

CONGREGATIONS IN ACTION

July and August, 2011

New Bethel Baptist Church of Pontiac and Kirk in the Hills hosted a spectacular three week Vacation Bible School program called Camp Hosanna from July 11-29. Enrichment activities included a study on fruits of the Spirit, study skills, ways to get along with others, field trips, great food and a circus event. Anticipate enrolling your foster/adoptive child in this day-time program for next year by contacting Barbara Littleton, mom@lonesomegeorge.com.

A nine year old boy from **Grosse Pointe Memorial Church** asked his friends to bring items for foster kids instead of birthday presents to his recent birthday party.

Brightmoor Christian Church and Northridge Church provided staff for the life changing Royal Families Kids Camp—a week long camping away experience geared solely for foster kids. Contact Director Dan and Amy Robinson for ways people can help throughout the year: robinson64@sbcglobal.net They sponsor a highly successful, follow-up mentoring program for the foster children throughout the year. See the web site : rfkc.org and a video on the impact of camping experiences for foster kids: <http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/jacobroebuck/camp-inspired-by-true-stores-from-camp-for-foster>

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church of Livonia sponsored a Vacation Bible School in which the kids donated camp items for foster kids. They are hosting an evening on August 17 in which Rev. Kate Thoresen will make a presentation on the current foster care crisis and opportunities for people to help. St. Paul's has also given a check to support the work of the Faith Communities Coalition on Foster Care.

First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham hosted a Vacation Bible School in which the participants brought items for foster kids going to camp. The youth counselors visited Oakland Family Services and made birthday cards for foster kids. The church also provided gifts for foster parents at the Oakland Family Services' foster families picnic. The church also provided bus cards for aging out youth through Park West Foundation, covered the utilities expenses for A Place of Refuge (transitional housing for aging out young men); and provided 100 backpacks with school supplies for Orchards Family Services. Camperships were provided for foster kids to attend the life-changing week-long programs at Skyline Camp and Retreat Center in Almont, Mi.

Bethel Lutheran Church maintains a "Foster Care Donation box" in which items for aging out youth are brought each week.

Grosse Pointe Woods Presbyterian Church recently gave a generous donation to SOCC's Faith Communities Coalition on Foster Care.

The Church of the Holy Spirit in Hartland is providing 20 cakes and volunteer help for the Orchards Family Services Foster Families picnic.

Faith Community Church of Novi held a donation drive this summer for babies in foster care. Items included diaper bags and needed essentials. Donations were also taken for school supplies as well as clothing for aging out youth.

Northminster Church of Troy recently allocated its funds from their Peacemaking offering to provide camperships for foster kids going to Skyline Camp this summer.