



THE 4:11



Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. - 1 John 4:11

SEPTEMBER 2009



Junior High Fall Mission Weekend
Asheville, NC

October 23-25, Cost \$75.00
Sign up by August 23



Come meet Ben Mathes, founder of the mission organization Rivers of the World (www.row.org) and hear about the possibility of an exciting mission trip to Paraguay.

THURSDAY, SEPT 17 6:30 PM, YOUTH LOUNGE

Kenya Mission Trip
Meeting
(for graduated
seniors, college
students, and adults)
May 18-June 3, 2010
September 13, noon,
Youth Lounge



SUMMER OF BATHROOM TROUBLES AND TRIALS

What a great summer we had! Our summer trips included mission trips to Washington, DC and Hyden, KY and our annual trip to Montreat. All in all, we traveled over 2,400 miles on the church bus and Amtrak and have lots of great stories and memories to remember of the summer 2009.

What I will most remember from our travels, other than the fantastic fellowship, is the summer of interesting bathroom adventures. Case in point:

- Compared to the rest of the trips, Montreat was tame. Other than a few stopped up toilets, no great stories to tell. The Henschen's Montreat home has plenty of bathrooms and lots of hot water.

- Washington, DC - One shower for 24 people equals shower times of about 2 minutes a piece. Our second half bath was also where we stored our food! What I figured out quickly was that if you got up early you had a least a chance of having luke warm water!

- Appalachia Service Project - the picture below shows our showers for the week: they were wood frame showers wrapped with plastic sheeting. Water was supplied by hoses run from the janitor closets in the elementary school where we stayed. Warm showers were just a dream, but after working outside all day, a cold shower was welcomed! Bathrooms on the worksites were non-existent. If you needed to go, you drove about 20 minutes to a local grocery store, where they were kind enough to allow us to use their restroom.

Many thanks to all those who traveled with us this summer and especially those adults who gave up comfortable beds to sleep on air mattresses for a week. It's hard to start thinking about summer 2010 when it's still August 2009, but now is the time to get your calendar out and block out youth trips for next summer. We've got a lot of great trips in store, and we want you to come. We'll be traveling to Montreat, Arkansas, South Carolina, and possible trips to Kenya and Paraguay. Wow, I am already looking forward to it! I wonder what the bathroom situations will be like in Africa and Paraguay. I can't wait to find out, and hope you'll be ready too.

Don't forget church school and Sunday night PYC kicks-off on September 13. We'll see you at church!
Peace,

JOHN



TRINITY PYC MISSION & VALUES

MISSION STATEMENT

The youth ministry of Trinity Presbyterian Church seeks to nurture youth and their families, to engage their hearts and minds, and to equip them for a lifelong faith that embodies God's transforming love through Jesus Christ.

VALUES

God encounter us, both individually and in community, as

1. We respond to God's spirit through thoughtful reflection, lively questioning, and warm fellowship.
2. We honor God through worship, grounded in the love of Jesus Christ.
3. We seek to address human needs through acts of compassion and social action.
4. We share leadership as youth and adults together.
5. We live with an enthusiasm and joy that spills over into our congregation and community.
6. We strive to create authentic community that makes room for the full range of human emotions.
7. We welcome, celebrate and respect the diversity of all God's children.



Senior High Bible Study Starts
on Tuesday, September 8,
6:45 a.m. at Caribou Coffee,
Northside Parkway.

Please let John know if you
need a ride to school!



Ashley Hurst has settled into her new place in New Haven, CT, and has started classes at Yale Divinity School. Her address is 128 Mansfield St., Apt 3,

New Haven, CT 06511, or find her on Facebook.

Matthew Ruffner has accepted a position in the Admissions Office at Columbia Seminary! He'll be traveling throughout the Southeast recruiting students.

Sarah Ruffner just completed her first year in physician's assistant school at Emory University and has started her year of clinical rotations.



**CHURCH SCHOOL
NEWS**

AND NOW FOR SOMETHING TOTALLY DIFFERENT... The church school year kicks-off on September 13th. Meet us in the Youth Lounge at 9:45 a.m. for doughnuts, to catch-up with your friends, and to hear all the scoop and stories about our summer mission trips and youth conference experiences. Did it really take a group of senior highs 6 tries to build a 3-foot section of porch railing? What senior high wore a wig in front of about 1000 seniors highs? How long did it take our junior highs to figure out the right way to ride the Metro escalator in DC? Come prepared to share your favorite story of the summer. We'll see you on September 13!

FALL CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES

Junior High Church School – We will be spending the year looking at our identity: who we are as seen in God’s eyes, who we are as seen by others, who we are made male and female, and who we are in community with those we know and those we do not know.

Sixth Grade- will meet in Room D214
 Seventh Grade will meet in Room D210
 Eighth Grade will meet in Rood D202

Senior High (9th-12th grades) D223, D221, D208

Modeled after the adult education program at Trinity, this year we will continue to offer choices for our senior highs on Sunday morning! All church school classes will fall into these broad categories: Bible, History & Doctrine, and Christian Living. Most sessions will run six to eight weeks, and you will choose one class each session. Make sure to check out the fall church school catalogue for class options.

WISDOM BY WENDY

“My coming to faith did not start with a leap but rather a series of staggers from what seemed like one safe place to another. Like lily pads, round and green, these places summoned and then held me up while I grew. Each prepared me for the next leaf on which I would land, and in this way I moved across the swamp of doubt and fear. When I look back at some of these early resting places, I can see how flimsy and indirect a path they made. Yet each step brought me closer to the verdant pad of faith on which I somehow stay afloat today.”

Traveling Mercies: Some Thoughts on Faith, by Anne Lamott

As a youth if someone had told me to look at each step that I take in life as a step that will lead me to where I am in my faith walk today, I would have laughed at them and probably rolled my eyes as they compared my life to a lily pad or tried to show me inspiration in raking Mrs. Smith’s insanely large lawn. So why am I doing it now you may ask – that is comparing the steps each of you are taking in life to stepping stones or lily pads – because it is true.

I hope that each of you will look at the coming year with an eagerness to explore what God has to show you regarding your faith walk – not only on a personal level but also as a community. Each of you will nurture your faith through fellowship, worship and exploration. Allow us to throw a few “lily pads” your direction and then assist you in navigating your way.

Come get in touch with your creative side through art, writing and voice. Learn how creativity can make you put down your guard and reveal a more vulnerable side. Let us put your imagination to work as we revisit the creation story. There are so many exciting ways to explore and watch your faith grow.

Come for the fun and exciting nights – come for the nights you are challenged to explore your faith – but, most importantly, come knowing that each event you participate in and each trip you take part on will effect your faith no matter how “flimsy and indirect” the path may seem.



Charlie Carroll.....	9/1
Isabel Callaway	9/3
Hank Mitchell.....	9/6
Kate Zahniser-Word.....	9/8
Henry Steuer.....	9/10
Jamey O’Shaughnessey.....	9/12
Caroline James	9/13
Hadley Masters.....	9/14
John Tirrill.....	9/14
Vivienne Reed.....	9/16
Caroline Slawson.....	9/17
Hamilton McCaleb	9/18
Claire Coleman.....	9/23
Carson Black	9/24
Lenoir Kelley.....	9/24
Gracie Sommer.....	9/24
Katherine York.....	9/26
Walter Love.....	9/27
Virginia Boyd.....	9/28
Sang-Ho Lee.....	9/28
Drew James	9/29
Eliza West	9/30

**PYC KICK-OFF
 SEPTEMBER 13
 SING YOUR HEART OUT
 KARAOKE NIGHT
 WILLIAMS HALL**



SUMMER 2009 TRIPS
 Washington, DC
 Montreat Youth Conference
 Appalachia Service Project



John Ryan, Youth Directorjohnryan@trinityatlanta.org/404-788-1356 (cell)
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