



As in water face reflects face,
Rockville
 eflexions
So the heart of man reflects man.
 Proverbs 27:19

July 2011
 Volume 8 Issue 11



**Congrats
 to our Grads!**



*Jackie Stoltzfus -
 High School Grad*

is seeking the Lord concerning the plans for her life after high school and trusting in Him to lead her. Lord willing, this coming winter she will be returning to Papua New Guinea with Brian and Andrea Holmquist. Some of the things Jackie enjoys are reading, being with family and friends, mowing yard, hay season and life on the farm.

From the word of God..."loving the Lord your God, obeying His voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of your days....."



*Evan Whitman -
 High School Grad*

has been accepted at Biola University and plans to study International Business. His interests and hobbies include: hiking mountains, spending time with friends, listening to music, and reading (government, trends in business and society, missions ventures). His verse to live by. 1 Timothy 4:12 "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an ex-

ample for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith, and in purity."



*Jess Stoltzfus -
 High School Grad*

is helping with canoe trips and camps with the Honey Brook Youth Center and a few other random activities this summer. Her prayer is that as she begins life after school she would be able to hear God's voice clearly and follow His calling. A few verses that she loves come from Jeremiah 7:7-8. "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is in the Lord. For he shall

be like a tree planted by the waters, which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes, but its leaf will be green, and will not be anxious in the year of drought, nor will cease from yielding fruit."



*Martha Ranck -
 High School Grad*

is currently a part time Sales Manager for FAMILIES and does some cleaning. She is looking for employment opportunities that involve preschool age children. She likes to spend time with friends and family, relaxing with music, both playing and listening to it, and is always watching for a child to touch. A verse that guides her path is

Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us?

The 2011 Jr. Youth Retreat

June 17th-19th, 2011

The retreat was so much fun!

Lots of fun games, laughs, amazing food, and great sessions with Pastor Leon.

Everybody had a great time and a ton of fun, in the car and at the lodge.

On Friday night we got to Shoup's Lodge, and after we got settled in, we played games for the rest of evening.

On Saturday morning....well Saturday morning all the girls got woken up by the guys at 6:30 am (Thanks guys). After we all had breakfast, we had our first session with Pastor Leon. The topic for our sessions was Choices. We talked about the heart and how it's the word most used in the Bible. We also talked about the three parts of the heart: the mind, the will, and the emotions.

After our session we went on our wonderful, most adventurous hike. First we hiked to the Ice Mine. That was really cool! After you walked down the steps there was a little cave that led to pretty much nowhere. The guys were adventurous and decided to go in it. One problem: it's pitch black in there. So what did they do? Took pictures every 5 seconds to see where they were going. After we left the nice cool Ice Mine we started the real hike. The hike wouldn't have been that bad, except there was a hill. Yeah, sure, hills aren't bad, right? Wrong. This hill was at least 10-15 minutes of going up hill. After awhile we got to go down hill.



Yes!! We wound up back at the parking lot. We wanted to go to a rock that was on the edge of a cliff. But once we got back to the parking lot, not many people wanted to do it. So we went back to the lodge and had a late lunch.



We had a little time to relax and then we played wiffleball. It was a very funny game, I'll tell you that. There were 4 teams. My team and another team were the first ones to play. We won by 1 or 2 points. Then the other two teams played. The winner of that match got to play us, what lucky people! We lost....

oops....The other two teams got to play again. The score for that game was 17-5. Ouch.

Our second session with Pastor Leon was about choosing the right things such as your job and things like that. After that we had a cook-out and spent most of the time outside at the campfire, until it got dark. We went inside and played games until bedtime.

Sunday morning we didn't get woken up....YES!!!! I think we were so tired we really could've slept through anything. After breakfast, we had our final session. This session was about marriage and picking the right person. After the session we had a little free time to have some fun. Some people were down stairs playing round table. Pastor Leon and Henrietta joined in! It was fun!

Next we played a very odd version of kickball. The bases were: 1st a kiddie pool, 2nd a chair, and 3rd another kiddie pool. No matter what you get on base. Even if you fouled you still can get on base. Plus you can have as many people as you want on base. The bases got crowded at times. The pools were kind of slippery. Let's just say a lot of people got wet....very wet. After we ate, we packed up, and left. It was a very fun time and I really didn't want it to end.

I want to thank everyone who cooked for us!

All the food was so good!

I want to thank Pastor Leon for doing the sessions with us.

And I want to thank all the adults who put up with all of us!

I'm not sure how you did it, but you did.

pictures and article submitted by Jenna Lerch

Rockville Reflections is a publication of
Rockville Mennonite Church
210 Cupola Road, Honey Brook, PA 19344
610.273.9577 rmchurch@ptd.net
Editor: Twila Ranck
submissions received at
twila@familiescatalog.com

I was honored to be asked to resource this year's Junior High Retreat at the Shoup's Lodge. What an awesome group of youth. Observing their demeanor simply gave me positive impressions of their parents and family life. They all participated in the activities the staff had planned for them. Not hard to conclude that waffle-ball ranks high on their fun scale.

The staff planned delicious and healthy meals. As history would have it, Saturday morning presented with Mike's notorious omelets – as-you-want-them. The hike, one hour longer than expected, through Creek State Park was my greatest challenge. Take my advice – "Stay off Boulder Trail." My counsel to Vernon was to "keep pressing on, don't circle back, let's see new stuff-ice mine, etc" was my plea! So I paid the price. Grueling, painful and endless uphill tramping. James and Jefferson will verify – just ask them.

The schedule called for three sessions, through which we kept looking at our weekend theme: CHOICES (Key verses were Galatians 6:7, 8).

First session we learned that all our choices come through our heart: mind, will, emotion. Our key for this session was Proverbs 4:23.

Session two was Saturday evening where we looked at seven ethical statements.

1. Wrong is wrong even if you don't get caught.
2. Wrong is wrong even if you do it for a good reason.
3. Wrong is wrong even if others are doing worse things.
4. Wrong is wrong even if it doesn't bother your conscience.
5. Wrong is wrong even if it is commonly considered right.
6. Wrong is wrong even if mutual consent is given or others don't get hurt.
7. Wrong is wrong no matter how good a person is who does it.

Sunday morning was our final session. After two songs we looked at the Book of Ruth where we focused in on "making the second most important choice in life" – our life partner. We touched carefully but clearly on some sexual issues. They were most attentive! I gave them 7 things needed to make good choices.

1. Connected to God through Christ (# 1 choice in life)
2. Saturate your mind with the Word of Truth.
3. Take counsel from spiritual others.
4. Learn from your wrong choices.
5. Correct (repent) your wrong choices.
6. Take responsibility for all your choices.
7. Observe the wrong choices of the world.

During our first session I challenged the group to work hard on developing an acrostic out of CHOICES that would best reflect the content of the retreat teaching sessions. Six youth submitted their master pieces.

Reagan Stoltzfus – Contact to God, Hearts, Observe the world, Ignoring your conscience is bad, Correct your bad choices, Emotions, Saturated with Word of God

Jared Morrison –Care How Our Important Choices Effect Situations

Nolan Weaver – Christ like Hearts Outline Intellectual Conscience Everlasting Sheep

Jordan Zimmerman – Caution Heart Options Individuals responsibility Control Reputation Soul

Ashlee Stoltzfus – Consider Having an Obese Ice cream Cone or Entirely Sharing

After four judges wrestled hard over their work, Justin Morrison was the winner with -

Choices
Have
Ongoing
Interrelational
Consequences
Es
Sffecting our
 Souls



**My prayer is that God
 the Holy Spirit –
 the Spirit of Truth,**

**will revisit the retreat
 spiritual input to these
 youth as they make
 CHOICES in life to the
 glory of God.**

**We are His chosen people
 and our CHOICES
 matter to Him.**

-Pastor Leon

Youth With A Mission in Coatesville

opened its doors as the Coatesville Neighborhood Center in October, 2003 after 16 months of preparation. Over that time, we hosted a Discipleship Training School outreach team from Tyler, TX. They were the first of many teams that have come to Coatesville to do street evangelism, kids clubs, prayer walks, mercy ministries, etc. As we look back on those humble beginnings, we are reminded of Zech 4:10 "Despise not the day of small beginnings." How we have clung to that word over these past 8-9 years as God has promised to bring the increase as we are faithful to do what He has called us to do.



The calling of YWAM Coatesville is to see communities transformed and nations disciplined by impacting what we call the "7 Mountains of Culture" (i.e. arts & entertainment, business, religion, news media, education, family, and government - 7 areas through which societies are influenced and cultures are shaped), using Coatesville as the model which can be implemented in other locations around the world. Training is a key in seeing this happen, so it is to this end that we are seeking to establish a YWAM University of the Nations (for more info, visit www.uofn.org) in the Northeast to serve as a resource center for missions and a bridge to the nations for the Body of Christ in this region. We seek to mobilize, train and equip this

generation of young people with new, innovative ideas and leadership development towards "reclaiming the seven mountains of culture" in transforming nations.

One of our prayers over the last 8 years has been for a property in the Coatesville area that would provide housing for staff and students as well as the many visiting teams that come to us for outreach.

As many of you know, we've recently been blessed with the purchase of a property (which we've called "Rehoboth" from Gen 26:22) that we are using for this purpose. YWAM's founder, Loren Cunningham, who also sits as the chancellor for the University of the Nations globally, came to do the property dedication last April.



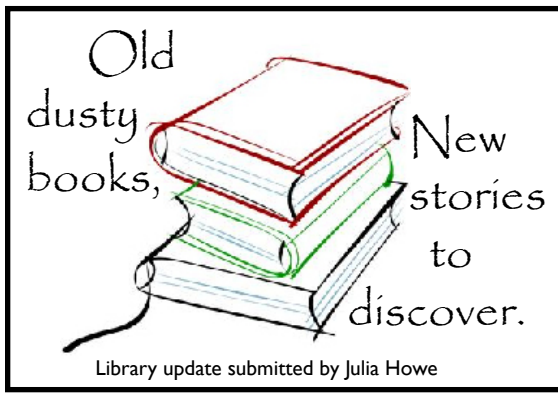
The training schools on our upcoming calendar include a DTS September, 2011. Our training schools for 2012 include Church Pioneering with a focus on India; Foundations in Counseling Ministry with a focus on Kurdistan and Iraq, School of Worship with a focus on Israel, and a Leadership Training Seminar with a focus on cities in the USA, a Discipleship Training School program with a focus on African American youth. (For more information about the DTS program, please visit YWAM's website at www.ywam.org). We need to do some remodeling work at the Rehoboth property to get it ready for these upcoming schools, so please do keep us in your prayers as we do the preparatory work.

We've been so excited to see how God has been using this new property! Since first coming to Rehoboth in October, 2009, we've had several hundred people (our best conservative guesstimate) come through our doors from every continent! Good thing hospitality is one of YWAM's foundational values!:-) The last team we hosted this month was a team of 12 high school students from Veritas Academy in Wells, Maine. They received training in the mornings in the areas of evangelism, sharing your faith, hearing the voice of God, etc. The afternoons were spent on the streets of Coatesville or in the kids club. Several evenings were spent in one on one evangelism at the Strawberry Festival.

June 30, we look forward to welcoming a team of 10 students from YWAM's University of the Nations in Kona, Hawaii. They are coming to us to do their 12 weeks of outreach with the Foundations of Counseling Ministry school and will be spending their days both here in Coatesville and in the City of Lancaster.

We ask for your prayers on several sides... first of all, that our community would continue to be impacted with the gospel; secondly, that the students that come through our doors would experience God in fresh, news ways and leave with a commitment to serve Him passionately around the world!





For One Moment
by Christmas Carol Kauffman

First checked out in August of '61, it was a regularly read book through the 60's and early 70's. If the book were sitting on the shelf it would not look like "the book" to pick up and read, it shows it's age. But I tell you, it's worth reading!

Herbe cried out in soul agony, 'My God, I ask not that you save my life – only to know the way, the truth, For One Moment'

Young Herbe is hurt and bewildered as his father divorces his mother and takes Herbe and his brother to live with himself and his new wife in a different city. The story of Herbe's search for love and security makes an enthralling tale that is difficult to put down! Read how a young man's bitterness and resentment is changed into forgiveness and love after experiencing God's Love. This true-to-life story is based on the true account of a boy growing up in Nazi Germany.

Thanks to all who
contributed
to Bible School.

May the treasures
that the children
discovered in
The Rock,

become the
firm foundation
they build on.

My Friendship Sister



I was blessed this year with the "excursions" that my friendship sister and I did together.

Whether is was visiting with each other while walking around the track field at Octorara High School, attending the Solanco County Fair Parade, or watching Joseph at Sight and Sound Theatre, I was richly blessed!

Thank you Rose, for your kind words of encouragement throughout this past year!

submitted by Julia Howe

The Fatherhood of God

adapted for print from Nate Lapp's part of 'The Elder's Speak on Fatherhood', Father's Day Sunday Service, June 17th

This topic is not just for fathers here but for everyone. I have some really good news for you today. You have a wonderful Father in Heaven who loves you and wants a personal relationship with you.

In the Greek language, father literally means *nourisher*, *protector*, or *upholder*. A father *feeds*, *protects*, and *maintains* his family.

All of us, including those who are older and earthly fathers ourselves, have a deep need and yearning for protection, help and unconditional love. Many people never realize this is a God void and is common to all people.

I was reminded of that this week when my boss sent a devotional email of a child pictured, resting contentedly in his father's arms, with the verse from Psalm 103:13. The verse and picture encouraged me and reminded me that we can rest in God's arms. I hope these few comments about our amazing heavenly Father are an encouragement to you as well today.



Throughout the Bible we find God portrayed as a Father. In the Old Testament the word Father appears only 15 times. It refers several times to God as a *father to Israel* and as *father of creation*. There are no personal references to 'Abba' father in the Old Testament.

In the New Testament when Jesus comes to earth, it *gets personal*. Jesus always referred to God as His Father. Jesus used Father 165 times in the gospels, Matthew - John. There are 22 recorded times in scripture that Jesus prayed in the gospels. 21 times were to 'My Father. What do you think might have been the exception? When Jesus prayed from the cross he called out, 'My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?'

Are you comfortable calling God your Father?

In Matthew 23:9 we see that Jesus has the only 'perfect dad.' God wants to be known as a Father. Unfortunately we tend to project onto God what we understand a human father to be. We tend to view God like our human fathers and this can lead to some erroneous ideas about God. It can confuse in our minds what God is really like. This is a big roadblock to faith and growth. God is *the* model father. God is not 'like' a father, *He is Father*. The Bible shows God to be the model of fatherhood upon which all other fathers are judged. If you want to know what a *true* father is, don't look at your earthly father, or my earthly father, or any earthly father, however great they may appear to be. Look to scripture and learn what God says about Himself as a Father.

We are not to judge God's character by judging Him according to the standard of our earthly fathers. Be careful not to bring God down to our level. He is the standard by which we judge fatherhood.

The most godly father on earth is but a shadow of God's perfection. In God's Word we see the heart of the Father revealed in the nature of God. He is the *model*. The one who is: faithful, true, just, merciful, compassionate, slow to anger, loving affectionate, providing, patient, kind and disciplines us for our good and His glory. How awesome to have a Father who know us intimately, speaks to us, and offers us unconditional love that will never end.

Who is *your Father*? Who are *you* listening to?

The enemy does not want us to know and understand God as Father. Jesus tells us in John 8:44, the devil is also a father when he refers to the Pharisees listening to the father of lies. It's your choice. Which father are you pleasing? Our heavenly Father or the devil. According to John 1:12,13 and Romans 8:14 not everyone can lay claim to the privilege of knowing God as Father. Only those who are born of God and receive Christ and who are led by the Spirit have the right to receive the inheritance of the children.

Let's take a brief look at adoption. J.I. Packer says in knowing God - 'If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child, and having God as his Father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls his worship and prayers and his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all. For everything that Christ taught is summed up in the knowledge of the Fatherhood of God. Father is the Christian name of God...our understanding of Christianity cannot be better than our grasp of adoption.'

If we are born of God, receive Christ, and are led by the Spirit we are *adopted children*. Ephesians 1:4,5 were written during Roman rule. In that time it was understood that a natural child could be disowned should a parent feel inclined to do so. However, an adopted child could never be disowned according to Roman law. Oddly enough, those who were adopted into the family were assured of remaining a member of it forever. According to my understanding of God's Word and Law when He adopts you into His family you are a member for all time and eternity. PRAISE GOD. God the Father does not cast out adopted children. He brings discipline to us children when we stray but He doesn't reject us. If you understand the very nature of God from scripture you will understand that once you are adopted as a child of the heavenly Father into His family you are *always His child*. What a privilege to be God's child and to know Him as your ABBA FATHER.

He knows your name. He hears your every call.

He sees each tear that falls.