

June 23, 2024

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Come to the Water A PASSPORTkids Camp reflection

Wednesday, June 12, we loaded four adults and 15 third through fifth grade children to head to PASSPORTkids camp for four full days and three nights of loving, serving, learning, and growing. Our landing spot was Eagle Eyrie Retreat Center in Lynchburg, Va. From the moment we arrived, we were greeted with an enthusiastic, attentive and amazing camp staff who nail it when it comes to hospitality.

Even with a few campers who have never been away from home without mom and dad, the welcoming spirit at Passport helps ease their uncertainty. What amazes me each year is the staff's uncanny ability during the week to learn and call each child by name – without name tags – even those not in their Bible Study groups! And I am sure we would all agree, there is something special about being called by name.



Some have wondered why the camp is called "Passport." Passport Camps are primarily missions camps. The youth-age participants spend the week practicing faith formation through Bible study and discipleship, practicing mission action through visiting and participating in mission work sites. For the kid's camp, the focus is on faith building through Bible Study and hands-on missions education. This year, the missionary of focus was Karen Alford in Togo, West Africa. Using her medical training and gifts, she has followed God's call to serve Togo, where water poverty leads to illnesses easily treated with clean, running water. To learn more about Togo, the children participated in a Night

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Market, filled with experiential learning activities about the effects of water poverty and the reality of life in the Togo community.

The theme for the week was "Come to the Water," tying in not only the physical need for clean water, but also the spiritual need for Jesus, our living water. Kids explored scriptures that teach us God goes with us as we pass through the waters (Isaiah 43:2; Mark 4:35-41), that Jesus offers life-giving water (John 4:1-28), and that we are called to serve others using our gifts and invite them to the water (1 Corinthians 12).

Immersed in all of this is community-building with one another and play! If you do not follow us on Instagram, check us out at FBC3M to see videos and photos of our incredible time at camp!

And now, I leave you with the benediction our Camp Pastor, Avery, shared with us each night before she dismissed us from worship:

"Come to the water. Float knowing God is with you.

Drink the life-giving water of Jesus. Dive into serving others.

Let the water carry you as you go from this place." Aaaaaaamen.

- Rev. Stephanie Parker, Pastor of Children and Families

Spaghetti dinner to raise funds for Noelle's medical expenses

A spaghetti dinner for Noelle Franklin, the 7-year-old daughter of Dylan and Toni Franklin, and the sister of rising 6th grader Christian Franklin, is planned for Thursday, June 27 from 4 to 8 p.m. (or until all plates are gone) at the Clayton Civitan Club. All proceeds are going toward the medical expenses of Noelle, who is diagnosed with stage 4 osteosarcoma and multiple masses in her lungs. Christian's ball team, the Venero family, Clayton Civitans, local merchants, and friends from First Baptist are organizing the event, which will also include a cake auction.

We are asking for volunteers to prepare individually wrapped desserts (brownies or cookies) to go with each plate. They can be brought to the church on Wednesday, June 26 from 3 to 5:30 p.m. or Thursday, June 27 from 10 a.m. to noon. A table will be in the hallway outside the office door for collection. Please let Gwen Canady or Jennifer Blackley know if you are making desserts.

The church office has tickets which are \$10 per plate. Cash or checks made payable to the Clayton Civitans are acceptable. Please keep the Franklin family and Noelle, in particular, in your prayers this week as she is at Duke Children's Hospital for her third treatment.

Dear First Baptist family,

What a wonderful family you are. We want to thank you for all the prayers, cards, calls, visits and food you sent us during Ron's declining health and in his passing to his heavenly home. The love you showed us was overwhelming and carried us through some difficult times. We love you all and so did Ron.



Kay Earp, Will Earp and family, and Sam Earp and family

Dear First Baptist Church family,

Our "thank you" seems so small compared to all you've done, but it comes from our hearts. We appreciate your many kind deeds, but most of all your prayers. There will be another surgery on June 20 so we covet your continued prayers.

In His Love, Ken and Diane Dillo



First Baptist Youth to serve others, spread the Good News on mission trip to Pa.

Our youth will be on their mission trip to Altoona, Pa. with TeamEffort Missions from Sunday, June 23 to Saturday, June 29. Please pray for each of these youth and chaperones as they spend the week being the hands and feet of Jesus spreading the Word of God.

We ask prayers for safety in our travels and work, for the power of the Lord to surround us and draw us closer to Him and one another, and to show the love of God through our actions and our service.

Youth on the trip include Braxton Andrews, Carsyn Andrews, Amy Cocilion, Monica Cocilion, Cooper Collins, Jack Garrison, Luke Gaynor, Sarah Gaynor, Avery Johnson, Lainey Keith, Landon Keith, Emma Lee, Karson Lloyd, Matthew Lloyd, Barrett Long, Melina Louloudes, Haley Moon, Bailey Norris, Cooper O'Dell, Phia Parker, Aubrey Payton, Chase Phillips, Reynolds Pope, Harper Rasor, Kaz Sampson, Shaun Sedei, Zach Sedei, Lucas Suggs, Ty VandenBerg and Kiley Woodard. Chaperones are Vicky Andrews, Keith Blackley, Lyndsey Lee, Melissa Long, Jamie Pope and John Brooks and Lauren Rasor.

We hope you will join us for worship on Sunday, June 30 when we share our mission trip experience.

Thanks and Praises - Vicky Andrews

With Love From Jesus ministry seeks volunteers

Next Sunday, June 23, it's our turn to serve at the With Love From Jesus house in Clayton. We missed last month because of Memorial Day holiday. However, they are open on our Sunday this month and need our help. Please be there by 4:30 p.m. for sign-in and instructions as things might be a little different. We will be distributing food, clothing and sharing the Gospel until around 6:30 p.m. You can also bring any items you would like to donate to the ministry. They are currently in need of non perishable items. The WLFJ house is located at the southeast corner of W. 2nd S. Robertson streets.

If you are willing to help, please call or text Rudy Oliver at 919-271-1178, or email him at reoholston@gmail.com.

Memoríals and Honoraríums

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE GENERAL FUND In Memory of

Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Cecil and Donna Lee Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Ayden and Betty Lee

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE SPECIAL NEEDS FUND In Memory of

Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Bucky Coats

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY FUND In Memory of

Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Martha McCullen Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Dr. Jean Allen Group Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Bob and Bet Barber Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Barry and Jan Woodard Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Durwood and Vickie Stephenson

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE YOUTH FUND In Memory of

Chuck Turlington by Rudy and Edwina Oliver

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR GIFTS TO THE ORGAN FUND In Memory of

Ron Earp by Cecil and Donna Lee Frances Reams, Ron Earp and Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Donald and Brookie Lambert Ron Earp by Sonny and Jennifer Truesdale Ron Earp by Barry and Jan Woodard Ron Earp by Betty Browning Ron Earp by Danny and Lucy Barden Ron Earp by David and Jo Earp Ron Earp by Bob and Bet Barber Ron Earp and Joyce Lipscomb Canady by Herman and Sue Mitchiner

2024	Weekly	Reports	
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Baptisms this Year8	New Members15
Worship Attendance Sunday, June 16175	Sunday, June 9235
Sunday School Attendance Sunday, June 16120	Sunday, June 9114
General Fund Giving Sunday, June 16\$10,897 Weekly Needs\$14,860	Sunday, June 9\$14,315