



Hilltop  
Christian  
Nursery  
School

# Hilltop Happenings

## Notes from the Director:

I can't believe how fast time flies!!! It seems like it was just yesterday when I was typing the April issue of Hilltop Happenings, and here we are in September already.

I hope that all of you had a fun and safe summer. It is almost time for our summer vacation to come to an end here at Hilltop, and we are very busy preparing the classrooms for another start of school. We are anxious to meet our new families, and we look forward to seeing many familiar faces of those that are returning as well.

For many of you, this will be your first Hilltop Happenings newsletter as this is your first year with us, so we welcome you!

This newsletter is printed twice a year, and is sent to over 600 families that have been involved with Hilltop over the last few years. We've found it to be helpful to keep in touch with families that no longer have preschoolers, but are still interested in Hilltop.

This is our second issue; the first was sent out in April. Speaking of our first issue...I just want to give a BIG thank you to all of you that called us or wrote to us, letting us know how much you enjoyed Hilltop Happenings!! That was so encouraging, and we thank you so much for letting us know that you are praying for us! We really appreciate it!

At the time of this writing, Hilltop still has a few openings for the 2008-2009 school year. Please tell all your friends about Hilltop!!!!

## Hilltop Christian Nursery School

Volume 1, Issue 2

September, 2008

### Don't Miss:

- ☺ Sept. 11th Ceremony
- ☺ Psalm 23
- ☺ All-School Hot Dog Lunch on Sept. 23rd at 11:45 a.m.
- ☺ Birthday Boys Story
- ☺ Cute Kid Quips
- ☺ See You at the Pole
- ☺ Upcoming Events!!

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## Cute Kid Quips

Lexi, 4, was visiting Hilltop over the summer with her family. As her mom pulled the car into our back parking lot, Lexi said to her brothers, "I know where God lives." They were a little confused by her statement, so her mom

said, "You do? Where does God live?" Lexi pointed a finger at Hilltop's building and said, "Right there!!"

Olivia, 4, was in her three-year-old class last year and they had been discussing the story of Noah's Ark. At the end of

the day, Miss Heidi asked the children, "Now, where did the animals go two-by-two?" Olivia answered, "Noah's yacht."

Don't children have a special way of making you smile!!

## September 11th Flag Dedication

Hilltop is so excited to announce that the Woodmen of the World Life Insurance Society has donated the flag and flag pole which is now located in the back of the church near the Hilltop parking lot (However, at the time of writing this newsletter, it is actually not in place yet, so I'm going on faith!!!)

Members of the Woodmen of the World group will be here on **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th, at 12:00 noon for a dedication ceremony.** You are invited to join us!!!

The ceremony should last approximately 30 minutes, and will include: the dedication of the flag, some brief comments from their group members, remarks from some people involved with Hilltop, the raising of the flag, the Pledge of Allegiance, and ending the ceremony by singing God Bless America. This will be a special day in Hilltop's history, and we would love if you'd be there to share in it with us!! Please join us for this very special dedication event.

## Psalm 23

Four years ago, Hilltop's staff began a yearly staff reading project. Each year, we pick a book that we read together as a group, and then discuss our reading at our monthly staff meetings. Some of the staff books include: "Opening Your Child's Nine Learning Windows," by Cheri Fuller; and "If You Want to Walk on Water, You Have to Get Out of the Boat," by John Ortberg.

This year, our staff is reading two books, but they are both based on a very popular portion of scripture. The books are: "Traveling Light," by Max Lucado, and "A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23," by W. Phillip Keller.

These are WONDERFUL books that have truly helped me to gain a better understanding of Psalm 23. We would love to encourage you to read these two books along with us!!! We will have both books available to check-out from the Hilltop library cart (which will re-open in October). Also, in case you are like me and you like to highlight and mark your books, we also have both books available for purchase. Stop by (or call) the Hilltop office to purchase them.

At the same time, our staff members have also taken on another challenge!!! While we began to do these group readings, we were

reminded how important it was to continually study and memorize God's Word. Last year, our staff was challenged to memorize the entire chapter of Romans 12!!! Have you looked at Romans 12 lately--it is not a short chapter, but yet, we had a number of staff members who were able to memorize the entire portion!

This year, our staff is working together to have EACH ONE OF US memorize Psalm 23. We would LOVE to have you learn this famous Psalm along with us. In fact, our hope is that we would have 100 people learn the 23rd Psalm by the end of our school year!!! We are going to post a chart at one of the doors to Hilltop to help us keep track of how many have learned it. This would be a WONDERFUL family activity. All of you can work together to learn this scripture passage. Once you've learned it, let me (Miss Becky) know so that we can add your names to our chart!!!

I've written Psalm 23 to the right of this article for you as an example. It is from the NIV version of the Bible; however, you can learn any version of the 23rd Psalm that works best for you — we just want to encourage you to plant some of God's words in your heart!

Happy Memorizing!!!!

Come be a part of Hilltop!! Feel free to join us for these special events!

Call the office with questions: 533-8956

## Upcoming Events

Mark Your Calendars Now for Some Important Upcoming Events at Hilltop:

- September 11th - Flag Dedication
- September 23rd - Hot Dog Lunch & Flower Sale
- September 24th - See You at the Pole Event
- November - Poinsettia Flower Sale
- December 22nd & 23rd - Christmas Programs
- February 3rd & 4th, 2009 - Community Open House

Watch Hilltop's website: [hcnskids.org](http://hcnskids.org) for more information.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul.

He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 23

## Birthday Boys Bless Hilltop

In June, three of our Hilltop "graduates" celebrated their 6th birthday together at BounceU. The families of Carson Pedaci, Tristan Rosenberry, and Luke Zeevaart decided that they would hold a combined birthday party for the boys and invite all of the children in their 5-year-old class at Hilltop. Now most 6-year-olds would have a large list of things that they would like to receive at their birthday parties; however, these three special boys decided that instead of receiving gifts, they would ask their classmates to give donations to Hilltop's scholarship fund!!! Isn't that amazing!!! Over \$560 was raised at their birthday party!!!

I talked to the boys and asked them why they decided to give their gifts to Hilltop. Here's what they had to say: Luke, "So everyone could like Hilltop." Tristan said, that "He loved his school, and it made him happy." Carson answered, "I had a lot of fun and it is a good idea to give your birthday money to Hilltop." I agree!!! If your family has a creative way to support Hilltop's scholarship fund, please contact me. We would love to set something up with you!



The birthday boys are pictured above l to r: (looking VERY SWEATY from all of their fun at BounceU) Carson Pedaci, Tristan Rosenberry, and Luke Zeevaart

## Prayer Requests

One of the reasons that we decided to do this newsletter is to remind you to pray for us on a regular basis. It means so much to us!!

- Pray for the health and safety of our students and staff. We have over 150 preschoolers, and 14 staff members.
- Pray for the start of our new school year. Pray that the children and teachers transition smoothly to our new year.
- Pray that the Lord would continue to send families and children to us so that we can point them to Him.
- I would also appreciate your prayers for me as I lead and direct the school.

**"And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints."**

**Ephesians 6:18**

## See You at the Pole!!

As previously mentioned (see page 2) Hilltop now has a flag pole (and flag) outside of our entrance. As such, we are excited that we will be able to be a part of this year's See You at the Pole™ event. If you are unfamiliar with this event, it is a day when schools around the world will gather around their flagpoles to pray for their school, friends, families, and country.

This year's See You at the Pole event will take place on Wednesday, September 24th. Hilltop's event will begin at 8:45 a.m. and will end at 9:15 a.m. in time for the children to enter their classrooms. We will take time to pray together and some scripture verses will be read. Please join us to gather and pray for our school!



