

forefront

FEBRUARY
EDITION



The 30 Hour Famine. Your way of handing someone their life by your own hands.

30 Hour Famine. Children are dying because of hunger. Take a stand.

It's nearly March, the Famine is almost upon us. What will you do this year to fight hunger?



Last years 30 Hour Famine was a success. With the matching program, we raised over \$3,700. That's a lot of money that you guys were responsible for bringing in. That's a lot of children who would be given hope, life's necessities that they just didn't have access to before. This year, let's work to make that even better.

Each year, 6 million children die due to hunger and malnutrition, yet in many places it costs just 19 cents a day to feed someone. The problem is it's worse in Sub-Saharan Africa, where our monies this year will be focused. Children there at 26 times more likely to die before their 5th birthday than children here in the US.

It sounds rather depressing, and it is. However, all hope is not lost. We can do something about it. We can make a difference. We can change lives.

The task lies in your hands. It's easy to look at things like this and think it's just about raising money and listening to videos. However, it's about educating people, letting them know what is happening in the world and how they can make a difference with something as small as five or ten dollars.

If you decide to do the famine this year, expect to come and have fun. Expect to hang out with your friends, play goofy games and run around all crazy. But also come expecting to be changed. -Mr. Mike

the happenings:

30 Hour Famine	3/16-17
Valentine's Day Carding	2/11
Movie Night	2/25
Spring Retreat	TBA

Origins of the month name



FEB.

February was named after the latin word *februum*, which means purification. Interestingly enough, February didn't exist when the firsts calendars were coming out because the Romans considered the winter season to be monthless. When I think about purification, I often think about Baptism, a time when forgiveness of sins, deliverance from death and the devil and eternal salvation are worked in our life. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, we are made pure. Romans needed to do a purification ritual each year, we need only to look to Jesus and ask for forgiveness, and by remembering our baptism we can be assured of this. Have you not been baptized and are interested? Talk to Mr. Mike or Pastor Jim to learn more.



YouthQuake 2007

Youth Quake. One of the best words in my vocabulary. When I heard that Bethlehem was going to Youth Quake again I was like "Sweet!" This year when I went to Youth Quake it changed my connection with God from good to even better. If you haven't gone to Youth Quake, please go next year, because it will change your life.



The speaker of this Youth Quake was also awesome. Her name was Danielle Teijan, and she had some of the best stories I have ever heard in my life. She was not the perfect little Christian girl when she was younger, she cheated and stole, but she let God into her life, and I just look at her now and say, Wow. Youth Quake was some of the best days of my life, e an if Bethlehem goes next year, I will be the first one to hand in my permission slip.
-Savannah Yost

So you might be thinking - Okay, so what do you actually dooooo at this thing? Well, Allison Chlada answers: We went to things called *Treks*, which were just little workshops. we could meet the bands, do crafts and interact with others. they taught us to let out our feelings, not keep them cooped up inside of us, because one day we're going to blow. We laughed, we cried, and we realized that we can't take on life by ourselves, we need

God. we understood that there were some issues that we had to work out, and that we have family and friends there to help us with those issues. All I'm trying to say is that Youth Quake isn't just a fun event, it's a spiritual awakening as well.

Well, there ya have it.

A Reminder

Don't forget to come to Youth Group on Sundays at 6:00, here at Bethlehem. We aren't meeting on Sunday, February 18th. Also, remember when I asked if anyone was interested in leading a devotional or giving a talk - I wasn't joking! I know many of you have awesome gifts and I want to see you using them.

-Mr. Mike

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.
-Matthew 10:29-31

the happenings:

upuPUP Coming events!

1. 30 Hour Famine!

Every 6 seconds, a child dies because of hunger. If it's taken you 5 minutes to read this newsletter, that's 50 kids whose lives were lost by the most preventable of reasons. What are you doing to help? Do the famine. Change a life.

2. Valentine's Day Carding

It's almost Valentine's Day! Sure most people think of this day as a time to tell that "special someone" how much you care - but also a time to spread Jesus' love with people who might NOT have someone - particularly the elderly. Come make cards.

3. Movie Night

Popcorn, the big screen, a good movie - it promises to be a good time. Come check it out! February 25th, at the church. 6:00 pm.

4. "Spring/Summer Retreat"

Dates are being worked out. This will be an awesome time to focus our lives and relax a bit as well.

5. Youth Group Meetings

Now I know it sounds real exciting but we do meet weekly on Sunday Nights and talk about all sorts of things, play games, just BE with each other. We've made movies, played Werewolf...

Like Camping? Music?

Look forward to this summer. We're going to be taking some High School youth to a music festival called Cornerstone. It's an AMAZING time. Watch for it. Dates! June 25-30.

