



# The Good News from The John 3:16 Center

## A Note From the Director

Autumn  
2008

Volume 4, Issue 4

Quarterly Newsletter

Hi, Everyone!

As many of you already know, we have had a wonderful summer filled with godly blessings and the ability to touch many children's lives for Christ. Our after school program is in full swing with 15 children and a long list of children anxiously waiting to be part of our program.

We now are also offering 6 GED classes a week, including 2 evening classes, which enable working individuals an opportunity to earn their GED while they are employed.

It's hard to believe that it is almost November and our board is preparing for our third annual fundraising banquet which will be held on Friday, December 5th at Mystique in Roanoke Rapids. Other information about the banquet is included in the newsletter and we look forward to seeing you there. The Board will meet on November 6 to approve our budget of \$146k for 2009; with your help and support, I feel confident that God will once again allow us to continue to offer our many and much-needed services to the community and share His love with them.

We are also approaching Christmas! Our applications for assistance will soon be going out; we are anticipating a rise in requests due to the economic strains many of our families are facing. This is based on our increased requests for clothing and food. The center will need help with toys and monetary donations so that we can meet the needs of these children and once again be able to share the love of God with our community through this special program during the Christmas season. Individuals, churches, and businesses can be involved in this process by collecting items for us, helping wrap presents, and assisting on the day of the Christmas party. Please feel free to contact us to see how you can help.

We realize that everyone is feeling the impacts of the economic situation in our nation, but we are asking that you prayerfully consider how you can assist us in any way that you are able. We are assured that God will provide a way for us to continue to touch lives and change our community by serving Him.

Because of Him,

*Juli*

### Since July at the Center

- ☺ We have distributed school supplies to 50+ students and have the ability to keep them supplied throughout the school year.
- ☺ 100+ children attended our Free Summer Day Camp this year.
- ☺ CBFNC again hosted a Kid's Carnival at our site, and had many volunteers performing valuable community service work throughout the area on October 25th!

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## GED Class Update

### We have a new instructor!

The semester started August 18th with five enrollees, all returning students, except for one new student. By the end of August we had enrolled several more, both returnees and new enrollees. As of October 20th, we have twenty-two students with two more potential students having expressed interest but not shown up for class yet! (One is a young man under the age of 18, who must first go to Halifax Community College with a parent or guardian, for an interview with the program director before attending class here at the Center.) The main problem for many of our enrollees is transportation. There is not an easy solution for this problem.

The instructor is excited for three students who will take one or more parts of the GED test before the end of the semester. There are several other students who have made a sufficient amount of progress to look towards testing next semester. Thanks for allowing us the space for the program to continue. It is a vital part of the community. We need to be able to reach more adults in this area.

## SAT Prep Classes

*We have offered SAT Prep classes twice in the last year, serving nine high school students, from five different high schools. Books and scientific calculators have been made available to them, and registration fees were paid for six students. All students have demonstrated increased proficiency by the end of the classes—one student who had taken the test previously scored more than 300 points higher after the class. While our students from the second session are anxiously awaiting the arrival of their scores, we are preparing for our third session of 2008. It will begin Monday, November 3rd, and will meet Mondays and Fridays from 4:00-5:00 pm. Though the class is in preparation for the December 6th test date, students are not required to take the test at that time. Participants must register by October 30th.*

## Greater Works



The John 3:16 Center is excited to begin coordinating efforts with Marvette Vaughan and a program for teens that she has begun in Northampton County, titled Greater Works. She describes the program as follows:

“This program is designed to provide a safe environment in which (teens) can develop a career focus, explore various types of art, enjoy the company of other young people, and participate in community service. It is our hope that (the teens) will gain valuable knowledge and experience to go on and become a well-rounded individual who will have a positive impact on our society. As you know, there are not many free programs available for youth these days which leaves a lot of our children with several hours and days with nothing to do. This scenario has proven to be a breeding ground for the negative, life-changing decisions that our youth are making every day. There is an alarming increase in teen pregnancy, HIV-AIDS, suicide and violent deaths across our entire country. Needless to say, something has to be done on local, state and federal levels to bring about an improvement with these statistics. This program has been formed due to this ‘fierce urgency of now.’

The program founder/director, Marvette Vaughan, is a Christian, a wife, mother of seven, a jewelry artist, CPR instructor and a 9-1-1 operator, but most importantly a person who is concerned about the lives of young people.

Greater Works desires to help young people realize that there is life after the teen years that that the decisions they make now will determine the quality of their lives many years into the future. We want them to realize that they are capable of accomplishing great things now and in the future no matter what obstacles they may be facing. “

*“That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments.” Psalm 78:7*

*You Are Invited to  
The John 3:16 Center's Board of Directors  
Third Annual Fundraising Banquet*

We will be hosting our  
Third Annual Fundraising Banquet on  
Friday, December 5th  
at Mystique in Roanoke Rapids,  
catered by Cynsational.

Hor d'oeuvres will be served from 6:30—7:30 PM  
and dinner will be served at 7:30 PM.

Information about The John 3:16 Center  
(now entering its 5th year of serving this community)  
will be provided. Dress for this  
event is business casual.

Table sponsors are needed for this event. The cost  
of sponsoring a table is \$200. Table sponsors will  
have their names listed in the evening's program and  
on the table they sponsor. They may also invite people  
to join them at their table for the event.

For more information, to sponsor a table, or to RSVP,  
call The John 3:16 Center to speak to Juli Jenkins or  
Shannon Smiley at 252-586-1800 by November 9th.

**If you are unable to attend the banquet, but would still like to  
Contribute during the 2008 tax year, please use the form below.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  MasterCard Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

This is to be a (check one):  monthly donation  
 quarterly donation  
 one time gift

If paying by check, please make payable to The John 3:16 Center and mail to:  
Post Office Box 1541 Littleton, NC 27850.

My contribution is made \_\_In honor of \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

On the occasion of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send acknowledgement of my gift to:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*We also have the ability to accept donations of stock through our brokerage account. If you would like to  
donate in this way, please contact Juli or Shannon at 252-586-1800.\*\*

**We would like to say "Thank you!" to all who have  
supported us this year.**

You have enabled us to serve God by serving the community through:

Praying for us  
Financial Support  
Donations of clothing, household items, food  
Collecting school supplies, uniforms, toys  
Volunteering your time  
Speaking of our programs to others  
And in many other ways

Thank you for allowing God to use you to meet needs of  
children and families in Halifax, Warren, and Northampton Counties.

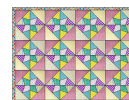
## Volunteers Needed To Assist With:



Keeping our clothes closet in order  
Our afterschool program  
Nearing Christmas—wrapping gifts (December 15-19)  
Christmas Party (December 20)

**If you are interested in helping in any of these areas, or have a special skill you would like to share with our children, please contact us.**

### Quilt Raffle



The quilting class taught by The Piecemakers made a beautiful quilt to be raffled off, benefiting The John 3:16 Center. The quilt is currently on display and tickets are available at The John 3:16 Center for prices of \$1 each or \$5 for 6. The drawing will be held at the Fundraising Banquet December 5th (see page 3). You do not need to be present to win.



## Christmas Preparations



### Christmas Toy Drive

We will need toys to distribute at Christmas to families who would otherwise not have gifts for their children. We are asking that churches or businesses begin accepting toys November 9th and drop them off or arrange to have them picked up before December 10th. Gifts are given to ages infant and up. Examples of gifts that would be appropriate are: board games, baby toys, dolls and Barbies (ethnically diverse), toy cars and trucks, stuffed animals, balls, books, etc. Please send no toy guns, other toy weapons, or used items. Please do not wrap gifts; we need to see them in order to give each to the child for which the gift is most appropriate.

Donations of wrapping paper are also welcomed.

### Santa's Stop

Santa will be visiting The John 3:16 Center again on December 20th. Registration for this event will be held November 10th—December 5th. A gift will be given to each registered child who attends. All are welcome to register and attend.



### Live Nativity



Drive by The John 3:16 Center between 5:00 and 7:00 on the evening of Wednesday, December 10th to see our afterschool children participating in a Live Nativity. Please support these children through your encouragement as they brave the cold to remind the community of the true reason we celebrate Christmas. If you are interested in participating along with our children, or would like to help us prepare hot chocolate and cookies for them, please call us at 586-1800 to let us know.

**Autumn  
2008**

407 EAST END AVE.  
P.O. BOX 1541  
LITTLETON, NC 27850

252-586-1800/1-877-240-care  
Fax: 252-586-1801  
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
- and holiday enrichment programs
- Outdoor recreation including a walking trail, softball 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  
Post Office Box 1541  
Littleton, NC 27850

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Littleton, NC 27850  
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