

# Youth Newsletter

October 2010

## Youth Groups Kick Off Exciting New Year

The Youth Groups at Bethlehem officially “kicked off” their new youth group season on Sunday, September 12, with their annual Youth Group Cook-Out. Originally scheduled for Bennett’s Creek Park, the group was forced to move the event to Graham Hall due to rain. However, despite the bad weather, over 30 youth and parents still came out to enjoy the food, fun, and fellowship.

The youth group schedule for the entire year is now posted on the Youth Group Web Site at [www.bccyouth.org](http://www.bccyouth.org), and is also available at the church. This year, Regular Meetings will typically be held on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month, with special events to be scheduled at various times throughout the year. Our first Regular Meeting will be Sunday, September 26, from 4:30pm to 5:45pm.

For the past ten years, we have held Pioneer Clubs for our younger children here at Bethlehem. This year, we are excited to bring a new program to our younger children called Elevate Kids. This new program takes children on an imaginative journey of Bible learning, and teaches them how to apply Bible concepts and stories to their everyday lives. Created by Fellowship Church in Grapevine, Texas, Elevate Kids merges the best of large group excitement, including songs, Bible story animations, and skits, with small group games and activities. For more information, visit their web site at [www.elevatekids.com](http://www.elevatekids.com).

Special events and mission projects are also being planned for all age groups, including Youth Sunday on Sunday, November 7, the annual Junior and Senior High Ski Retreat, the World Vision 30 Hour Famine, the Suffolk Rockin’ Relay for Life,

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 26** Regular Meeting, 4:30pm-5:45pm  
**October 10** Regular Meeting, 4:30pm-5:45pm  
**October 24** 8th Annual Community Harvest Festival, 4:00pm-7:00pm  
**November 7** Youth Sunday, 9:30am-12:00noon  
**November 14** Youth Night, Fall Revival, 5:30pm  
**November 28** Regular Meeting, 4:30pm-5:45pm

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

and a return to Camp Piankatank for summer camp in 2011. Also, we’re hoping to schedule additional visits to the nursing home, as well as a fundraising and mission projects for our older youth.

We are also hard at work planning for our eighth annual Community Harvest Festival. This has been one of our largest and most successful outreach events, with nearly 200 children and parents in attendance last year. But we need the help of everyone in the congregation for this event to continue to be successful. Please contact David Salerno to let us know in what area you would like to help.

This fall, we welcome a new youth leader—Denise Brown—while most of last year’s youth leaders return for another exciting youth group season. However, we always have a need for more leaders and volunteers, so please consider helping build tomorrow’s leaders today and contact David Salerno at 539-1966.

We invite you and your children to participate in the Youth Groups at Bethlehem, and hope you will join us for an exciting and active new youth group season! And, please, invite all your friends!

## Youth Finish Spring, Summer with a Flurry of Activities, Mission Projects

The youth at Bethlehem closed out their 2009-2010 youth group season with a number of events.

In April, the junior and senior high youth helped during the Missions Committee's Relay for Life fundraising dinner. The youth served plates, filled drink glasses, and cleared tables. Around \$700 was raised for the church's Relay team. Thanks to everyone who came out to show their support!

On April 30, the Omega Youth sponsored Dinner & a Movie Night, featuring the inspirational film "The Secrets of Jonathan Sperry". For dinner, the youth prepared and served spaghetti and meat sauce, salad, and bread. About 20 people were in attendance.

In May, the Alpha Youth visited Tandem Nursing Home in Windsor. The youth spent some time visiting and talking with Pauline Modlin and several other residents there.

On May 14-15, about 20 adults and youth participated in the Suffolk Rockin' Relay for Life at Nansemond-Suffolk Academy. The church's Relay team worked hard, and raised over \$2,000 for the American Cancer Society. Thanks to everyone for their support!

On May 23, 16 parents and youth attended a Sunday afternoon baseball game at Harbor Park. Although the game was delayed by rain, the Norfolk Tides did complete their game against the Rochester Red Wings, losing by a score of 8-4. After the game, the youth got the chance to run the bases before leaving for home.

On Sunday, June 6, approximately 25 youth and parents closed out the youth group season with a picnic. This year's picnic was held at church, and many of the activities were moved inside due to the heat. There were games, such as corn hole, bowling, and hula hoop, as well as water balloons and a seed spitting contest. Hamburgers and hot dogs were prepared on the grill, and there were brownies and fresh watermelon for dessert.

The Alpha Youth held a Pool Party on Sunday, June 13, at the backyard pool of Paula and Jerry Thornton. About 10 junior high youth come out for an afternoon of fun and fellowship.

Finally, in July, 11 children and youth attended Camp Piankatank in Hartfield, VA. While at camp, the youth participated in a number of activities, including swimming, canoeing, rock wall climbing, outdoor games, and arts and crafts. And, each day, the campers had devotions in their cabins, and attended a morning chapel and an evening worship service led by the Camp Pastor. Thanks to donations by a number of individuals, committees, classes, and groups, we were once again able to fully support sending all of our youth to camp. Thanks so much for your support!

**8<sup>th</sup> Annual**

# **Community Harvest Festival**

**Sunday, October 24**  
**4:00pm-7:00pm**

Moon Walk • Hay Ride • Games • Cake Walk • Crafts  
Hot Dogs • Popcorn • Cotton Candy • Sno Cones  
Candy • Prizes



 **Fun for the whole family!** 