

RED BIRD REFLECTIONS

FOGLEMEN FAMILY

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“But Joseph said to them, ‘Don’t be afraid. Am I in the place of God?
You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good
to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.’”
Genesis 50:19-20

Dear Friends in Christ:

Happy Summer to you! Our apologies for the delay in our first newsletter of 2007...no excuses; just busy schedules! The months are passing by quickly and another school year is over, with 27 seniors graduating on May 27th from Red Bird Mission School. Most of the students will attend vocational training or start college at the end of the summer.



2007 Senior Class and Sponsors

Our last newsletter focused on the great need for financial assistance for the School. We are so grateful for your response to this major appeal. Many individuals and churches have dug deep in their pockets and donations for the school are up significantly this year. The Red Bird Mission Board was pleased to announce that the school will re-open for the 2007-2008 school year on August 9, 2007! Of course, the need remains for major gifts to the

endowment fund for the school, but we are thankful to all who have played a part in this success. Most of all, we are glad to report that parents, students, and the community at large rose to the challenge and formed the “Save Our School” committee. Several fund-raisers were held and well attended. The most exciting event occurred on March 31st as nearly 50 people of all ages participated in a 5K Run and 2 mile Walk during the Family Fun Day to support the school. A large Flea Market, food booths, hay rack rides, and other fun games added to the fun and helped to raise nearly \$7,000 in one day! The Lord is good!

Now the “Save Our School” committee plans to become “Support Our School.” Considering it has been difficult to have an active Parent/Teachers Organization at the school in the past, this is a wonderful testimony to the way God is turning a difficult financial time into a time of commitment and unity. “God intended it for good....” There is still much to do, but many hands make the burden lighter.

We have mentioned the dream of a Community Life and Fitness Center (indoor recreational center) in previous letters also. We are pleased to announce that the Red Bird Valley Community Board and officers have been elected in the past two months and progress is being made. Thanks for your prayers! We continue to need your prayers for insight and guidance in this important phase of the project.

With the summer starting, Kurt is back home and is pleased to tell everyone that he is half-way through college! He is working again as a crew leader with the Work Camp Program. Mark and Joella are already into summer basketball for this month. May 20th we celebrated Mark's Eagle Scout ceremony with friends and family. What a joy to share his accomplishment with others! In July we will take Mark down to The Keys of Florida to attend a Scout "Ocean Adventure." We look forward to that special family time....even if the gas prices may cut out many restaurant meals!



Mark's Eagle Scout Ceremony
(our family plus Lynn's mother)

During the past 5 months many of our long term staff have left service here at Red Bird Mission. This has kept our directors busy in recruiting new staff and trying to cover others responsibilities. The Work Camp Program, a part of the Community Housing Improvement Department, is undergoing a major turnover of upper level staff. Needless to say, the present staff has been s.t.r.e.t.c.h.e.d!! Thankfully positions have been filled and new staff will be in place soon. The new Director is Harris Jones; Volunteer Coordinator will be Dennis Sparenberg (he returns to this position after being gone 4 years); and the Resource Manager, Lamoine King. The Lord is indeed good!

Other staff openings include teaching positions and the Director of Finance. Please be in prayer as applications are received and positions filled. We trust the Lord to touch the hearts of those He would call to this place. If you have any interest in openings, please go to our website for more information:
www.rbmission.org

Our work at the Clinic has been going well, although we have had great concern for the health of Dental Clinic staff and their families. Lamar, the dentist, is currently starting radiation treatments for 7 weeks, so he plans to work part time only. Ruth Ann's husband Dennis is undergoing chemotherapy a second time. Please pray for strength and healing during these treatments.

Once again we thank you for your continued support, with gifts, salary support, clinic support, cards and prayers. We consider it such a privilege to serve with you in mission here in southeastern Kentucky. Watch for another update in late summer. We pray that God will bless you and your families during this special time, *Summertime!*

In Christ's service,

Sharon, Lynn, Kurt, Mark, and Joella Fogleman

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