



Justice. “God, help my children to love justice as You do and act justly in all they do.”
Ps. 11:7, Mic. 6:8

Mercy. “May my children always be merciful, just as their Father is merciful.” Luke 6:36

Vacation Bible School (Day Camp) Is finally here!!!!

- ❖ *The cost for day camp this year is one box of snacks per child. This however **does not** cover the amount of snacks that we will need for the entire week. We will be in need of many more snacks!!! Please help in this need by contributing snacks for the week, a box of crackers, fruit, cheese, juice or any item that does not contain peanuts would be greatly appreciated! You can leave your donations in the kitchen and mark them VBS!!!*
- ❖ *We also need a few more middle school or high school volunteers to assist the counselors during the week.*

A Different Point of View: God Comes to You

It's not too late to register!

Registration forms are available in the Sunday School Office or online @[www. Bethlehem-Lutheran.net](http://www.Bethlehem-Lutheran.net), follow the VBS link.

Come and join us as we explore how God comes to us daily regardless of whom we are, or where we are! It's sure to be a WONDERFUL week!!!

Day Camp Date: July 14-18, 2008

Times: 9-3pm for grades 1-5

9-12:30pm for 3years-Kindergarten

Cost of Day Camp: One box of snacks per child

Scholarship Update

We received a total of 8 scholarships. The committee met during the month of June and the applicants will be notified by letter during the month of July. Thank you to all who applied!

Special thanks to Dave Hooley, Bev Berry, Jamie Adams, and Tony Britt for giving of their time to serve on this committee!!

Milestone Ministry

As we continue to look at what connects the church and the home we often see that they operate completely separately of one another. We go to church on Sundays and maybe one other day out of the week, if it fits into our schedule. So then what are the connections? How do we connect church and home in a way that they truly overlap and work together? We see that so early on in children's lives they learn what is valuable— loving relationships, food, a warm bed at night. It is just a way of life for them. So what if church, more specifically, God, was just so routine in our children's lives they considered it as valuable, if not more so, than the food they eat, the clothes that they wear and the bed that they lay down in each night.

As we move through the summer we, the Education Committee, are looking towards the fall to see what we want to bring to this ministry. For children, concepts of church are formed at such a young and tender age, thus one of the reasons that we began the SPLASH program for infancy to age 3. We must begin to teach each other how to carry our faith and our love of Christ into our daily routine. It IS who we are—ALL of us children of the Heavenly Father. We will begin to celebrate major milestones in children's lives. Not only church milestone, but home milestones as well. We already celebrate milestones here at Bethlehem, but they are few and need to be deepened. One very concrete way to help children see Christ in their home is by providing them with Bibles. It is our job as a church family to equip parents with the necessary age-appropriate Bibles to do this. That means giving Bibles every few years to the children as their understanding grows and changes every few years. I find no greater joy than to share the Word of God with children, yet we have to make sure we are doing it in a language they understand and then as they grow that we grow with them!! As a congregation we currently give out Bibles to 4th graders and this is the only one that they receive from their church family from the time they are born until adulthood. How wonderful it would be if we could begin at Preschool, and then again in Kindergarten, once again in 2nd grade when they are reading and then again in 4th grade when their comprehension is greater. All of our Confirmands should receive a Bible that has been gifted to them from their families either at the beginning of Confirmation or as they are Confirmed.

And thus we begin, or hopefully continue a connection. We share a common goal to teach our children of Christ, whether at home or in the church building. I will be talking about this more as fall approaches. We will continue to strengthen our current milestones and then begin to add in new ones.

I am excited to explore new ways to bring Christ into our homes *intentionally!*

Blessings,
Dawn