



Celebrating 25 years
EXPLORING GOD'S GREATNESS

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Explorer Girls'

1/2 Time Report

Volume 9 Issue 1

Spring/Summer 2008

Serving is the Name of the Game for Explorer Girls this year!

Cape Island Baptist Explorer Girls hosted a Spaghetti Dinner and Historic Tour of the church in November, 2007 and raised \$847 for their building fund. Girls earned their hospitality and church badge by participation in some of the following activities: polishing the silver tea set for display on the tour, gathering photos and historic information about the church, participation as a tour guide, planning the dinner menu and food amounts, preparing place settings, setting tables, greeting and seating guests, serving dinner and cleaning up.

They also had the opportunity to get involved with Operation Christmas Child



For the 2007-2008 club year they, with the help of their PROPS, raised \$640.00 for the Atlantic City Rescue Mission, a homeless shelter in Atlantic City, NJ. On February 13th, at their Valentine's Day Party with the PROPs, they had a guest speaker from the mission and presented her with gifts for the children of the mission that had been prepared the week before. They gave 15 gift bags, each with a book, stuffed animal and treat for the toddlers at the center and 4 specific gifts for teens they had been told about at the mission. They continue to make helping homeless people in their own area a priority. They learned a lot about this issue and feel that Christ is compelling them to show His love to the people in this mission.

Independent Bible Church, in Willow Grove, Pennsylvania put together over 50 Personal Care Kits for the Whosoever Gospel Mission in Philadelphia during their Dad/Daughter evening in March. The girls and their dads brought the dozens of items needed and one of the leaders at IBC stitched the "ditty" bags to hold the items. Each kit contained shampoo, soap, washcloth, deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste and other personal items, as well as a gospel tract. Each man who arrives at the Mission receives one of these kits. Pastor Robert Emberger, director of the mission, spoke to the dads and daughters on how they could serve each other through love, listening and encouragement.



What do Camp 2007, **The Atlanta Vineyard** (our newest EG church), the Abiders' group (3rd-4th grade) at **Aldan Union Church**, pennies and Burger King have in common??? The Homeless Outreach in Atlanta, Georgia known as "The Burger Ministry". One of the helpers in the Burger Ministry is Rose Santangelo, who is currently serving as the Explorer Girls' Coordinator at The Atlanta Vineyard. Rose shared about her ministry to the homeless during EG camp last summer. Burger King has partnered with them to provide a hot meal to those on the street. Chris Goss, Head Leader of Abiders at AUC, was at camp also. Chris' husband works with the homeless (in Philadelphia) and has helped Chris and others at AUC develop a love for homeless people. This year the Abiders at AUC have decided to take "The Burger Ministry" as one of their missions' projects. The girls collected their pennies and raised more than \$60.00. That's more than six thousand pennies!!! This will provide over 80 hot meals for homeless on the streets of Atlanta.



The Seekers (1st-2nd grade) and the Discoverers (5th-6th grade) made up packages containing socks, gloves, hats, juice boxes, and granola bars for the homeless.

The Conquerors (high school girls), also at AUC made lovely fleece baby blankets for the Pregnancy Center of Delaware County.



Easton Bible Church had a Mother/Daughter Christmas Tea in early December. The Explorer Girls' leaders and other ladies in the church provided the china, cups and homemade Christmas cookies. Some of the older ladies of Easton Bible enjoyed serving at the tea. (It takes a lot of work to keep the little teapots full of hot water!) They had a devotional speaker and special music. The girls gave gifts they had created to their Moms at the Tea. It was fun for the girls, it's a good outreach, and it gives them an opportunity to advertise other Christmas events that happen in December.

Their New Year's Eve party was a BLAST! The girls wore pajamas and brought their stuffed animals because they were staying up until "midnight". On the meeting night closest to New Year's they turned the clocks to 10:30 at night when the girls arrived. They divided the girls up and sent them to different stations (a room to make noisemakers, another room to make silly party hats, another room for relay races (bathrobes, curlers, slippers) and then a devotional. At "midnight" (which is really the regular closing time) they gathered together with the noisemakers for a countdown and, yes, confetti!!!! The girls are crazy about it! Sometimes it takes 3 hours to vacuum the confetti but it is worth it. Only problem they ever had--the first year the parents really thought it was a sleepover and weren't planning to come back and pick their kids up!!!!

Last month **Mt. Olive Community Bible Church** had an Explorer Girls' Sunday. The girls took over the service all except for the sermon. There were plays, praise songs, scripture reading, pledges and offering. There were two group songs and several girls did solo's throughout the songs. What a wonderful Sunday! The girls did a fantastic job and there were blessings for everyone who attended.

Leptondale Bible's Explorer Girls had a great time at their Mother/Daughter Dessert Social. Over 70 girls, mothers, and grandmothers attended an evening of group time, followed by a dessert social in the sanctuary. Tables were decorated with cut-out snowflakes made by the Challengers and floating candle centerpieces made by the Abiders. Leaders and girls came with desserts to share, tea and hot chocolate were served. The devotional shared was on snowflakes and how each of us is uniquely created by God. The evening ended with singing.



Junior Leadership Training

Once again we enjoyed hosting an enthusiastic group of girls at our Junior Leadership Training at Mt. Gilead in February over Presidents' weekend! The girls learn leadership styles and qualities which will help them as they return to Explorer Girls' summer camp as counselors and staff members.



Two of our JLT graduates from last year as well as some from previous years will be joining us on staff at camp this summer!



From top left: Kahmeesha, Christine, Chelsea, Erin, Megan and Jenny

What a wonderful opportunity we had this spring to minister to women at our **first annual Women's Get-Away Weekend!**



The event was held at Traber Center in Pughtown, Pennsylvania in March.

There were wonderful worship times led by Mrs. Sue Schmidt, great discussions, tours through the History of Slavery & Underground Railroad Exhibit and the Creation Science Museum at Camp Sankanac and many fun activities to keep us busy all weekend long.

Put the date on your calendar and plan to join us next year!

March 6-8, 2009



Kristan Elizabeth Lefferts

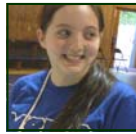
Kristan Lefferts has been a part of Explorer Girls since it began. Her mother Barb was one of the women who helped us with the development in 1982. Kristan attended Explorer Girls at Aldan Union Church and was one of our graduates. She enjoyed this ministry so much that she began helping as a leader at Aldan Union Church and continued working with the Tinystepers until March 11th of this year when her beloved Savior called her home to be with Him. We miss Kristan and will always remember her. At a later date a memorial fund will be established in her name to help us with scholarships for girls who want to attend EG summer camp.



Kristan Elizabeth Lefferts
1971-2008

Presenting our 2008 Explorer Girls' Graduates

Samantha Grant and Rebecca Tervo
Mt. Olive Comm. Bible Church



Michelle Marchant
Leptondale Bible Church

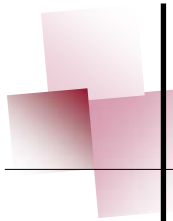
Congratula-



Kristin Kenney
Independent Bible Church



**Kellie McGrory, Vicky Ingham,
Hannah Grover and Jessica Belluscio**
Aldan Union Church



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Explorer Girls' 1/2 Time Report

Spring/Summer 2008

What is going on at Headquarters?

Here in the EG office we are busy, busy, busy! People often ask us what we work on when EG clubs are not in session in the churches. Well, here's a little taste of what is on our plates.....

Fundraisers - Recycling cans, empty ink and laser printer cartridges, and cell phones. We recycle all year long thanks to giving friends and supporters. Our Annual EG Yard Sale; this fundraiser has become an annual event and helps to subsidize the ministry's General Fund.

Curriculum - Deb and Chris are continually updating, revising and rewriting Bible lessons and manuals to help leaders and teachers to share God's Word with children everywhere.

World Team RACE - Patty and Chris will be running a mini-missions conference for the children of World Team's candidates for 7 days in July.

Camp - we are all in the midst of recruiting and training staff, writing curriculum, putting together camper books, and

registering girls for this summer. Our theme is "Explorer Girls Believes in Miracles - It's a God-Thing!"

BCM Conference - Each year in August Patty and Deb teach and care for the children of BCM's missionaries while their parents attend the Conference.

Fall Seminar, November 1, 2008 - This year's seminar will take place at Emmanuel Bible in New Jersey.

March Conference, March 6-8 2009 - Our 2nd Annual Women's Get-away Weekend

NEW! *Seeker and Abider Curriculum Manuals* will be published and ready for sale in the Spring of 2009!

NEW! *Activity Resource Manual* will be published and ready for sale in the Spring of 2009!

In September the EG clubs begin again and we are involved in training, teaching and support of all of our Explorer Girls' churches.

WHEW!