



faith church

KidsUpdate

- ◆ Information
- ◆ Inspiration
- ◆ Intentional Discipleship

A newsletter for the parents of children in the Faith Church Children's Ministry

Issue 16

October-November 2015

Mark your calendar

- October 18, 3-6 p.m. — All-Church **Harvest Picnic** at Community Park on Buckwheat Road
- October 25 — Funny Munny Store
- November 22 — Deadline to turn in Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

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A Word from Miss Mary Lee

What a wonderful time of the year! I love the Fall (and getting ready for Christmas). We have some exciting missions emphases the next few months, plus fun activities, so please read this issue carefully so that you will know all about them.

We will soon be taking reservations for the December 4 Kids Christmas Celebration and Parents Night Out. We had 150-160 kids attend the last few Parents Night Out events, which was thrilling!

Just a reminder, to be fully prepared to provide a great experience for your children, we ask that you register your child(ren) no later than NOON on Tuesday, December 1.

Please remember, it is easier for us to adjust to cancellations than last-minute additions. We want as many kids and families to participate as possible, and we look forward to meeting some of your friends and neighbors who don't have a church home.

We so desire to provide a meaningful and well-staffed experience for your children and their friends. Thanks for cooperating with our registration deadline!

If I can ever be of service to you in any way, please do not hesitate to be in touch!



Mary Lee

All-Church Harvest Picnic—October 18, 3-6 p.m.

This year's Harvest Picnic will be held on Sunday, October 18, from 3-6 p.m. at the Community Park on Buckwheat Road in Milford. (Go to www.miamitwp.org and click on link for Parks -Community for directions.)

The Harvest Picnic is a great time for the church family to "hang out" together. Activities are provided for the children, plus there is a playground and other recreation available. Come for lots of food, fun, and fellowship!

Candy Donation

Please bring candy donations to the Children's Wing by **October 11**. One bag of individually wrapped candy

should be brought for each child who participates.

Potluck

The church provides meat, chips, buns, ice, and paper/plastic goods. Everyone bring: a 2-liter of pop/juice and lawn chairs or blankets, strollers, AND a side dish to serve 8 people.

If your last name begins with:

- A-S Side dish (i.e., hot or cold veggies, salad, cole slaw, fruit, baked beans, potatoes, mac and cheese, etc.)
- T-Z Dessert (i.e., cake, cookies, pie, brownies, etc.)

Volunteers Needed

For the Harvest Picnic, there are a number of teen and adult volunteer opportunities (set-up, food, games, clean-up) still available. Call Kari DiStefano at 453-1306, or e-mail her at kdistefano@faithchurch.net. If you can help, please let Kari know as soon as possible. Thanks!



October Missions Emphasis—the Wong Family



We are excited to be able to focus on the Wong family during the month of October. Anwin and Wendy Wong serve the Lord in Thailand, along with their children, Mercy (4) and Jacob (1).

The Wong's work in the Chiang Rai area of Thailand among the Akha people. Their ministry is called the **Eternal Life Akha Evangelical Association**.

This is a multi-purpose building they built in Bawo village and it serves as a hub for their work among the Akha people.



Multipurpose building in Bawo Village and headquarters for the ministry

Where do the Wong's serve the Lord?



The Wong's serve in the country of Thailand, in the Chiang Rai region, among the Akha people, particularly focusing on Bawo Village and Blossom Village.



New students at Eternal Life Akha Youth Hostel in Bawo Village

What Do the Wong's Do in Thailand?

The Wong's began the Eternal Life Akha Evangelical Association several years ago, and they are involved in starting new churches among the Akha people, particularly in Bawo Village and Blossom Village. They have built a multi-purpose building in Bawo Village where they conduct church services, classes, a hostel, and other ministries.

The Wong's also lead the effort to help provide schooling, as

well as other classes and activities for children and teens in Bawo Village and Blossom Village (see pictures on right). They use special events (like VBS) to reach children and families with the Gospel.

During the last few months, they began overseeing a hostel for children and teens who need schooling and a home (pictures on left).



Damaged bamboo church in Blossom Village



Children's class in bamboo church at Blossom Village

How Can You Pray for the Wong Family?

- That God would protect Wendy and Jacob during their visit to the USA, as well as Anawin and Mercy as they remain in Thailand
- That they would be able to build a concrete church in Blossom Village
- That God would provide pastors, teachers, and staff for all the ministries
- That God would give them wisdom and strength to disciple many Akha people



To stay up-to-date with the ministry of Anawin and Wendy Wong, "Like" the Facebook page for the "Eternal Life Akha Evangelical Association"

November Missions Emphasis—Operation Christmas Child

The Children's Ministry missions emphasis for the month of November is Operation Christmas Child. Each year we encourage families and Sunday School classes to consider packing shoeboxes that will be sent to children all around the world through the ministry of Samaritan's Purse.

How to Pack a Shoebox

Brochures describing how to pack a shoebox will be put in attendees' church mailboxes and will be distributed in children's Sunday School classes. More brochures will be available at the Operation Christmas Child display in the East Alcove beginning October 25. Shoeboxes must be turned in by noon on Sunday, November 22, at the latest (at table in East Alcove).

Tracking Your Shoebox

Consider taking advantage of the opportunity to purchase a tracking notice online that can be attached to each shoebox. This feature allows families to discover (by e-mail from Operation Christmas Child) where each particular shoebox has been sent. For more information, check out the web address shown below.



it only takes \$7 to help launch me on my worldwide journey!

<http://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/follow-your-box/>

Please Pray for Our 2015-2016 Special Friends Staff

9:15

- | | |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| 1st Sunday | Chris & Debbie Jeschke |
| 2nd Sunday | Carol Bullock; Tammy Nimmo |
| 3rd Sunday | Kelly Shunk; Theresa Wooley |
| 4th Sunday | Bill Zetterberg; |



Rob Yoxthimer and special friend

10:45

- | | |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| 1st Sunday | Karolyn Staggs, Rob Yoxthimer |
| 2nd Sunday | Karolyn Staggs; |
| 3rd Sunday | Kim Slade; Jeff Chitwood |
| 4th Sunday | Kim Slade; Peggy Hines |

If you would be interested in assisting once a month in Special Friends or are willing to be a sub, please contact Kari DiStefano.

AWANA Update

It looks like we will be able to provide AWANA Listening Sessions EVERY week, rather than just twice a month. These Listening Sessions begin at 10:30 a.m. in Room 1, and will conclude when each child is done saying his or her verses for the day.

If your children are not participating right now, but you would like for them to be involved, please contact Mary Lee Griffith to sign up.

If you would like to volunteer as a Listener twice a month, or serve as a sub, please contact Mary Lee to be assigned.



faith church

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A big thank you to Miss Mary Lee and Kari and Margo and all the teachers and students and their parents for bringing in food for the church food pantry. Your generosity has helped many people in our church and community who are having a hard time affording the food they need. We truly appreciate your help. There are boxes in the coat closets at the front of the sanctuary for any extra food items you want to donate throughout the year. Everything is much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Food Pantry Committee

Kids @ Faith — Making disciples one child at a time

We love kids at Faith Church! The mission of our Children's Ministry is to make disciples one child at a time. We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with parents in this all-important responsibility.

The Children's Ministry exists to partner with parents as together we lay the spiritual foundation where real transformation takes place in the lives of the preschoolers and elementary children who attend our ministries at Faith Church. Our purpose is for children to experience a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ and grow in that relationship as reproducing disciples of the Lord Jesus. We desire that each child come to the place where he or she chooses to imitate the whole life of Christ by being in communion with God, in community with others, and on mission with Christ.



KIDS @ FAITH
Making disciples one child at a time

Upcoming Events



**All-Church Harvest Picnic —
October 18, 2015, 3-6 p.m.
at the Community Park on
Buckwheat Road**

This is a great time of fellowship for the whole church family.



**Funny Munny Store —
October 25, 2015, after each
Sunday School hour**



**Thanksgiving One Service —
November 22, 2015**

After a tasty, filling breakfast in the MPR, we will worship together on Sunday, November 22, with a special "One Service" on the Sunday before the Thanksgiving holiday. Childcare and classes will be provided for infants through 3rd Grade and Special Friends at 10:30 a.m.

**Operation Christmas Child
Shoeboxes — Collection on
November 22, 2015**

Please consider participating in Operation Christmas Child. "Shoebox" brochures will be available October 25, and the gift-filled shoeboxes will need to be turned in no later than noon on Sunday, November 22.

**Kids Christmas Celebration
and Parents Night Out —
December 4, 2015,
6:30-9:00 p.m.**

Advance registration required—Please make as soon as possible (but no later than the deadline of noon on Tuesday, December 1)



Children, infants through 6th grade, will spend the evening focusing on the true meaning of Christmas through games, crafts, story-time, and snacks — while parents enjoy an evening out.

This is a great opportunity to reach out to friends and neighbors by inviting their children to come and participate, while the adults go out for dinner or an evening activity together, or for parents to have a special date night.

Register your child
by e-mailing
mbroening@faithchurch.net
Beginning November 1, you
may also register online or in
person in the East Alcove.