

FEBRUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER

Jonah 2:2 "...and he said, 'I called out of my distress to the Lord, and He answered me'...."

During Bible Class we looked at what God was telling us about Himself and ourselves through the book of Jonah. We see God's sovereignty over nature, His love for mankind, His holiness and judgment over sin, His mercy and grace extended to undeserving people and His desire for us to walk with Him. Man's sinfulness was also clearly depicted in the lives of the Ninevites, the ship's crew (who worshipped idols) and in Jonah. Jonah's foolishness and duplicity were seen in his thinking he could "flee from the presence of the Lord", while a few verses down, he acknowledged that he served the God Who made the sea and dry land!

The students were required to do a responsive writing entitled, "Lessons from the Life of Jonah" and the two truths they agreed to write on were: "God is a God of Grace and our actions affect those around us, for good or bad". We agreed that there is a "Jonah" within each one of us who would readily disobey God - our sin nature that abhors what God desires and yet, when we trust Him to help us, our obedience yields blessings to ourselves and others.

An "Excellent Effort" Award was presented to NaNa for her perseverance in doing as much school work as she can while battling a chronic illness.



Because of the gift cards to local venues given to us from Eastern Hills Bible Church, our students who S.O.A.R.ed were able to enjoy a field trip to the M.O.S.T.



Future rewards for students earning enough points from S.O.A.R.ing are: enjoying an Ice Cream Party; attending the Symphoria Concert; going to SkyZone, the Zoo, Hospital Land, Erie Canal Village and Santaro Park. Mr. Southwick logs each student's daily points and on Fridays, the staff discuss how each student S-howed Self-Control; O-ffered Peer Support; Actively Listened and Learned; R-espected God, People and Property and assign a "grade". Then, Mr. Southwick posts the points earned on our S.O.A.R.ing Board which has each student's name on a graph.

Fire Department Visit

We are thankful that Fireman Mark Mohammed was able to come to school and address our E & M Groups about Fire Safety.



To help offset the "cabin fever" that can set in with our long winter months, and to reward those students who are S.O.A.R.ing, the Malkuses hosted a sledding party in their backyard!





This past month, we have received quite a few calls from parents/guardians inquiring about enrolling their children in EWA for the 2015-16 school year. Our enrollment cap is 30 students, so please pray that we will have discernment regarding whom to accept into our student body. We give current families first choice to re-enroll their child/ren (in April) and then open it up to the public, depending on how many vacancies we have. This is always a hard decision for us as we want to give every student a chance to be introduced to the Lord Jesus and to have the opportunity to receive instruction in a small classroom setting. Every prospective student is required to spend a day with us before the end of this school year, giving us the chance to assess how easily they will acclimate into our current student body.

Our Challenge Teams competed to win the "Best Office Door Decoration". The winnng entry will be featured on the Office Door for the month of February, while the others will be posted on classroom doors.



Congratulations to the Peace Keepers!

Our teachers spend an incredible amount of time getting to know each student and designing an instructional program specific to that child's needs. With the tremendous help of our volunteers, those needs are addressed individually or in very small group settings. We are seeing students advance in their ELA and Math skills as a result. To encourage progress, we often use prayer partners to build in "time-limited" incentives, helping a student reach a certain goal.



A volunteer works with a group of early readers.

Contact Us: <u>info@eaglewingsacademy.org</u> 315-396-0024 423 Valley Drive / Syracuse, NY 13207

SOCK IT FOR THE HOMELESS

Because we are a tuiton-free school, we are ever mindful of teaching the students that EWA is ONLY possible because the Lord Jesus raises up supporters who give donations to keep us going and that this education is NOT FREE, but indeed does cost others time, energy, comfort and money!!! We stress the importance of doing your best in school as a way of showing appreciation to those who make it possible as well as aspiring to someday be able to "give to others" to ease their burdens. With this in mind, the students accepted the challenge to raise money for Grace (in Kenya) and saw their monetary goal more than doubled! Once again, we are engaging in a fundraising effort to help raise money to help the homeless who are being served by "SOARING WINGS MINISTRY". The students set the goal of raising \$125 during the month of February. We have a sock that we are filling with money as it comes in and the Challenge Teams are already planning fund-raisers to meet this goal! Soaring Wings Ministry was founded and is operated by Mr. and Mrs. Ed/Anita Rennels. The Lord called them to leave their home in Massachussetts and go to Colorado to serve homeless teens and familes that He brought across their path. I personally know Anita from my college days and was thrilled to see how the Lord is using her and her family. (A side note: it is NEVER too late in life to get up and follow the Lord to wherever He leads and to learn to trust Him to supply all needs!) May the Lord multiply whatever we are able to collect!

We desire that our students develop a heart to serve the Lord by serving others. Jesus is our perfect example of what a servant looks like and sounds like and the Good Samaritan teaches us that it will cost us - time, energy, money, comfort! But - God's blessings for obedience cannot be measured!

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A recent art project.

WAYS TO HELP EAGLE WINGS ACADEMY

Donate via PayPal at eaglewingsacademy.org/donate

Give through the United Way (ID # 1305648).

Mail a check to EWA at 423 Valley Dr., Syracuse, NY 13207.

Send General Mills "Box Tops For Education" to the school.

Make us your "Tools for Schools" beneficiary at Price Chopper.

Thank you EVERYONE for your support of EWA in so many ways. Be reminded, that ALL of the above is only possible because of YOU!!! Please pray according to the following needs:

- * health for Staff and Students and Volunteers
- * positive responses from Grant Applications and businesses
- * discernment for which students the Lord wants us to enroll
- * adequate staff to fill all the positions for next school year; YES, we are already thinking ahead and have some exciting ideas to improve our instruction
- * families who are going through storms right now to look to the Lord and find in Him all they need

Blessings, Anna Shipe (Psalm 32:8)

2014 Appreciation and Fiscal Year Challenge

We want to thank all who donated to Eagle Wings Academy last year - i.e., 116 individuals, 5 churches, 12 Foundations/ Businesses/ Civic Organizations. Without your help we would not have been able to pay staff, operate a school, and thereby equip and support Syracuse children in reaching their God-given potential and break free from the cycle of generational and spiritual poverty.

Our current fiscal year is from 7/1/14 to 6/30/15. As you will note from the following, we have received substantial funding to date but have quite a way to go in order to make sure we meet our obligations (\$14,000 every 4 weeks). Please join us in praying that the Lord will raise up supporters that will enable us to finish the fiscal year with all our financial obligations met. You can help by sharing EWA ministry with others and challenging them to consider donating. We would be willing to come and share the EWA ministry with your church, small group, business, etc.

Thank you for partnering with us as we serve the Lord Jesus by ministering to the children and their families.

