

## **June 2012 NEWSLETTER**

..."but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint." Isaiah 40:31

One phrase that has been repeated by the staff many times this year during our morning devotions is, "I am learning so much this year - about the Lord and trusting Him". We have had volunteers echo those same words as well.

When we started EWA four years ago, the intent was to provide children a place where they would not only be taught academic materials, but learn to know the Lord Jesus personally. In the process however, HE had a much broader, larger focus in bringing EWA into existence! We are a small part of God's Kingdom work, but nonetheless, one that He has chosen to use to introduce Himself to many individuals (of all ages) who have come through our door. Not only have we seen people be introduced to Jesus this year, but we have seen some exciting growth in Him as His children are learning to WAIT for Him - where weakness was threatening to overcome, we have seen God's strength dominate; where countenances were downcast, we have seen individuals take flight as God makes Himself real in their lives; when weariness beckoned us to slow down, many of us can testify that He has enabled us to continue to "run the race"!

**Family members have testified as to the HOPE and HELP** that EWA has been to their loved ones, while going through some deep trials. Individual students have communicated how much they feel loved and truly cared for by the staff and how they don't want to go to school anywhere else, knowing that they wouldn't have the same rapport with staff.

Many lives are being changed **BECAUSE YOU CARE!** By giving of your time, energy, possessions, in prayer and financially - God used you to make a difference in many lives this year! You are invited to attend our **END OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION** and join us for a Chapel service and Assembly, where we will not only review God's blessings, and give out Awards, but there will be opportunity for Staff, Students and Family members to share what EWA has meant to them this year.

When: Friday, June 15th at 9:00 Where: in the church Sanctuary What: Chapel, Assembly and Lunch

Please call Ron at the office to acknowledge your plans to attend so we know how many to plan for.

For those not able to join us, the following are a few of the highlights that will be shared.

• Enrollment inquiries currently exceed available space, and this breaks our hearts as we can often hear a desperate plea from a parent/guardian to have their child be in a safe, loving environment where we can freely share the Lord Jesus! We are increasing our student body next school year to serve 30 students in grades 1st - 10th.

- \* Our first ever after-school program, led by Mr. Rutan, produced some very encouraging progress in reading/writing/comprehension abilities in our students! The learning gaps are not only being closed, but we have students now working above their assigned grade level!!!
- \* We had a wonderful Informational Luncheon, hosted by Mrs. Juli Boeheim. Each guest was paired with a student who gave a tour, and explained all about EWA. We made some wonderful contacts with folks in the community who want to help us in various ways!





After learning about commercials, students write and produce one.

- \* Salary needs: A recent financial report in the news made it very clear that what we are paying our staff is on the bottom of the national scale. Even though the Lord wants us to live by faith in His provisions, He also says that a workman is worthy of his/her hire! We are looking to increase the amounts that we pay individual staff so that they can remain on at EWA. Pass this need on to folks that you think might want to partner with us so that we can pay a reasonable wage to folks who are truly committed to serving here. Amount needed: approximately \$40,000.
- \* Registration Fee: Enrolling in the Finisher's Project (finishers.org), would enable us to connect with Christians who are retired but desire to serve the Lord through using their talents in a "second career". Amount needed: approximately \$1,000



Chapel Speaker Rev. Philobes Demonstrates Lettering

The Board, Staff, Students and Families are so very appreciative for all the support that has come to EWA over the years - we thank the many people (many whom we know - many we don't know) for the various ways they have partnered with us in serving the Lord.

Pray about how you can help us meet the following needs. The information below equates to approximately \$5,000/student for tuition for a full year of school! Just think: 120 people donating \$1,250 each or 60 people donating \$2,500 each or 30 people donating \$5,000 each!!! It looks so simple on paper! Help us fully cover each of the 30 students who will be attending next school year!



Getting ready for our Recycling Fundraiser



A Full House for our Informational Luncheon

\* Curriculum needs: We are in desperate need to have a complete Math Curriculum from K - 12th grade, so that we avoid having any learning gaps develop due to using an eclectic assortment of resources. Although there are other curriculum needs as well, the Math is the most urgent at this time. Amount needed: approximately \$9,000.

One way our students show their appreciation for being able to attend a donation-based school is that they engage in various service-work projects throughout the year. Recently, we divided them into three groups to tackle three distinct assignments: one group not only made dinner to bring to the guests staying at the Ronald McDonald House, but they also cleaned the facilities and brought donated items; another group remained at school to clean the tables in fellowship hall, the classrooms and cabinets; the third group went to do yardwork to help one of our families which is struggling with health concerns. Let me tell you - if you need a work crew, we have some students who can do as good a job as any adult! We are SOOOOO proud of what they have done - and the servant attitudes that were displayed.



**Sorting videos at Ronald McDonald House** 



Cleaning Tables at School.

Believe me when I say - these past 4 years have taught us MUCH about trusting the Lord to provide - He alone is our Jehovah Jireh!!! BUT - He uses His living body of Believers to provide what His ministries on earth require! Can I challenge you to pray about how the Lord might use you to help EWA move forward knowing that you would be making an investment that has not only temporal benefits, but eternal ones as well! By your generous giving, (and for some we know it is sacrificial giving), the students are learning the Biblical principles regarding: developing a good work ethic so that they can someday help someone else in need; being thankful for how the Lord cares for us; giving sacrificially to the Lord and trusting Him to provide; that it is truly more blessed to give than to receive. They learn these truths through our giving them "snapshots" of people we personally know who are supporting EWA!

Several years ago, a dear friend and wise brother in the Lord, passed away. Before he died, David asked Dr. Charlie Eckert for advice he could impart as to how to live our Christian lives on earth. Charlie replied: "SIMPLIFY"! Those words have resonated within us over the years, knowing that we cannot take anything with us when the Lord calls us home. And when we stand before Him, we want to know that we have used the resources He has given us for His honor and glory, and have no regrets.

Blessings, Anna Shipe (Psalm 32:8) One of the most encouraging essays this year was written by Ariana Lewis, a sixth grader who did not want to exert any effort in classwork or homework assignments last year. The enclosed essay is her response to a DVD on discipline and discipleship featuring Dr. Lew Sterrett of Miracle Mountain Ranch. (It is printed as written with her permission).

In what ways does the horse represent our resistance to God?

The horse represents our resistance to God because we are untrained just like the horses or colts. The colt also represents our resistance to God because we don't know if we should trust or if we should obey. Lew said the horse is under authority just like we are supposed to be but sometimes we are not. When the master moved, the horse moved and God is saying we should listen to grown ups and don't disobey like an untrained colt. The last reason the horse represents our resistance to God is an untrained horse or colt needs to be trained or someone will get hurt, and that's just like us, if we are not trained we might go wild or do the wrong thing and hurt someone.

How would you apply the message of this movie to your life?

I can apply this movie to my life because I AM an untrained colt and need to be trained. I can also apply this movie to my life because Lew talks about things like we need to be free from fear and that's exactly what I should do. The last thing that can apply to my life is I need to make more room in my heart for wisdom, not sin.

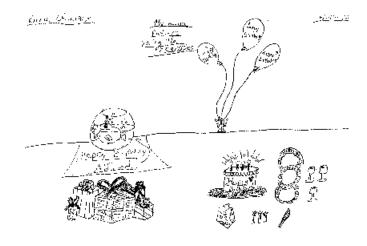
Ariana Lewis 5/23/2012



Students make a window for a commercial set



Cleaning the Ronald McDonald Kitchen



A picture combining art elements by Kara.