

SilverCreek
 CHURCH
 Family · Faith · Community

WORD FROM THE CREEK

TAKING THE CHURCH TO THE COMMUNITY

“Engaging Our Community ” by Pastor Kevin Taylor

On August 20th Silver Creek Church will be hosting our fourth **Neighborhood Block Party**. As far as I am concerned this is an exciting day of ministry to our community. Last year we had 173 children register to receive backpacks and school supplies. Unfortunately we only had 110 backpacks to give away but every child who came was able to receive at the very least some school supplies. This year we hope to be able to help even more children get ready for their first day of school. I believe that we have a very special opportunity to reach our community with this particular event.

The purpose of this event is to connect with and to serve members of our community who do not attend Silver Creek Church. There are nearly 30,000 people living just 5 miles from where the church is located. Statistics tell us that around 80% of those folks do not attend church regularly. Why not? Could it be because they feel that the Church no longer cares about the circumstance of their lives? Maybe they feel

that the Church is longer relevant to the reality they live in each day. Whatever the reason, they are not part of the Church. Remember that Jesus said, “I will build my Church.” We are part of that Church and we must walk in obedience to Christ and participate in building His Church. His objective is the lost men, women, teenagers and children living within reach of us. He promised us the strength to do the job when He told his followers in Acts chapter one that they would receive power to become His witnesses beginning in their own communities and extending to the entire known world. The Holy Spirit empowers us to do the job!

So how does the **Neighborhood Block Party** fit into the purpose of the Church? Jesus commanded us to “love our neighbor as ourselves.” In my estimation it is impossible to love someone if you have never met them before. This event helps to connect us with those who live around us. It tells them that we care about their lives. It tells them that they are important to us. This event certainly takes the Church body outside the walls of the

church building and creates a tangible connection between the believer who is part of the Church and the person who is part of the community at large. A backpack is a cup of cold water given in the name of Jesus. A bounce house and a hot dog are bandages and ointment provided by the Good Samaritan.

I have been reminded this past week that there are plenty of people who have different motives than we do. Our ministry to our community doesn’t make any money for the Church. In fact, it costs money (as most investments do). It has also become clear that there are those who are watching us who question our motives. They simply cannot believe that love is the reason why we serve. In John’s gospel (15:18) Jesus reminded his followers, “If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.” Jesus came to give His life so that we might be forgiven and have eternal life. God sent His Son Jesus to die in our place because He loved us and yet the world rejected His Son. We will experience the same response but we must continue to “engage the community.”

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Dates of Interest:

- **August 7th**
 Calling Levi Concert
- **August 8th-12th**
 Spencer Lake Kid’s Camp
- **August 14th**
 Guest Speaker Mark Broberg, Missionary to Russia
- **August 20th**
 Neighborhood Block Party

August

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Neighborhood Block Party Mtg 5:30pm	2 Call to Prayer 7:00 pm	3 One Way Student Ministries 7:00pm	4 Softball Game 7:00pm	5	6 Saturday Night Worship Service 6:00pm
7 Java Connection 9:30am Calling Levi Concert 10:00am	Spencer Lake Kid's Camp					13 Saturday Night Worship Service 6:00pm
	8 Neighborhood Block Party Mtg 5:30pm	9 Call to Prayer 7:00 pm	10 One Way Student Ministries 7:00pm	11 Softball Game 6:00pm	12	
14 Java Connection 9:30am Worship Service Guest Speaker Mark Broberg 10:00am Missions Potluck 12:00pm	15 Neighborhood Block Party Mtg 5:30pm	16 Call to Prayer 7:00 pm	17 One Way Student Ministries 7:00pm	18 Softball Game 7:00pm	19-20 Fire UP 2011	
						20 Neighborhood Block Party 11am-2pm Saturday Night Worship Service 6:00pm
21 Java Connection 9:30am Worship Service 10:00am Special Business Meeting After Service	22	23 Call to Prayer 7:00 pm	24 One Way Student Ministries 7:00pm	25 Softball Game 6:00pm	26	27 Saturday Night Worship Service 6:00pm
28 Java Connection 9:30am Outdoor Service 10:00am	29	30 Softball Game 7:00pm Call to Prayer 7:00 pm	31 One Way Student Ministries 7:00pm			

Children's Ministry

What a fantastic month it has been. We have been learning a lot of fun and exciting things in Kid's Church on the topic of prayer. We have learned to pray until something happens (P.U.S.H.). We have seen God's hand at work in the lives of many of our church families. From battles with cancer to the smallest booboos, God can handle them all. It is heartwarming to see the kids send their prayer requests to God and then to see them genuinely wait to hear His answer. One moment in particular was as I walked into the service and heard Pastor Kevin praying for the same things that we were praying for in Kid's Church, and at the same moment as we were praying for them. It was a reminder that we are a body that works together for the same purpose.

We also had the opportunity to have Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) come to the church and hold their 5 Day Club. We had numerous moms volunteer to help support Auntie Cheryl, Miss Niki, and Miss Kathy so that they could make it the best event possible. The turnout was positive with our highest number of kids being 21 and the lowest still reaching 13. Please help in continuing to pray for the kids that came and that the impact remains in their lives forever. A big thank you to all who made the 5 Day Club possible, we couldn't have had such a successful time without you.

I look forward to the month of August to see what new challenges await. I also look forward to hearing about Pastor Shaun, Ashley, and Cole and their new adventure in life. You guys will be greatly missed but we also know that you will be richly blessed for not only hearing God's call but for answering it. Thank you for all you did and GO B.I.G. in your new stage of life.

God Bless,
Nick Rye
Children's Church Director



neighborhood
block party
saturday, august 20th
11am-2pm

planning meetings

join us for planning meetings every monday at 5:30pm in the commons room

school supplies

we are collecting backpacks and school supplies near the entrance to the church until august 18th

sign up to volunteer

starting sunday, july 31st we will have a sign up sheet available to those who would like to volunteer

even more information

for an updated count on school supplies and more, visit silvercreekoutreach.org

SilverCreek

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