



## Amity United Methodist Church

**Believe . . . Belong . . . Become . . .**  
We **believe** all people matter to God,  
All **belong** in community, And, by grace,  
**Become** like Christ to serve the world.



Summer 2008

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

August 11-14, 2008

*A Glorious Community Coming-Together*



What a glorious week it was at Amity as the halls of our church and education building filled with children of all ages, genders and races! Blessing us with their presence were Chinese, Vietnamese, Puerto Rican, black and white children. It certainly was a glimpse of what the Kingdom of God must look like! And feeding (physically and spiritually) these children of God were our very own adults who came out in amazing force. From working the registration table and preparing meals to hosting dinner tables and telling personal stories of faith, the children at VBS experienced the love of God from these faithful adults. Thank you to all of you who so generously gave of your time and energy.

And a special thanks to: Eileen Hogan and her two gifted daughters Hillary and Caroline; Margaret Moore; Susan Shumate; and Kim Batson. I stood back in awe as I watched Eileen gather all these children from very different places and bring them together in one spirit. The patience and love that poured from her and her girls onto these children was an image to behold. They made sure that every activity, even the food we ate, expressed God's love and blessings. Margaret Moore did more behind the scenes than anyone can imagine, including spending her weekend touching base with volunteers and potential volunteers to ensure that every spot was filled and every child would be cared for. If you look closely you may see the faint image of a halo encircling her head. Susan Shumate stepped right in with the music to once again express the love of God to the gathered children. Songs of God's love floated down the hallways of Amity: "and I just thank you Father for making me, me!" If you have never had the experience of teaching children Bible School songs it is a blessing and a challenge! Thank you Susan for meeting the challenge and sharing the blessing. And finally, I thank our outstanding church secretary, Kim Batson! Over half of the participants for our VBS came from a local community center with which Kim has connected and embraced. Because of her dogged determination to fling open wide the doors of Amity to all people, we were able to share in fellowship with those who we may not normally encounter in our daily lives. God's love was shared with those who may have never heard that message before, and we were all enriched by their presence.

**Thanks to all who cooked, contributed financially, visited, prayed, worked, drove the van, and cheered us on. Indeed the Body of Christ came together this week and I, for one, was blessed.**

*Tuck Taylor Bounds, Pastor*

## Amity United Methodist Church

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*Mindful of our vows to support this church by our prayers, presence, gifts and service,  
we understand our mission as the church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ.*