



As we look back at the past month in our Children's Ministries, we are humbled by the subtle and personal events that have unfolded...and by the BIG ones coming up!

As we have been teaching first about Mothers (for Mothers' Day) and fathers (for Fathers' Day), we, too, have learned lessons. The "object lesson" the week prior to Mothers Day, Faye, Lynell and I performed a short skit; me as the mom, and them as the "bad" and "good" daughters. At the end of the skit, Faye (as the "good" daughter) and I hug. It wasn't until after the first afternoon that we realized it was the first time many of those kids had seen an Anglo woman and Apache woman hug. They are watching in MANY ways as although our heritage is important, it is not a reason for division. After the final skit, while summarizing God's plan that "children obey their parents *in the Lord*," one precious little girl looked up at me and simply said, "I don't have a mom, she died." I went down on my knees, gave her a hug, looked over and saw the tears in Faye's eyes as well. Each day there are heart-breaking moments, and also the encouragement of a team that work and hurt together. Our lesson for Fathers' Day was to show them that GOD wants to be our Daddy. The object lesson was Bill, Faye and I each sharing photos and a story of our earthly dads. Bill is struggling as his dad passes through the difficult disease of Alzheimer's. Faye's dad is a godly man, and committed father. Mine is still in need of choosing Christ, and has provided some challenges in my life that mirror those of the kids. What great lessons for them to see all of the details unfold, and how I finally was able to accept that our HEAVENLY father who wants to love them, too.

Most of the kids have heard at one time or another that we want them to grow up, go to high school, college, and then take our jobs. Angel, with his big brown eyes said very seriously that he had decided he wanted to do that. He knew it would be hard, but that he wanted to do it. I asked why it would be hard. He said that we had to make sure all the kids stayed safe, and that we preached. It was fun to be able to remind him that none of us preach alone-we have a team that work together and help each other. Pray for Angel as the Lord leads his young life.



One blessing that our summers usually provide is interns. Bekah arrived; a student at Simpson University in Redding CA. After just one week, she received an urgent call from home that her sister had been in a terrible accident. Bill and Jean (ARM team members) drove her to the Phoenix airport the 13<sup>th</sup>. We haven't heard from her since. Please keep her sister and family in prayer. Megan will arrive in July, in time to help with the sorting, shopping and stuffing of so many back packs. While here that one week, Bekah had already begun making friends and providing assistance with projects that needed her special attention.

Another huge blessing is the provision of funds so that we can get two air conditioners installed on the children's bus! The week of the 14<sup>th</sup>, while Dale and I were out of town, and Faye and her family hosted a Camp Meeting (Revival) on their home site, Bill braved the summer temperatures and took our bus down to an RV dealer in Mesa to get the much-needed equipping completed. We are so grateful for the provision of funds (in large part through our Bus Buddies!) for this project. The kids think twice about coming to the Church Bus when temperatures top 100 degrees, so providing a cooler place to visit will encourage more to participate and continue to hear such vital lessons. We have taken the bus out two days now with the new air conditioners. The generator doesn't want to run long in the warm weather, so Bill will be creating some sort of fan system to, Lord willing, keep it cool enough so that we can all stay cool enough as well!



Please keep Faye and her family in prayer as visiting pastors are providing lessons leading to salvation each evening as the Revival has been extended to a two-week event. So MANY need to choose Christ! Please pray for all of this to unfold in miraculous ways.



Bill continues to challenge the kids to remember their Bible verses. We have quite a few that return and learn the current week's, and then repeat the past ones. Their favorite "prizes" are "happy meal"-type toys. Please spread the word as these supplies are diminishing rapidly.

We have spent a great deal of time teaching about prayer since our last "update." Each day after the lesson, we ask the kids for volunteers to pray. On a few occasions, someone has volunteered. It was really wonderful to watch as a very young boy was told by an older girl, "you can't pray," and all of us encouraging him, and then listening to his very quiet, but very long and heart-felt prayer. I guess our greatest prayer request for this month would be specifically that any and all prayers the kids pray, that God would answer in such a way that they would see that it was **their** prayers that were answered.

One older girl came on the bus recently, very shaken. She had witnessed a neighbor abuse a puppy. She told me about it, and that the puppy was dead. We prayed right then, mostly for the images Brianna kept seeing, and for the neighbor. She came on the bus a week later, and headed for me to whisper a "thanks" for praying...to tell me in awe that the puppy was alive! A younger girl shared as we headed home that she doesn't love her dad-he drinks all the time. I asked her if we could pray. She said it wouldn't do any good. I told her God does the impossible-He even made a donkey talk. We did pray, but please also pray for the miracle of Kristin's dad's sobriety.

Some weeks are really difficult. On Monday, as we headed around a corner after picking up kids who always attend, we met the fire truck heading to their home. As we took them home, everything (and everyone) was out in the front yard. Please, please keep this family in prayer. The next day as we headed home, an ambulance was in the front yard of a home where kids we've known for 8 years live.



As a mom and grandma, I really enjoy the stories of what kids say, so thought you'd enjoy this as well. The lesson one week dealt with how God can do great things from small or ordinary things. The object lesson was a peanut-and the story of George Washington Carver who invented peanut butter, etc. The Bible lesson was then the story of the loaves and fishes. When Faye got to the part in the Bible story where she asked, "it was getting late and everyone was hungry, what do you think Jesus did?" Several kids each day would

shout "Gave them peanuts!" ☺

Thank you for your partnership in such a vital area of this ministry!  
Finances are tight, and your provision is truly an answer to prayer!

Sincerely,  
*Diana Lawrence*

Interim Children's Pastor



#### Prayer Requests

- ✓ Please pray for the air conditioning to work well soon...and for the cooler bus to encourage kids to keep attending their "church bus."
- ✓ Please pray for the family who is now displaced because of their house fire.
- ✓ Please pray for Kristin's daddy's sobriety.
- ✓ Please keep the kids in prayer as the fire danger is tremendous and fireworks can be purchased in their neighborhoods.
- ✓ Please pray for the water shortage in Moonbase/Hollywood Ridge that requires rationing.
- ✓ Please pray for Bekah's sister's recovery and family.
- ✓ Please keep the back pack project in prayer as we need so MUCH for so many.
- ✓ Join us in thanking God for the sacrificial gifts that provided our air conditioning!

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