

Missions Update

2005 has been an incredible year for Berkmar's missions program. We are going into 2006 with more organization, better communication and more involvement. I just can't wait to see what God is going to do with all of it! So far the calendar for the new year is a bit light. If you would like to help fill it in, there are a number of projects looking for leaders, many of which require very little effort on the part of the leader. Some ideas include:

- Trinity Community Ministries – in addition to our annual tradition of providing a meal for their homeless ministry they are in need of groups to give the kitchen a major cleaning and bring meals to break bread with residents of their substance abuse recovery program.
- Foster Children's Foundation – help is needed sorting and displaying clothing and helping foster parents find the clothing they need.
- Action Ministries – they serve in so many ways, there is a lot to do.
- Habitat For Humanity – work a day or offer to serve lunch to volunteers.
- Projects Around Berkmar – ask your favorite trustee where help is needed most. Lots of little projects are needed around the church building.
- Parsonage – Help is still needed to get it in sale condition. Once major repairs and painting are complete, ongoing yard work and dusting will still be needed. Check with the church office for specific needs right now.

There is no shortage of ways to get involved in Berkmar's mission program, and the blessings abound. If you have a talent and aren't sure how God can make use of it, give me a call, I'll see if I can help you out. Meanwhile, I continue to be blessed by Berkmar's many faithful missionaries. Whether you work locally or abroad, on small projects or large, your energy and enthusiasm are a blessing to me and this church.

Have you told anyone today about Jesus?

Mexico Mission Summer Trip

Plans are in the works for another Berkmar Mexico mission. This year we are starting plans earlier than ever. Last year we began the building of a Methodist church in central Mexico. As of right now we will either return to the same church as last year or consider projects in northern Mexico. If you are interested in going this summer please contact me (Jon Gustavson) at 678-376-5420 or at topspin9@bellsouth.net.

Square Those Prayers!

Our quilting ministry (Prayers and Squares) is going full steam ahead with a second quilt ready to be presented to a member of our congregation. The first quilt was a total success. When she got it, the recipient spent the whole afternoon snuggled under it feeling loved. What a wonderful beginning!

If you would like to be part of this ministry, there are no special skills required. Come join us and we will put you to work. You have three opportunities this month. Monday, January 2nd from 9am – 5 pm (come for any or all of that time), and two Fridays, January 13 and 27 starting at 6:30 pm.

If you don't want to get your hands in on the stitching phase, please support this ministry with your prayers. Keep an eye out for beautiful new quilts in the narthex or sanctuary. Take a moment to tie a knot and say a prayer. Also be praying for anyone you know who is experiencing physical struggles. Ask God if they might benefit from a prayer quilt. Anyone can sponsor someone to receive a quilt, all you need is permission from the person and a specific prayer request from them.

If you have questions or would like to participate, contact Barb Samuels (bjam1@bellsouth.net) or call the church office.

Laugh Lines



The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: Jesus Walks on the Water. The sermon tonight: Searching for Jesus

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Don't forget your husbands.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.