday, October 28. During this meeting, a Halloween Costume Contest was held.

The judging was difficult, as all the costumes were very imaginative, and it was apparent much work went into each one.

Prizes were awarded in several categories, and every young person in attendance was given a special bag of Halloween treats.

The overall winners were Hunter Buchanan (Most Original—Trash Can), Ariel Salerno (Most Creative—Mulan), and Katherine Maciejewski (Honorable Mention—Cleopatra).

The individual club winners were Dixie Cox (First Place Scooters—Blue's Clues), Joe Maciejewski (First Place Voyagers—SWAT Officer), and Alex Shawinski (First Place Pathfinders—Ghost).

Congratulations to all the contest winners, and all those who participated in the Costume Contest!



Pioneer clubs
halloween costume contest
photo gallery



Top Left: Scooters pose for a group picture.

Top Right: Voyagers show a lot of creativity!

Bottom Left: Hunter Buchanan takes home the prize for the Most Creative costume.

Bottom Right: The Pathfinders are a scary bunch!

Bethlehem's youth are supporting



Toys For Tots



On Sunday, December 9

All youth group members are asked to please bring in a new or new-looking toy to the Regular Meeting on Sunday, December 9.

Donated toys will be given to the local Toys for Tots campaign to distribute to needy children this Christmas season.

Bethlehem's youth are proud to be a part of this year's Toys for Tots campaign.

Kids helping kids have a brighter Christmas