



Hilltop Happenings

Keeping In Touch With Our Hilltop Families

Hilltop Christian
Nursery School

Volume 6, Issue 2

September, 2013

Notes from the Director:

To many of you, this is your first newsletter, and to you we say Welcome to Hilltop and to this "Hilltop Happenings" newsletter. We started this newsletter a few years ago and it is sent to all of our current Hilltop families as well as many of our past Hilltop families. It certainly has done its job of helping us to "keep in touch." I always love it when one of our past families sends me a note or email letting me know how our Hilltop alumni are doing!

As much as I love my summer and the time of refreshment, it is always good to get back into a routine that a new school year brings. In fact, I love this time of the year! The feeling of fall is in the air, the leaves are just beginning to change, fall sports are beginning, and the excitement of a fresh start of a new school year is always so exciting.

I also appreciate this time of the year as it makes me stop and reflect on how good the Lord has been to us. He is ALWAYS

FAITHFUL!!! He has once again blessed us with a wonderful staff consisting of 15 ladies that just love Him with all their heart, soul, and mind. What a treasure Hilltop's staff is to us! The Lord has also blessed us with many new and returning families this year. We count each Hilltop family as a special gift to our ministry. He ALWAYS provides for us in so many unique ways. His faithfulness continues to amaze me.

Celebrating God's Faithfulness to Hilltop is going to be a major theme for our ministry this year. We are celebrating our 35th year in ministry and we have some things planned to celebrate this special occasion (be sure to read more about this on Page 2).

I am thankful for the start of this year, and the reminder that we couldn't do anything without the One who holds us in His hands. I pray you are too!

Thankful for His Faithfulness,
Miss Becky

Prayer Requests— Please Pray for Us!!!

- Pray for the health and safety of our students and staff. We have close to 140 preschoolers and 15 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 we would be able to continue to plant eternal seeds in the lives of the children and families that the Lord leads to us.

 Find us on
Facebook

Hilltop is once again selling
Kidstuff books for \$25.00. Call
the office with questions!



UPCOMING EVENTS:

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

- September 25th; See You at the Pole Event—8:45 a.m.
- September 25th; All-School Hot Dog Lunch—11:45 a.m.
- December 17th & 18th; Christmas Programs
- March 21, 2014; 35th Anniversary Celebration

Watch Hilltop's website
and Facebook page for
more information!

www.hcnskids.org

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Save the Date

Mark your calendars now to be ready to celebrate a very special event in Hilltop's history. Friday, March 21, 2014, we will be celebrating Hilltop's 35th anniversary in ministry!!!

We will also be using the evening to celebrate Hilltop's "Legacy Families."

A Legacy Family is a family that has been at Hilltop for two generations

(both the parents and their children have attended Hilltop).

Exciting things are already being planned for the evening, and I know your entire family is going to enjoy it!

If you are a Hilltop Legacy Family, please let us know. We have some special treats in store for you and we definitely want to celebrate you!

I truly can't wait for this evening, as we celebrate God's

Faithfulness through the Years!

35th Anniversary

Mark 16:15—Go and Tell!!!

As many of you know, for a number of years now, Hilltop's staff has a yearly reading project which we complete together as a group. We've found over the years that reading a book together, and taking time to discuss it at staff meetings, has really helped us to bond over a certain theme. Several years ago we began asking all of you to read along with us. Many of you have participated, and it's been great to see. Because we've heard such positive feedback from doing this together, we are offering it again this year.

This year, Hilltop's staff will be reading two books, *Evangelism Is...* by Dave Earley and David Wheeler, and *Becoming a Contagious Christian*, by Bill Hybels and Mark Mittelberg.

These are great books that help us to overcome our fear of sharing our faith with those around us. David Wheeler writes, "Evangelism is joyfully intoxicating, the real business of life, pursuing lost people. It is telling good news and helping people exchange their religion for a relationship. Evangelism is following the example of Jesus, washing feet, being yourself. It is sharing your story, working together, and leaving a legacy." Doesn't that sound exciting!!!

We've added extra copies of these books to Hilltop's lending library. They are just waiting

"Go
into all the world



and preach the good
news to all creation.
Mark 16:15

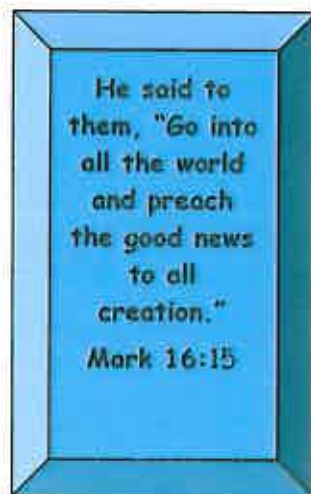
for all of you to check them out and read them at home.

At the same time that we are completing the staff reading, our staff members also add an additional challenge. Each year, I give them a passage of scripture that they are encouraged to memorize. Even as adults, we realize how important it is to continually study and memorize God's Word. Last year, we challenged 200 of you to memorize Acts 1:8. I am so happy to say that we surpassed that goal. We ended the year with 207 people saying the verse!! THANK YOU!!

This year, we are challenging all of you once again. Our goal is to have 200 people memorize Mark 16:15. The verse is written on the panel.

We will once again be putting some signs at the entrance to Hilltop to help us keep track of how many people have said it. Once you can say the verse, let me (Miss Becky) know so that we can add your name to it. You don't even have to say it out loud to me, just let me know that you can, and I'll add your name.

This is a great family project...start working on it now, and encourage one another to "hide God's Word in your hearts."



Haiti Partnership

Last April, I had the privilege of traveling to Gressier, Haiti, along with Bret and Sarah Applequist, elementary school teachers from the Hershey Free Church. We spent four days in Haiti exploring educational partnership opportunities. We were able to visit two schools, an orphanage, and a community center. In four short days, our lives have FOREVER been changed!!!

Even though all of us had read about Haiti and we thought we were prepared to go there, there was nothing that could have prepared us for the devastation we encountered. It took about two hours to go ten miles to the site where we were staying, and along the route we could not believe the destruction we witnessed still visible from the 2010 earthquake. Thousands of people are still living in tents and piles and piles of trash and rubble are everywhere. Children climb freely over the rubble and garbage and various animals roam everywhere.

However, in the midst of such devastation, beauty shines bright in the smiles of the many children we met. The children are so happy!!! We were drawn to the work being done at New Horizons, a school/orphanage that is the home to 38 children ages 3-3rd grade, run by Madam and Pastor Christian.

Hilltop will begin taking quarterly trips to Haiti beginning January, 2014. We would love to have you join us as we go to invest in the lives of these precious children and spread the good news of the gospel to those we meet. Trips are scheduled for January 18-24, 2014, and April 19-25, 2014. If you are interested in serving or making a donation to the Haiti Partnership, please contact the Hilltop office for more information.



Left:
A picture of
the students at
New Horizons.

Right:
Teaching
children to
make silly
faces.



Grocery Shopping Supports Hilltop

Did you know that you can support Hilltop's scholarship fund while doing your normal weekly grocery and gas shopping? How the program works is that you purchase grocery cards to area stores. We sell cards for Giant, Redners, and Karns. We sell the cards in denominations of \$10, \$20, \$25, \$50, and \$100. Whatever amount you pay to us, you get the same amount back to spend at the store--the same as cash. Hilltop then receives 5% of all gift card purchases from the stores!! You can also use the cards to purchase gas at Giant or Redners. Just think of the funds

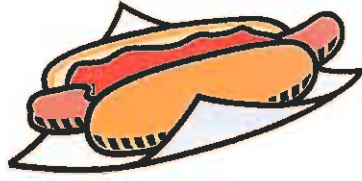
that could be raised if we all worked together to give 5% of our weekly grocery and gas bills to Hilltop.

If you'd like to use your own credit card to purchase the grocery cards, Hilltop has the ability to do that. Just contact the Hilltop office.

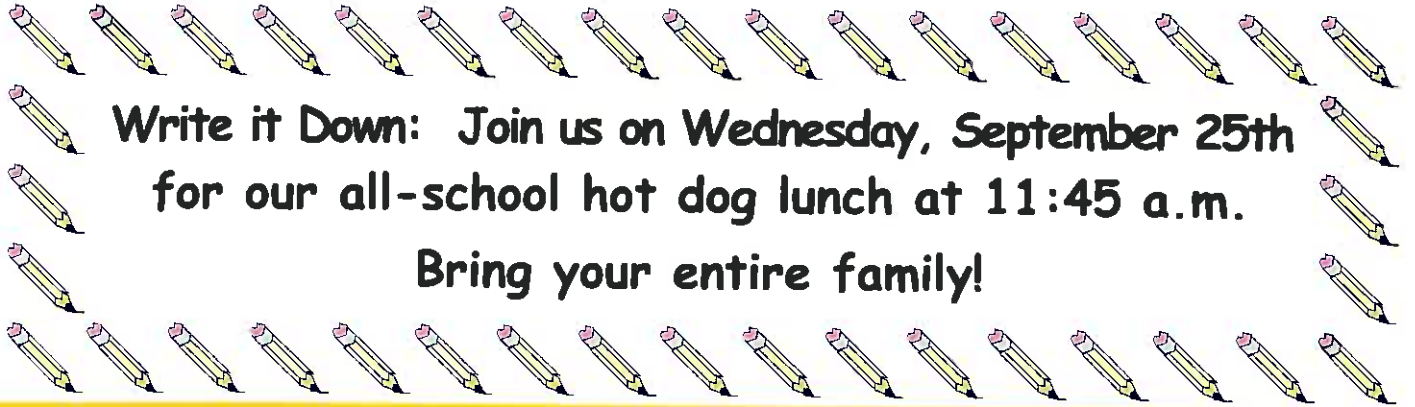
Finally, Giant also offers a School Rewards program, where every time you shop, 1% comes back to Hilltop, but you have to designate your Giant Bonuscard with Hilltop's ID first (this needs to be renewed every school year if you've done it before).

It's very easy! (See the attached insert for more information). Our school ID is 01860. You can designate online at www.giantaplus.com, call the Hilltop office with your Bonuscard information, return the attached form to our office, or stop at the information desk at your local Giant and let them know you want to designate Hilltop. Please call Hilltop with any questions....we would love to help you. This program helped us raise over \$1,400 last year! Thank you so much for your support!!!

Hilltop's All-School Hot Dog Lunch!!!

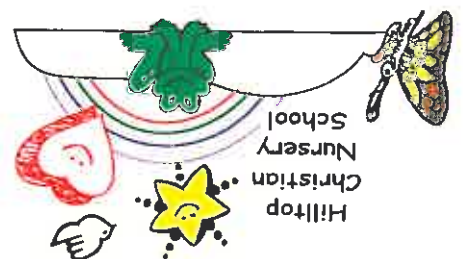


Join us on Wednesday, September 25th for our all-school hot dog lunch in the Hershey Free Church's overflow area!!! You can purchase a hot dog meal for \$2.00. The meal includes a hot dog, a bag of chips, a drink, and a cookie. All proceeds benefit Hilltop's Haiti Partnership as we seek to invest in the lives and spread the Good News of the Gospel to the children in Gressier, Haiti. Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. Bring your entire family!!! This is a great time to meet other Hilltop families. Please call Becky Chocklette, at 533-8956, with any questions!



**Write it Down: Join us on Wednesday, September 25th
for our all-school hot dog lunch at 11:45 a.m.
Bring your entire family!**

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