

S.S. Offering Supports Compassion Children

So far this year our children have given \$315 in their Sunday School offering. This goes to Compassion International for the two children we sponsor. The commitment is for \$32 a month for each of these children. Each class prays for the two children weekly and we take turns writing letters to them. We often send photos.

Trexie lives in the Philippines with her parents and six siblings. She has five sisters and a brother. They range in age from 3 to 17. Trexie is a happy seven year old who would like to be a teacher. She is grateful for our prayers, our letters, our photos, and the gifts at Christmas and her birthday. Although she loves cake and ice cream, she rarely is able to have it. She helps care for her younger sister, sweeps and scrubs floors, fetches water, waters plants, washes dishes, gathers firewood plus goes to school Monday through Friday and is at the Student Center on Saturday and Sunday. Typhoons and hurricanes are far too common. Her home has not been affected, but others have. She enjoys learning Bible verses. She has a pet cat and a pet dog. Her dad drives a passenger motorcy-

cle, an open air taxi for one person only. Trexie's mother writes to us in English and always asks us to pray for passengers for Trexie's Daddy. Nutritious food is hard to come by. They eat a lot of rice and a lot of plantains, a type of banana, which is often fried.

Jose, 11 years old, lives in El Salvador. He goes to Bible School on Sundays. He plays drums and was able to go to San Salvador with the musical group at his student center. His brother plays the guitar and his daddy sings. He lives with his brother and his parents. He has chores to do at home and attends school mid January through October so his vacation is in November and December. He'll soon be starting fourth grade. He has a pet rat. He always asks us for prayers for himself and for his family. Soccer is a favorite game.

Sponsoring these children has helped our students learn about other cultures, take responsibility to pray for others, and dig deeply into their pockets to provide for others. Trexie and Jose are our friends in every sense of the word. We look forward to their letters.

Margaret Huebner

Church Landscaping Opportunity

The past year has seen a number of important updates to our church building. In 2010 we'd like to turn our attention to the landscaping around that building! We're looking for a few people to serve on a short-term Landscaping Committee to plan for those improvements and then make them happen. The group will begin by meeting

with Sonja Reimer's neighbor Joan Woxland, who is a master gardener, to come up with ideas and an implementation plan. Meetings will begin in January or February. If you are interested in being a part of this group, please contact Sonja Reimer at son4rem@charter.net.

The Spotlight

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Children's Birthday Party for Jesus



S.S. Children with Channel One food

How old is Jesus? We know He has no beginning or end. He is God. As a baby, however, He had a birthday. We celebrated and I am positive that Jesus loved His birthday gifts. The children brought cans and boxes of food for Channel One so those less fortunate than us could have food. A total of 130 pounds (138

items) were given to Channel One plus \$10 in cash, all from only 28 children so they really gave generously. We enjoyed ice cream sundaes and good conversation at our party. Most of the children were conversing and including others at their table. And most of the children remembered their good manners. After eating, the older students helped the younger students tie fleece pillows and stuff them. They were so soft, reminding us of the tenderness of Jesus, of His comfort, of His love, and the fact that He is always here for us. We played a couple games of Twenty Questions. Bailey almost stumped us with her word "snowballs". Olivia did stump us by choosing "Trexie" as her person.

Finally, I got the opportunity to read *The Three Trees* to the students. If you haven't had a chance to read it, please look for it as it is highly recommended by this teacher.

Margaret Huebner



The week of January 17-24 is set aside as a week of prayer in our church. We ask you to spend extra time praying for our church, our annual meeting on the 24th, and for God's leading and direction in the year ahead. Prayers for our denomination are important as well. 2010 Covenant Mission and Ministry Reports are available in the hall.

Sticks and Scones

You are invited to Melinda Evinger's on Saturday, January 9 from 10-12. Bring your knitting, crocheting, or other handwork. RSVP to Melinda so there will be enough scones for everyone.

Bridal Shower for Val

All women are invited to a bridal shower brunch for Val Williams on January 16 at the home of Sheryl Peterson. Val is marrying Zach Magnuson on March 27. They are registered at Target and Games by James in Burnsville. RSVP to Sheryl at rons Cheryl@charter.net or 289-0239.

Annual Meeting

Our congregational annual meeting will be held on Sunday, January 24 at 6 p.m. We hope you will mark this date on your calendars and come to hear from our staff and Ministry Team Leaders. We will vote on the 2010 proposed budget and also for a new elder, auditor, and nominating committee person. Your support and input are appreciated. Childcare will be provided.

Women's Bible Study

A new women's Bible Study begins on Tuesday, January 26. The morning group meets at 9:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room with childcare provided. The evening group meets at 6:30 at Karen Danielson's. We will use the book, *Seeking Him, Experiencing the Joy of Personal Revival* by Nancy Leigh DeMoss & Tim Grissom. Purchase the book online (www.cbd.com) or at Christian Book & Gift. Contact Lisa Lucas if you plan to be part of either study.



- 2 - Jennifer Naatz
- 5 - Arwen Gustafson
- 9 - Elizabeth Iott
- 10 - Sharon Hopkins
- 15 - Angelica Novinger
- 16 - Jeannie Byer
- 24 - Lewis Roberts
- 25 - Lee Riegler
- 27 - Kami Jordan
- 28 - Greg Stewart



Set Up

- 3- Boyum
- 10 - Brass
- 17 - Byer
- 24 - Danielson
- 31 - Dewanz

Ushers

- Reimer
- Hanson
- Therneau
- Engstler
- Boyum

Greeters

- 3- Driscoll
- 10 - Roberts
- 17 - Bjaastad
- 24 - Lewis
- 31 - Stewart

Nursery

- Roberts
- Reimer
- Ouverson
- Lucas
- Iott