

Youth Newsletter

January 2010

Youth Active in Church, Community During Christmas Season

The Youth Groups at Bethlehem have been very busy this past month participating in a number of church and community projects, as well as other activities.

On Sunday, November 15, over twenty leaders and dinner volunteers were invited to the Teachers, Leaders, and Volunteers Banquet, a special luncheon held each year to recognize our Sunday School teachers and Youth Fellowship leaders and volunteers. Guest speaker Jon Cash, a long-time meteorologist at WAVY-TV 10 as well as an ordained evangelist and Christian book author, gave the leaders and teachers words of encouragement and appreciation, and challenged them spiritually as leaders in the church.

In late November, the Pathfinders, Alphas, and Omegas all participated in Military Mail Call. Together, these clubs wrote over 300 cards with personal messages of thanks and encouragement to our military men and women serving all over the world at Christmas time.

On Sunday, December 13, the children and youth participated in the Children's Christmas Play. Many of the youth had special speaking and acting parts, and all of the children sang Christmas songs in the choir. Afterwards, the children were treated to a special reception, which was highlighted by a visit from Santa.

On Wednesday, December 16, and Thursday, December 17, the Alpha Youth and Omega Youth participated in the Living Nativity. For two hours each night, the youth, along with several adults, braved the night air to play the parts of Mary, Joseph, the Christmas angel, the Shepherds, and the Three Wise Men.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- January 3** Regular Meeting, 5:30pm-7:15pm
- January 10** Regular Meeting, 5:30pm-7:15pm
- January 16** Bible Jeopardy Game Night, 7:00pm
- January 17** Regular Meeting, 5:30pm-7:15pm
- January 24** Regular Meeting, 5:30pm-7:15pm
- Jan 29-Feb 1** SnowBlast '10, Alphas/Omegas Ski Trip, times and details TBA
- January 31** Regular Meeting, 5:30pm-7:15pm
Pioneer Clubs Only
- February 7** Regular Meeting, **12:15pm-2:00pm**
Souper Bowl Sunday – youth are asked to bring non-perishable food items for our Food Pantry mission

For more information about your club's schedule, including any special events planned for your individual club, please see your club's leaders.



Laura, Ginna, and Bill watch over the baby Jesus

The Omega Youth Group had their annual Christmas gathering on Friday, December 18, at Amici's in Suffolk. Following dinner, the group rode around in search of Christmas lights, then went to the home of Omega leader Becke West for fellowship and gifts.

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On Sunday, December 20, the Alpha Youth delivered the remaining Angel Tree gifts to the local nursing homes. In a few short hours, the junior highers visited Nansemond Pointe, Autumn Care, and Lake Prince, and delivered around a dozen gifts and poinsettias to the residents.



The youth deliver gifts and poinsettias to Autumn Care

Later that evening, two of our junior high youth, Ariel Salerno and Laura Thornton, participated in the Christmas Cantata as part of the Joyful Ringers handbell choir. Many of our children and their families were in attendance, and enjoyed both the Cantata presented by the combined choirs of Bethlehem and Hillcrest, and the Soup and Sandwich fellowship that followed.

On Wednesday, December 23, the Alpha Youth went to Paula Thornton's house to make Christmas cookies and have dinner. After eating, the group headed out to see the hit inspirational movie, "The Blind Side".

And, many youth and their families attended the Christmas Eve service on Thursday night, December 24, to celebrate the true spirit of Christmas.

However, even with this flurry of activity before the holiday, the plans for our youth do not end on Christmas Day.

During their Christmas break, the Alpha Youth are planning to help with the church's Food Pantry mission. Also, on Saturday, January 16, the Alpha

Youth will be sponsoring a Bible Jeopardy game night, where members of the congregation are encouraged to come out for a night of family fun, and to test their knowledge of the Bible.

Bible Jeopardy!

Family Game Night

\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$200
\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300
\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500

**Saturday,
January 16
7:00pm**

Graham Hall

On January 29, the junior and senior high youth will depart for their annual Ski Trip at Snowshoe Resort in West Virginia. A complete trip package, including trip details and the required permission slip, is posted on the Youth Group web site at www.bccyouth.org, under Documents and Forms.



SnowBlast '10

Annual Junior High/Senior High
Ski Trip
Snowshoe Resort, WV
January 29 – February 1
see permission slip for complete details

Then, on Sunday, February 7, the youth groups will celebrate "Souper Bowl Sunday", where the children will bring in non-perishable food items to donate to Bethlehem's Food Pantry mission.

And, in the coming months, plans will be made for both the Suffolk Rockin' Relay for Life and for Summer Camp.

We are proud of our youth and all that they have done in our church and community this Christmas season. We hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year!