

Tidings of Peace Christian School

329 E Poplar St-York PA 17403

www.tidingsofpeace.org

Newsletter- October 2009

Dear Supporters,

Greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ.

God granted a beautiful day, with sunny skies & cool breezes for our 4th annual Trash-a-thon. Youth from Mine Road & SMBI joined local staff, students & supporters to collect litter & debris scattered throughout the city.

Collectively, we gathered 14.18 tons of trash, filling a trash truck and two dumpsters to overflowing capacity. *(Thanks to Kingsley Construction for the donation of a dumpster.)*

Our goal was 15 tons of trash. Three individuals pledged to give us \$20 per ton collected. Two gave nearly \$30 per ton. We are grateful for all who gave pledges and one-time gifts toward this fund raiser that doubles as a service to the community.

One of our neighbors wrote:

“Brother Shenk, Thank you, the congregation, and the school for helping to clean up our neighborhood and our city!”

Funds raised from the Trash-a-thon will be deposited into our “School Improvement Fund”. This year the Improvement Fund has several items that we are hoping to cover,

- 24 new chairs for the student offices - \$ 525
- New heating and cooling system - \$6500
- Used commercial dishwasher - \$2000
- Counter top ice machine - \$ 500
- Surveillance cameras - \$2200

Informational Supper – Nov 10th

All of you are invited to the Informational Supper to be held Tuesday, November 10, at the Ephrata Mennonite School.

We will have a power point presentation, testimonies from students, staff, and parents, displays, and of course some great food.

Please call the school for directions and to reserve your seats at this exciting and important meeting. 717-843-4562 - RSVP by Nov 6th.

Ciara's Testimony

One Monday morning, Ciara, a 9th grader, excitedly raised her hand to give us all an important announcement. “I went to church yesterday,” she said with a radiant, beaming smile.

Later she told me that my devotional on Friday got her thinking about life, her current conditions and her future. She decided she isn't happy with life as it is, and went along with another student to their church.

She is excitedly asking important questions, and growing in her new-found joy and desire to learn to know GOD. Pray for her.

Field Trip to The West Lampeter Fair



The Alley serves as Playground on “nice days”



The kindergarteners adore their “bear-hunting” teacher – Miss Rose



Please come visit the school

The speaker at our Ladies Banquet this past month made this comment, "Oh good. I get to see the school. Now I will know what it's like when we get the newsletters at our church".

I'm thrilled that she was here, and that she knows what the school looks like, and has a better idea of our mission and ministry here in York.

You are also welcome to visit anytime. We won't even make you speak at a banquet.

There are plenty of sight-seeing and historical places here in the area to see beyond our school. Families, home-schooling groups and individuals are always welcome to drop in.

If you let us know 24 hours in advance, we will even add some water to the soup so you can join us for lunch.

4-H

Some of you reading this letter might remember your days in 4-H or the FFA. I personally received tremendous benefit from my involvement with the FFA in high school. When several neighbors asked about starting a 4-H club in the neighborhood, and inquired about using our school gym as a meeting place, I jumped for the opportunity to assist the neighborhood, and to use the building for more than just our own projects.

Blood Drive

The Central PA Blood Bank is always looking for blood donors. When a sister from our congregation needed blood recently, we decided to allow the blood mobile to come and host a blood drive at our school. It wasn't nearly as productive as we had hoped, but we held two this summer, and we had the privilege of meeting several neighbors in the process.

SAFER YORK

I was invited to attend a meeting of local citizens united to provide a safer city. It was a very interesting meeting, especially the part where they reviewed the findings of a local study conducted for the City of York.

Especially interesting was the suggestions on how to combat this crime and sin filled environment we find ourselves in.

- More educational opportunities for teens and their parents
- Helping build self-esteem
- Showing teens how to negotiate instead of fight

That's what we are already engaged in. We are already doing what they are trying to get started. We, of course, are doing it from GOD's point of view instead of the empty philosophy of humanism.

Christmas Program

It may be a tad bit early to give you a formal invitation to the Christmas program, but I would be delighted if all of you could come to York for the evening of December 6th for our annual Christmas program.

The 7:00pm program has a new location this year.

The Heritage Cathedral – 801 East Market - on the corner of East Market and North Sherman Streets.

From Rt. 30, turn south on North Sherman Street and the church is on the left corner at the 2nd traffic light. Parking is available across the street at the M & T bank. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

Can we borrow the tire pump?

Many times, one would view a ministry of teaching school as a ministry to our 29 students & their families from 8:15 am to 3:00 pm – 5 days a week.

But the ministry of a city school goes well beyond that.

- "Can we borrow your tire pump?"
- "I need a ride to the hospital."
- "Can we use your tables Saturday for our yard sale?"
- "We need tables and chairs for a family reunion."
- "I need to talk, when's a good time for me to come over?"

All these and many more are interruptions from the job of educating students. But these are not mistakes on GOD's calendar. HE has special appointments with our neighbors that we pray are going to make a difference for eternity.

Keep praying that GOD would allow us to meet every challenge by HIS grace and wisdom.

Brother Clayton

PS. Special thanks, as always, to those who have been saving Box Tops for Education, Campbell Soup labels, spent ink cartridges and used cell phones for the school. These are all greatly appreciated.

A reminder to all who use the internet: You can help the school as you do your searches and/or shopping. If you use www.goodsearch.com and designate our school, we benefit from each "click of the mouse".