

Victory newsletter

Summer 2016

Dessert Auction

Here at Victory, we like to get together and hang out, *especially* when there's food involved. Combine that with supporting our kids ministries, and you've got the makings of a great Dessert Auction! This annual fundraiser brings out the best in our members as they bid on desserts that members provide. Many of you showed up hoping to taste the sweets (even if you didn't win the bid) and watch the fun! As usual, there was much friendly competition over bidding on the delicious desserts, and about \$3,800 was raised!! Thank you to our members for your generosity! 100% of the money will be used in our teen and children's ministries.



Waiting for dessert



So many choices!

Choir

Summertime is fun time, and fun time means lots of activities for everyone, which means our choir attendance generally slumps. However, this year our attendance has stayed up fairly well. Yea!

We are blessed to have two new members, Susan Ladd and Debbie Pennington, join us as of late. I'm always encouraged when we have new folks join us because it does show that maybe we're doing something right. And guess what? We still have room for you! Feel free to come join us and make some noise with us. Joyful noise! Of course, our main goal is to praise Jesus and edify this church. We could probably put a sign saying "The Voice auditions here" and literally get thousands to show up. I think "Not"!

We hope you have a great summer! Come join Michael and me Sunday in singing praises to our Creator!

God bless! -Brother John

Kids Department

It's been a whirlwind of activity in our Children's Ministry this summer! Here are the highlights:

Wednesday nights - Our VBS, "Passport to Peru" has been going along beautifully! The kids have been learning about all good gifts that can only come from God. So far they have learned that God gives us comfort, patience, and peace! You may have also noticed the colorful paper flowers adorning the office windows. These are what we are calling "God Sightings." Each week the children write down a way they have seen God show up in their lives. By the end of the summer, we hope to have the windows completely covered as a reminder of all the beautiful ways we can see God in our world.

Wednesday, June 28th, was especially exciting! We were visited by missionary Blake Parsley. He did a great job teaching the kids all about his ministry on the Amazon River and how each of us can be a missionary to those around us in our every day lives.

We have also received several new families attending with their children! Please keep them in your prayers, along with all of our wonderful volunteers.

KidzKamp - Bogg Springs is fast approaching! I have sent out a letter that includes all the information our kids will need to have an awesome week. As of this writing we have a total of 15 children and two adult volunteers attending. Please, if you know of any child who would like to join us but cannot afford the \$145 registration fee, inform Brother Josh! We want to ensure that no child misses out on this opportunity.

POGO - God loves a cheerful giver, and the kids attending POGO on Sunday mornings are always excited to worship with their offering. Throughout the months of March, April, and May, the kids in POGO gave a total of \$236.49 towards blessing Brother Glen Knight! Now, until August 6th, their offering is going towards the Texarkana Baptist Children's Home. As of this writing, the total is over \$200 - WOW! Ryan Smith, the Assistant Administrator of the Children's Home, has gotten word of this and he wants to thank our kids in person! He, along with a few boys from the home, will be attending POGO on July 30th.



Blake Parsley at "Passport to Peru"



Cardboard sledding near Clinton Library

Kids Department (continued)

The kids have also loved their new room, stage area, and sound system. Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to its construction and installation. You've helped take our Sunday services to a new level! The kids are inviting their friends and we've had a packed attendance each week! (Except for Fourth of July weekend, but what can you do there, right?)

And finally, THANK YOU to all who donated in the Dessert Auction! The response was incredible! The money you raised will go towards finishing the decoration of our new kids stage as well as planning future children's ministry trips and events.



Upcoming Events and Dates

July 23	Deacon Ordination	September 4	Labor Day
July 26	Last night of VBS	September 8	CALL Mall
July 28	CALL Mall	September 10	WINGS
July 28	Foster Parent's Night Out	September 15-16	Women's ABA Retreat
August 2-5	KidzKamp	September 15	CALL Mall
August 4	CALL Mall	September 16	CALL Mall
August 5	CALL Mall	September 17	Small Group
August 6	Small Group	September 22	CALL Mall
August 11	CALL Mall	September 29	CALL Mall
August 12	Flower Arranging—Make It, Take It	October 1	Small Group
August 13	WINGS	October 6	CALL Mall
August 14	School begins (for most)	October 7	CALL Mall
August 18	CALL Mall	October 8	WINGS
August 19	CALL Mall	October 13	CALL Mall
August 20	Small Group	October 15	Small Group
August 25	CALL Mall	October 20	CALL Mall
September 1	CALL Mall	October 21	CALL Mall
September 2	CALL Mall	October 27	CALL Mall
September 3	Small Group	October 31	Halloween

CARE: Caring Actions, Real Experiences

Everyone is invited! It's a great way to get to know others at Victory! CARE is Victory's outreach program that is a consistent way for church members to actively stay in touch with fellow members and visitors. CARE meetings include visits, calls, and contacts via cards, Facebook, text, etc. to members, visitors and others—as well as helping members with minor home needs (examples - fix a meal; change a light bulb; weed a flowerbed).

Different CARE teams meet the first and third Tuesday nights of each month from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. The first Tuesday is the Coolest CARE Team and the third Tuesday is the Most Awesome CARE Team. Both teams have a lot of fun and sweet fellowship as they meet for these outreach efforts. This outreach is a very special way to be involved and fellowship with different members while providing a special service. Select a Tuesday each month and choose the activity you want to do!

On June 18, the Cool and Awesome CARE Teams will join together to celebrate over five years of CARE (originally called GROW)!

Get Connected . . . Drop in and check it out. You will be blessed while blessing others!

JOY & CARE Upcoming Dates

July 18	CARE, Cool & Awesome Teams	September 12	JOY Breakfast, Cracker Barrel
July 25	JOY Potluck Lunch	September 19	CARE Awesome Team
August 1	CARE Coolest Team	September 26	JOY Potluck Lunch
August 8	JOY Breakfast, Cracker Barrel	October 3	CARE Cool Team
August 15	CARE Most Awesome Team	October 10	JOY Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
August 22	JOY Potluck Lunch	October 17	CARE Awesome Team
September 5	CARE Coolest Team	October 24	JOY Potluck Lunch

JOY: Just Older Youth

JOY events welcome all Victory members and guests to fellowship together, share prayer requests, devotionals, blessings, and build friendships.

JOY Breakfast meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 8 am at Cracker Barrel in North Little Rock. We have a great time sharing prayer requests, stories and a lot of laughter. Just walk past the hostess station and go to the back of the dining room. We'll have a seat waiting for you!

JOY Potluck Lunch meets on the fourth Tuesday. Join us for a potluck lunch at noon at Victory. Following the meal for those who can stay, we have a sweet devotional. In May, Jim Starks gave the devotional; in June, Michael Driggers gave the devotional. All have blessed our hearts. Bring your favorite dish and a friend or neighbor. If you work nearby, just drop in—there will be plenty of food for you. Check it out!



New Members!

These are the newest additions to our Victory family!



Amanda Reed



Brian Hale



Megan & Tyler Johnson



Josh & Shannon Clinton, with son, Atticus



Daneisha Andrews



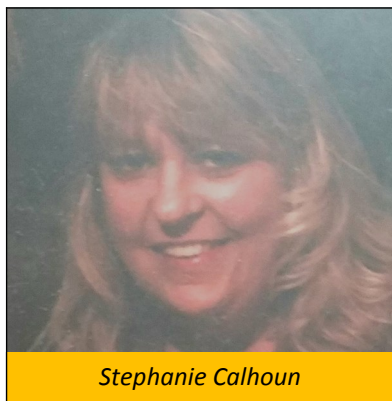
Anna and Shelby Haver



Rand Foster



Jordan Weeks, Noah Davidson, Katelyn Davis



Stephanie Calhoun



Linda Shatsar



Jonathan Ladd

We are headed off to camp on the 17th of July. Be in prayer for our students and our travels. Also, just as importantly, be in prayer for your church's next Student Pastor and his family as they prepare to embrace their service to Victory Baptist Church!

In June, the students participated in Serve Week. The week was dedicated to serving our local community in different ways. The jobs varied from organizing and painting spaces at our church to mowing yards and washing cars for people in the community—for free! Many people had a hard time believing they would not accept any donation at all for their efforts, but they didn't! They just wanted to show God's love to our neighbors here in Sherwood, and they did! A lady whose yard was mowed during Serve Week called the church to say she usually takes care of her yard herself but hasn't been able to because she has been very sick with cancer. She said the ones who took care of her yard were heroes to her!



CALL Mall: Children of Arkansas Loved for a Lifetime



Walkers for Victory!

The CALL Mall has been busy over the past several months. We have had several foster parents come each week. Almost each week, there seems to be a new foster family that has found out about the mall and has been able to get things they needed. Some have come from Carlisle and Jacksonville. We are happy to see that the word is getting out about our Mall and that the Mall can be of help to those who are taking care of and loving on these foster children who so desperately need love! Donations still come in at different times. The Mall has

been blessed with an over abundance of clothing for the different seasons!!!

Pulaski County has one less CALL Mall right now. The Church of Christ in downtown Little Rock had a fire on Easter Sunday that totally destroyed their CALL Mall. They hope to rebuild and restart later in the year.

On May 6th, a group of our members from Victory walked in the "Walk for the Waiting." This has become a yearly event that benefits The CALL, Immerse, and Project Zero! The CALL trains Christian foster parents, Immerse works with teens who are about to be aged out of the foster care system, and Project Zero creates opportunities for adoptive parents to meet foster children who are eligible for adoption. "Walkers For Victory," as our team was named, raised a little over \$800 for these organizations! Thank you all who helped with your support! We love you all!



Can you believe school is right around the corner?! The CALL Mall has school uniforms for the new school year. We are ready to help foster children with their school clothing.



Financial News

Offerings September-March exceeded budgeted offerings by \$3,500. However, the last three months have shown a steady decline and offerings are now under budget by \$5,700, a \$9,200 drop. The Building/Maintenance line item is considerably over budget.

However, we knew there could be unforeseen costs likely in the new facility.

July and August are the last months of our fiscal year. The proposed budget for the new year is being prepared. Continue to keep our church, its finances, and its ministries in your prayers!

Average weekly offerings required to meet Budget	7,805.48
Average weekly offerings through June 2017	<u>7,672.87</u>
Average Weekly offerings above or (under) Budget	<u>(132.61)</u>
Budgeted offerings to date	335,635.67
Actual offerings to date	<u>329,933.40</u>
Actual offerings to date over/(under) budget	(5,702.27)
Offerings required to meet Budget for June	<u>31,221.92</u>
Offerings for Month of June 2017 (4 Sundays)	<u>29,335.26</u>
Weekly Average for June	<u>7,333.82</u>
June Offerings above or (under) Budget	<u>(1,886.66)</u>

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Easter 2017 at Victory!

