



The Good News from "The John 3:16 Center"

A Note From the Director

WOW! What an amazing winter we have had at the center! God has allowed us to experience His bright sunshine through the faces of our families and children as well as members of the community. Our children have been working vigilantly on their studies and enjoying programs at the center. GED/ABE classes began in February and summer plans are well underway. Sometimes it is overwhelming to see firsthand the awesome work of God in the life of a community but we are truly blessed by His Grace. I encourage you to read about upcoming events, programs and maybe even an opportunity that you don't want to miss to see "The John 3:16 Center" choir perform. All of our programs wouldn't be possible without our many volunteers, contributors and the many prayers that are spoken on our behalf. Thank You.

In Him, Juli

WELCOME!

Hello, everyone! I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Shannon Smiley and I accepted the position of Assistant Director in mid-January. I graduated in December 2004 from Wingate University in Wingate, NC with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education.

I grew up in this area, living in Roanoke Rapids and Seaboard with my family and decided to return here when I graduated. I spent some time in prayer when I came back from college, asking what I should do, and was soon told by a friend about this position. Having known Juli for years, and having heard a little of what she was doing here interested me in the John 3:16 Center. When I learned more, I felt led to apply for and later accept the position. It has been an interesting experience to work at the John 3:16 Center as we serve the community in many ways. I have learned a lot in the short time I have been here. Our volunteers are wonderful and very important in the running of the Center; it has been a joy to get to know each of them. The children who attend the John 3:16 Center are of course very special and I enjoy working with and knowing each one. I look forward to continuing to serve here.

**April
2005**

Volume 1, Issue 2
Quarterly Newsletter

Since January at the Center

- ☺ 20+ children enrolled in after-school program ranging from 1st-10th grade
- ☺ "Our Children" have had clean-up/work days at the center teaching responsibility and pride in our center
- ☺ In 12 weeks 889 snacks were enjoyed by our children and families!

Inside this issue:

Summer Camp Registration	2
Music programs and other activities	3
GED Classes	3
Our Services and goals	4
Auction	4
Our needs	4

The John 3:16 Center

2005 Summer Day Camp

Camp Dates

Grade Level

June 6—June 10	Entering 5 th -6 th
June 13—June 17	Entering 7 th -8 th
June 20—June 24	Entering 7 th -8 th
June 27—July 1	Entering 3 rd -4 th
July 5—July 8	Entering 3 rd -4 th
July 11—July 15	Entering 5 th -6 th
July 18—July 22	Entering 5 th -6 th
July 25—July 29	Entering 9 th -12 th

25 students will be accepted for each week of camp on a first-come, first-served basis. Please note that all grade levels refer to the grade the child will enter in the fall. Application forms will be available beginning April 1st at The John 3:16 Center and require a copy of the child's birth certificate and medical insurance information.

Plans for our FREE Summer Day Camp are underway! Our goal is to provide a day camp for 25 children per week for 8 weeks allowing 200 children to share in this experience. Below you will find a sponsor sheet, which will enable you to respond to this opportunity. Each sponsor will receive an "after-camp" update from the child they sponsor so that you may see how God has worked in their life because of your generosity. A donation of \$75 will enable a child to go to camp for one week. <>

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ E mail _____

Number of children you wish to sponsor _____ Please mail Check to PO Box 1541 Littleton NC 27850

Music Notes

We are making music! Our music students have increased in leaps and bounds since our last newsletter. Miss Sallie, our favorite grandmother and volunteer, has joined our piano students, Natarshia (11 yrs.) and Joynika (7 yrs.) for weekly piano lessons. Franklin (10 yrs.) has been joined by Sha'meire (11 yrs.) for weekly guitar lessons. Miss Moira our music teacher has changed her hours so she can increase the number of music students. She now comes Tuesdays and Thursdays after school. "We have more students that want to learn piano and guitar, we could do with another music teacher," said Miss Moira.



The John 3:16 Center Choir has also been practicing hard, learning two songs to perform for the guests at the auction on April 23rd. Two students will be singing solo verses during one of the songs and all of the children are excited as they prepare for this event. Miss Sallie has been directing them in singing, as well as teaching them gestures that add to the meaning of the songs. A special instrumental performance of a much-loved hymn will also be given at the auction by two of Miss Moira's students. Those who attend the auction are in for a treat.

GED classes at "The John 3:16 Center"

Hello. Let me introduce myself and give you a brief report on a new area of service going on at The John 3:16 Center. My name is Martha Nida and I am a GED instructor out of Halifax Community College. On February 2, we opened an on-site GED class at the Center. We meet for 3 hours, from 10 AM to 1 PM on Mondays and Wednesdays.

When we opened our class we had 3 students. After 11 classes our enrollment has grown to 10 students. Since February, one of our students has passed a portion of the GED, and a second student will be taking several portions in April. Most of our other students are very enthusiastic about what they are learning, and most are making very good progress.

We still have room for more students! So if you know of anyone 18 years of age or older who could benefit from our classes, please send them our way.

[Volunteers are Still Needed](#)

We still have many opportunities for everyone to feel a part of the community and the lives of our children.

Spring is here !!

We need individuals and groups to help with more landscaping and planting. We have considered a community garden that the children will help with; this will teach them valuable skills they will use in their lives. We are also beginning the construction of our outdoor basketball court and softball field and can use as many volunteers to help with this. Please call the center at 252-586-1800 to find out the work schedules for these as we are unable to plan in advance due to Spring

**April
2005**

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care2001@earthlink.net
www.john316center.org

" 'For God so loved the WORLD, that HE gave His only
begotten SON, that whosoever believeth in HIM should
not perish, but have everlasting LIFE.' " -JOHN 3:16



The center will provide opportunities for parental and community involvement in the lives of their children. We look forward to realizing this vision by providing the following services through the center:

- After-school check-in
- Programs and structured activities for children
- Free summer day camps
- Weekend and holiday enrichment programs
- Outdoor recreation including a walking trail, soft-ball field, basketball court, and playground
- Counseling services provided by local agencies
- Parenting classes and workshops
- Conflict Resolution workshops (adult and youth)
- GED and Literacy classes
- 12 Step support meetings (AA, NA)
- Family outreach (free clothing, home furnishings, hygienic items)
- Food pantry

The John 3:16 Center

First Annual Fundraising Auction

Saturday, April 23, 2005

Silent Auction and Viewing begin at 7 PM

Auction begins at 7:30 PM

The auction will be held at the Littleton United

Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, Mosby Ave next to the Post Office.

Proceeds from this auction will be used to fund
programs for our area's children.

Donations are needed. Please contact the John 3:16 Center
at (252) 586-1800 if you wish to donate new or gently used items,
tools, antiques, furniture or other miscellaneous items.

The John 3:16 Center has been open since September and
provides a safe and structured environment for youth and their
families to learn, grow, and flourish as a family unit.

