

The LIGHThouse

The online newsletter of Wildwood Community Church



Inside this month's issue:

- Father Son recap (pg. 1-2)
- Thank You, Joyce Jackson! (pg. 2)
- Welcoming New Children's Ministry Staff, Amy Frederick (pg. 3)
- A Look Ahead to Wonderfall (pg. 3)
- Care Net's Recent Move (pg. 4-5)
- Women's Bible Studies (pg. 5)
- Wildwood events and activities calendar (pg. 6)

October 2007

Around the Campfire: A Weekend at Father Son Campout

What draws Wildwood's fathers and sons to a campout every year? Is it the crisp coolness of the mountain air? Or is it the adventure and challenge of untrodden trails? Or could it be the tasty home-cooked meals and melting sweetness of S'mores? I would venture a guess that what really draws people to the campout is much more than all of those things. It's things like the conversation and laughter shared be-



tween fathers and sons. It's the meaningful memories that everyone takes with them at the end of the weekend. It's the way that God uses the campout to strengthen the bonds between families. That is why this year, as the summer began to fade into fall, over 100 fathers and sons participated in the 24th annual Father Son Campout.



This year two campouts were held in order for more people to be able to attend. The first campout was held September 28th-30th at the Wichita Wildlife Refuge. Approximately 60 fathers and sons made the journey out to the Wichita's to have a fun and refreshing weekend. The second campout was on October 5th-7th in Perry, where around 70 people enjoyed the great outdoors together. The theme for the campout was "Using God's Word as a Compass for Our Lives". It focused on the constancy of God and His sovereign guidance.

As the cars rolled in on Friday evening, fathers and sons began to set up their tents and enjoy the beginning of their weekend together. After a group dinner, everyone gathered around the crackling red and gold flames of the campfire. With Saturday morning came a big breakfast and an informative lesson on orienteering. Then teams of fathers and sons went on a challenging orienteering course, using maps and compasses to navigate. Several sons commented that



continued on pg. 2

Father Son continued



they enjoyed getting to do this competition with their dads. On Saturday evening Rick Fry provided all the hungry men and boys with a banquet of fried catfish, french fries, and coleslaw.

Mike Strauss, who attended the campout with his son Zach, said he loved the orienteering. He said, "My son and I had a great time competing and working together toward a common goal. I also loved hiking up steep rocky cliffs at night only by flashlight. That was awesome!" Mike also commented on how he saw God

work at the campout. "I see God at work by just sharing time with my son. We know that much of our view of God initially comes from our view of our father. Hopefully the dedicated time with my son helps him see how much God cares for him."

When I asked Anthony Boyd, who is ten years old, what one of his favorite things about the campout was, he said, "climbing mountains with my dad. The food was also really good. I enjoyed sleeping outdoors, spending more time with my dad, and getting to see my friends."



On Sunday morning, after enjoying breakfast, the men broke camp and started the trek back home.

Once again, this year's Father Son Campout was a successful weekend. It was a time to celebrate and cultivate the vitally important relationship between fathers and sons.

The Father Daughter Campout will be held next May, and there will be more details coming soon!



If you would like more information about campouts, please contact Rick at rickfry@rickfryart.com.

20 Years of Faithful Service: Thank You, Joyce!

What's so special about 1987? That's the year that the U.S. Constitution marked its bicentennial. It's also when the New York Giants won Super Bowl XXI, and the average price of gas was 95 cents per gallon! But those aren't the only memorable things about 1987. For the staff at Wildwood Community Church, it meant the valuable addition of Joyce Jackson in the office. This September the staff celebrated Joyce's 20th anniversary here at Wildwood. As the church office and business manager, Joyce has consistently been an example of faithful service and hard work. She is a vital part of the family at Wildwood, and we want to take this opportunity to thank her!

If you would like to congratulate Joyce, you can contact her at joycejackson@wildwoodchurch.org.



Getting to Know Amy Frederick



As many of you know, Wildwood's staff has recently been blessed by the addition of Amy Frederick as our new part-time Associate Children's Ministry Director. This is an exciting season for the children's ministry, and it is great to have Amy as a part of the team! As this ministry continues to expand, Amy will be helping to prepare Wildwood for the growth. She will also be assisting our Children's Ministry Director, Jason Oakes, with administrative tasks and the coordination of large events.

Amy brings with her many years of valuable experience that will be beneficial in her new role. She has an educational background in education and has served as a volunteer for twelve years in the children's ministry here at Wildwood. Amy commented that the children's ministry here has been a blessing in her own families' life, as she and her husband Jeff have watched their three daughters (Sarah, Mackenzie, and Grace) grow up within the ministry. She said, "The children's ministry has been a strong guide for my daughters as they have grown. I am privileged to be a part of this family. I am also excited about focusing on the future of this ministry and getting to build into great kids so that they know Christ and the love of God."

Here at Wildwood, we believe that it is worthwhile and even vital to invest in the lives of children. Think about the 240 kids that come every Sunday morning to learn about God's Word. Many of you faithfully serve as volunteers every week, committing to love and lead children of all ages. It is incredible to consider the impact of this ministry, and we are thankful that God has brought Amy to the staff!

If you would like to contact Amy, email her at amyfrederick@wildwoodchurch.org.

Looking Forward to WonderFALL

On October 31st, from 6:00-8:00 pm, Wildwood will be hosting its second annual WonderFALL Adventure! This year's attractions include carnival type booths, inflatables, a Narnia adventure (bigger and better than last year's), exciting music DVD and Gospel presentation, raffles, costume contests for all ages, free food, and candy! In order to reach out to the community and get them involved, we will be passing out flyers to the surrounding schools and neighborhoods letting them know about this fun-filled Halloween alternative. We need your help to make this night a success! Volunteers are needed for before, during, and after the event. If you would like to help provide candy for the evening, please drop it off in the designated boxes located around the church. Please note that AWANA, WildLife, and Break-Away will not be meeting the night of WonderFALL so that the whole church body can participate. We look forward to seeing you there!

If you would like to help out with WonderFALL, please contact Shawn Yohn at cyohn2@cox.net or sign up in the Gathering Hall.



A New Home for Care Net

The Care Net Pregnancy Center of Norman exists to serve women and men in the community by providing them with information and hope concerning pregnancy. The Norman Care Net Center was founded by Wildwood member Muriel Kemp 11 years ago. Care Net has recently undergone several exciting changes. They have moved from their old location at Thompson Drive to a new facility at 701 E. Robinson. The office has been revamped and remodeled, with a fresh look that is inviting and professional. As I have been corresponding with Leona Chapman, Care Net's Client Services Director, I have been encouraged by the numerous ways that God has poured out His provision and blessings on this important ministry. Here is an interview with Ms. Chapman which emphasizes God's faithfulness throughout Care Net's recent move and changes.



The new lobby at Care Net

How and when did this new move come about? “For several years the Board of Directors and staff have sought the Lord on His plan for converting to a medical clinic. Each step along the way, God proved faithful as He helped bring Care Net to a place they could step into His provision. The Lord provided a Registered Nurse with a passion to see ultrasound in the center, then He brought Focus on the Family to help with this. [We have had]...continued prayer support and renewed vigor as God led the staff to step out in faith. God provided the necessary building funds though a grant from the Butterfield Foundation.”

What are the benefits of being in your new location? “The benefits are numerous. Some of them are: associating with the medical field by locating near the hospital, a larger facility that triples the number of exam rooms and bring space for more medical volunteers, a large training/education room, and a better design to reach the abortion minded women in the Norman area.”



The main hallway

How have you seen God's provision and hand in Care Net? “Oh my! Every step of the way He has proved faithful. One year ago, Care Net was asking God daily for enough financial provisions just to pay the bills. We believe because of the faithful support of our donors and prayer warriors God sustained us and asked us to step out in faith to watch Him provide. Our financial contributors have tripled this year, and we received a large grant to pay for the build out in the new facility. He has brought a very gifted Board and staff members who have a passion to share the Gospel with abortion minded women. Many construction workers donated their time and even materials to contribute to the cause. We have even been supplied with new furniture, decorations, and women to decorate.”

Are there any other praises or prayer requests that you would like to share with Wildwood? “Praise, praise, praise for everything mentioned above, but mostly because He is the reason we reach out in love. We offer many thanks to our Board of Directors, faithful donors, Frank Nees who oversaw all our

continued on pg. 5

Care Net continued

construction work, and the many volunteers who gave. Our deepest prayer request is that God would be glorified in our lives and all that we do at Care Net. Other prayer requests include: that we would have committed prayer warriors to pray for the clients, donors, staff, and Board; for an increased donor base to sustain the ministry; that many would come to a saving knowledge of who He is; that women would make positive decisions for their life and the life of their unborn.”

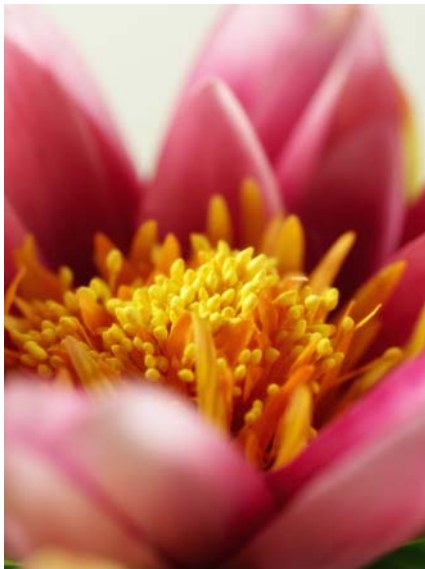
It is clear to see God’s hand moving and working in Care Net. We eagerly await to glimpse what will be accomplished in the lives of women in this new facility. May God be glorified with this vital ministry!



The ultrasound exam room

For more information about Care Net, please visit www.care-net.org.

A Place to Grow: Women’s Bible Studies



Every Thursday morning at Wildwood the sounds of laughter, learning, and fellowship fill the halls and rooms as the women’s Bible studies meet together. This session has seen a record-breaking number of women attending with over 100 participants! This fall there are three different studies offered at Wildwood for women on Thursday mornings. These studies are: “Creative Correction”, a parenting course taught by Janet Hess and Edie Russell; “The Patriarchs”, a Beth Moore study taught by Tara Hicks; “1st John”, a precept Bible study taught by Joyce Harwell.

These Bible studies offer women a safe place to share their struggles with fellow believers, encouraging them to cultivate their relationship with Christ. Joyce Harwell commented that her heart for this ministry is that it would be a place for women to grow and be centered on the Word of God. Joyce excitedly spoke of her joy at seeing several women in her study developing a fiery passion for the Lord after attending a Precept Bible study conference together.

Tara Hicks, the leader of the Beth Moore study, “The Patriarchs”, has about 30 women attending her class. Tara said, “One of the best things about women’s Bible study is being involved with women who are hungry to know God’s Word and who genuinely want to know God more.”

Thursday mornings have become a place for women to complement what God has been doing in their lives and to rally around Scripture. Praise God for all He has done and for what He will do in the lives of women through these Bible studies!

If you would like to know more about Women’s Bible Studies, contact Joyce Harwell at jharwell@msn.com.

Wildwood Events and Activities Calendar

Major Upcoming Events

- 10/26-28 FamilyLife Weekend to Remember Marriage Conference
- 10/28 Fit Together All-Church picnic and hike at the Chickasaw National Recreation Area in Sulphur
- 10/31 WonderFALL

During the week at Wildwood...

- TUESDAY**
7:00 pm Equipping U
- WEDNESDAY**
5:30 pm WildLife (grades 6th-8th)
6:00 pm AWANA
7:00 pm Open Prayer Meeting (Room 227)
7:45 pm Break-Away (grades 9th-12th)
- THURSDAY**
9:30 am Women's Bible Studies

Sunday Morning Adult Fellowship Groups

Meet at 9:00 am

Young Couples
Fellowship Center East (downstairs)
Leaders: Stan and Cheryl Schuermann
Tim and Ann Riley

Truth Seekers
Fellowship Center West (downstairs)
Leaders: Jeff and Joyce Harwell
Julius Harrell

Meet at 10:40 am

YouthWAV (Grades 6th-12th)
Youth Room (downstairs)
Leader: Dave Robbins

Koinonia
Fellowship Center West (downstairs)
Leaders: Frank and Tammy Wesnidge
Mike and Julie Strauss

Ladies Fellowship
Room 227 (upstairs)
Leader: Jill Brown

Family Fellowship
Fellowship Center East (downstairs)
Leaders: John and Lori Abernethy
Joe and Kit Wiese

Men's Fellowship (1st, 2nd, & 3rd Sunday)
Staff Office (upstairs)
Leaders: Bill Fix & Garry Krueger

The Heart Behind the LIGHThouse Newsletter...

Wildwood exists as a church to glorify God by shining as LIGHT in our homes, our community, and the world. LIGHT is an acronym that stands for the following:

- L**iving out God's truth
Invest in reaching others
Giving of ourselves through service
Honoring God through worship
Team together in relationships

To add events to the calendar or suggest a story for the LIGHThouse, email Jina Schrader at jinaschrader@wildwoodchurch.org. For information about any Wildwood calendar event, contact Becky Clark in the church office.

For more information about any of these groups, please inquire at the Information center upstairs.



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