

PEACE TIMES

PEACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

1601 KENILWORTH AVENUE, NE—VFW BUILDING

PASTOR'S WORD

The new school year is upon us! Many of us at Peace Fellowship Church are teachers, students, or both. We're looking with anticipation at all that's ahead. Let me encourage you with a few words. The first words are **wisdom** and **discernment**. In my message on August 26th, I spoke about Solomon's answer to God's question in 1 Kings 3. Solomon asked for wisdom and discernment. He needed the ability to choose the right course of action at the right time. We all need that, even now. When your friends tempt you to break the rules, cut class, skip homework, smoke a joint, or whatever, you need wisdom and discernment to know how to do the right thing. You need to make good choices to maximize your success in and out of the classroom. Even teachers need to resist the temptation to be unprepared, uncaring, and unmotivated. Our students need our best effort. They need our wisdom and discernment.



Rev. Dr. Dennis R. Edwards,
Pastor, Peace Fellowship
Church

The last word I offer for the coming school year is **hope**. The Lord Jesus offers us hope for our lives and we can believe that we'll live with him forever when we place our faith in who he is and what he's done for us. And that hope extends to our life as students and teachers. We bring hope to the classroom. As teachers we bring hope by encouraging our students that they can do well and will make a difference in the world with their lives. As students we can have hope that we are learning and growing, preparing to make an even greater impact on our world. It doesn't matter what last year's grades were, or what trouble you encountered in the past. A new school year allows you to look ahead with hope, anticipating the Lord's strength in your life, empowering you to do your best.

And for all of us who aren't students or teachers, let me encourage you also to pursue wisdom, discernment and hope in your own life. You'll find that whatever you do in life these virtues will serve you well, as they served all those who practiced them throughout history.

God bless you!

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

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FALL EDITION (AUG/SEPT/OCT)

Special points of interest:

- The Benning Interim Library opened its doors Friday, July 20th, 2007.
- Call 202.442.7740 for days and hours of operation.

OUR CORE VALUES

BIBLICAL AUTHORITY

DELIBERATE DISCIPLESHIP

PERSISTENT PRAYER

LOVING RELATIONSHIPS

DYNAMIC WORSHIP

RELEVANT MINISTRIES

CREATIVE EVANGELISM

CHEERFUL GIVING

Visit us on the web to find out more about each of our core values at
www.peace-dc.org/core.html

PEACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

Sunday Service: 10:00 a.m.
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Bldg
(VFW)
1601 Kenilworth Avenue, NE
Washington, DC 20019
Tel: 202.494.9977

E-mail:
peacefellowship1@hotmail.com



KIDS CORNER

The elementary class (2nd-4th grade) will start a new series this fall. Meeting the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, our elementary students will discuss various leaders throughout the Bible. Their theme will be "running the race to win" ...and learning about the unique characteristics of winners in God's kingdom.

Why do You Love Peace Fellowship Church?

"It's encouraging. The atmosphere is such a loving place. There's nothing phony--it's from the heart. My children can interact with [people of] different cultures here."

— Tresa: wife and mother



"I love the food!"

— Ashley, age 13,
8th grader, Thurgood Marshall Middle School

"I have no family nearby, so I feel like I have family here."

— Mary Ruth: wife and schoolteacher

"It's family. We have great leadership and practical help in our Sunday sermons."

— Carmen: wife, mother, and teacher

"I love Ms. Kristi (her Children's Church teacher)."

— Sydney, age 2 (Carmen's daughter)

"The integrity; everyone is a student here."

— Andrea Cofield, Assistant to the Pastor and Youth Minister

"They help me with my problems and they pray for me here."

— Francesca, age 11

7th grader, Stuart-Hobson Middle School

TEEN UPDATES

The youth ministry is focusing on building awareness about the Bible and how it applies to everyday life and situations.

As the school year begins, Peace youth are focusing on the topic of faith, a core and substantive value critical for any type of success, both academic and personal.

With a focus on personal growth and deepening their relationships with God, the book of Romans is exposing the youth to stories that demonstrate God's faithfulness, and the faithfulness of His people.

Study with us! Read the book of Romans and come share your thoughts on the first and third Tuesdays of each month!

Contact Andrea Cofield at acofield@hotmail.com for meeting location.

In August 2007, the middle school and high school students went on a Saturday afternoon kayaking trip. There were lots of laughs, adventure, and memories along the Potomac River as the youth raced each other and completed a scavenger hunt about the national memories that surround the river.

After a fun Saturday afternoon on the river, the young adults on the trip convinced the youth to go camping in late September!

Look for fun stories and more pictures coming soon!



Dear Peace Family...

(Letters from Out of Town Members)

Thank you so much for your prayers over the last month. God is doing some amazing things and we are excited!! We have connected with over 250 students in the last two weeks. All of our events were well-attended, with just enough food and transportation. Our student leaders have jumped in with both feet and have been a great help to us. At our first dinner discussion we had over 60 people here for dinner, and 50 of them were interna-



The author, Bonnie Ward

tionals, most brand-new to our ministry. We are in the middle of following up all the contact cards that we received. Several are getting plugged into Bible studies for Christians or GIGs (Groups Investigating God). Today, we are taking about 50 students to an American farm for our weekend event. The response has been incredible. Several who have signed up to go today are Indian, or from Muslim backgrounds. The kids have all started back to school and that transition has mostly gone well. I am still feeling the stress of balancing home and ministry stuff, but I think we will work it out in time. Hannah was just offered a job as a hostess at the restaurant where Micah works. This is a great first job and there is room to become a busser or server later on. She is quite excited and we're glad to know she is working at a good place. My bible study is faltering a bit. Yuri, who has been most interested, is in the early stages of pregnancy and has been extremely sick. I am praying that she will feel better soon, so she can join us. Another Chinese woman who was supposed to attend has not come either. So...right now it is a study for Christians. Pray that some not-yet-believers would join us soon. Thank you for your partnership in prayer. The last month has been very tiring, but has gone amazingly well. We praise God for all that He has done. We covet your prayers as we begin Bible studies, and continue to follow up on newcomers. Continue to pray for our staff team to work well together, and for our family to adjust to the new routines.

Thanks again for your prayers!

Love,
Bonnie



The Ward Family,
Urbana, Illinois

Prayer Requests

- 1) Salvation for many
- 2) The start-up of many bible studies and GIGs
- 3) My ability to juggle many roles and agendas
- 4) 25% increase in support needed
- 5) Personal growth and intimacy with Jesus

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peacefellowship1@hotmail.com



**"Developing disciples of
Jesus Christ in East of
the River who love God
and love their neighbors."**

We're on the Web!

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**Learning Communities Partners with Local Schools
to Help Students Prepare for Successful Futures**

The Learning Communities Initiative (LCI) is partnering with schools in Ward 7, including Ronald H. Brown Middle School and Cesar Chavez Public Charter School, to support and enhance their efforts, most specifically by exposing middle school students to college and career options and encouraging them to dream about and prepare for successful futures.

A recent study done by Bridgespan, entitled "Double the Numbers", found that 43% of students in DC public schools graduate from high school within a 5 year period, as compared to 68% nationally; 29% enroll in a postsecondary educational program within 18 months, compared to 48% in the US; and 9% attain a postsecondary degree within 5 years, compared to 23% nationwide. The statistics in Southeast Washington, DC are lower than the citywide rates. In Wards 7 and 8, 33% of students finish high school, and 5% earn a postsecondary degree.

To address these disparities, we will be working with some great partners, particularly at Ron Brown, including Georgetown University's Institute for College Preparation academic enrichment program and Kids2College who offer early college awareness programming, the University of the District of Columbia's Cooperative Extension Service who will facilitate workshops for parents, the Black Student Union (BSU) at the University of Maryland, College Park who are helping us create opportunities for meaningful interaction between middle school and college students, and Parks and People who will run an environmental club. Along with these groups and others, we will be engaging students through assemblies, workshops, clubs, college and career tours, career days, community service opportunities, and enrichment field trips to help them expand their horizons; discover their interests, passions, and skills; build their confidence, and learn about college, careers, and vocational options.

For more information, please contact Deann Ayer at 202-486-0690 or deann.bhci@gmail.com.

A Final Word: Three Dimensions of Worship

Three is a significant number in the Bible. The trinity is made up of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. There were three disciples closer to Jesus than the rest (Peter, James, and John). Jesus rose from the grave after three days. Did you know that a three sided shape can handle more stress than other shapes? In fact, a diamond gets its strength from the three dimensional formation of carbon atoms.

Three is also significant in worship. James P. Gills tells us in "Dynamics of Worship" "Every interaction that a person experiences has...the following components: emotional (knowledge/intimacy), cognizant (covenant/commitment), and motivational (worship/passion)". The more we know about God the closer we draw to Him (intimacy). So it is very important that we read our bibles and spend time with God.

We must also nurture our commitment to God.

In Rev. 2:4 the church at Ephesus is urged to remember their first love. There are times when we must do the same.

Why do we do what we do? Has our worship just become a routine or tradition? How is the motivational side of our worship doing? Are we passionate about God? "Passion cements the whole relationship into one cohesive bond. Trust grows during those moments, and (you) are able to express feelings otherwise unapproachable" (Gills). Passion should not be based on just emotion but also on your commitment.

I encourage you to review your worship and ask yourself— how do you rate in each of the areas (knowledge/intimacy, covenant/commitment, and worship/passion)? Take stock of your worship.