

## ENLIGHTENING WORDS

SEPTEMBER, 2009

SPECIAL  
POINTS OF IN-  
TEREST:

- We've found THE land!
- Lots of changes at Shady Creek Academy
- Thoughts on life's waiting room

Tax-deductible donations  
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New Heights Church  
P.O. Box 8668  
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AMAZING, INSPIRING, EX-  
CITING, FUN!!!

...are just a few of the words  
used to describe VBF 2009.  
After prayerful consideration  
we decided to concentrate  
on having a quality-packed,  
spirit-filled single week of  
Bible Farm this year. The  
results were more than we  
expected!

We opened each morning  
with praise and worship in  
the barn. The musicians  
this year were an answer to  
prayer with Daniel, Sony,  
Jordan and Josiah leading  
us in foot-stomping, hand-  
raising, joy-giving worship  
music. I will ever cherish the  
memory of all ages, races  
and abilities mingling on the  
hay bales while singing from  
the depths of their hearts to  
our Lord. I just know that  
God saw, and smiled.

Whetstone Ministries, New  
Heights Church, Ecclesia  
College, Praise on the River  
from Little Rock and volun-  
teers representing many  
other ministries presented a

lesson each morning as well  
as staffed different learning  
stations over the farm  
throughout the day.

Ms. Donna gave her time,  
used her talents and en-  
couraged creativity for the  
3<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year in  
crafts each day.

Ms. Lisa contributed greatly  
with her special mentoring  
and encouraging enthusi-  
asm.

Picnic lunches on the  
grounds are always a high-  
light of the day and this year  
was no exception. Quilts  
spread under the shade  
offered a welcome reprieve  
from sack races, tug of war  
and a multitude of other  
invigorating activities.

On Friday, we loaded kids,  
volunteers, parents and  
staff into vans, cars, trucks  
and a hay wagon and cara-  
vanned down the road to  
Spring Creek which borders  
the farm on the north side.  
There, on the most perfect  
day I can remember, seven

children were baptized in  
the rippling, cold, creek wa-  
ter in an outward show of  
their inward acceptance of  
Jesus as their personal Sav-  
ior. Standing knee deep in  
the crisp water, Daniel E.  
played his banjo and Josiah  
K. the harmonica. Young  
and old joined in chorus to  
sing "Our God is an Awe-  
some God". Indeed! That  
day will be a sweet memory  
etched forever in our hearts,  
a true confirmation of the  
presence, interest and pro-  
vision of our God. The warm  
sunshine, blue skies, and  
angelic expressions created  
a memory as perpetual as  
the water flowing over the  
Ozark stones which offered  
a natural back drop for the  
incredible closing of VBF  
2009.



## THE LAND

For longer than we care to recall we have waited for God to reveal His plan for our family regarding permanent housing and useable land. We have maintained it is not just *any* land or just a *large* home we want, but THE land God desires for us to live upon and develop as a ministry to families and children in the community. While this vision has special emphasis on those touched by foster care and adoption it will also be a 'safe haven' for many others.

Unexpectedly, a few weeks ago such a property was presented to us. Several 'God revelations' have given us spiritual reasons to believe the 30 acres with many small buildings and cabins is Gods' suggested home base.

When a couple seeded cash and farm animals it nudged us onto our next faith step—placing a contract on the land.

The balance remaining for the land is \$143,000, pennies for God. Once the land is paid for we can move toward building a home that would be low maintenance, handicap accessible and large enough to accommodate our ever-growing family. Presently there is not a house we can live in—the lack of which creates a huge obstacle to the permanency and security our family so desires.

Architects are donating their skills to design a unique home for us and have even offered to address the remodel and redesign needs of the 'campus' as we have

dubbed the many buildings and gardens.

We KNOW God has a plan and uses people to be His hands and feet, energy and muscle when it comes to the practical aspects of spiritual growth and outreach.

Saturate us, the land, and the lady (recently widowed) who carries the deed to the future home of Shady Creek Farm with your prayers. Join with us as we storm the gates of Heaven for release of blessings, financial provision, workers to build the house and directions and light for the next right steps regarding this exciting venture.



Stepping out in faith on our new land.

“...I have come down to deliver them...and to bring them...to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey.”  
Exodus 3:7,8

## JOHN'S HEALTH

On any given day you will see John working away, in the garden, mowing the lawn or taking children to and fro. At first glance he seems to have recovered completely—frustratingly that is not so. He is such a strong, tenacious person by nature that it is much harder for him to give into the pain than to work hard to forget it. He rarely has a day without a headache. A steady diet of blood pres-

sure medicine and prescription pain meds get him through the days. The glaucoma in his right eye is progressing, diminishing his vision at a rapid pace. We assume the glaucoma is from radiation, there is no other logical explanation. The noise in his right ear is probably the single most aggravating symptom he has to live with. It is never-ceasing and some days actually sharp and

painful. Still, he is thankful to have time to be with our family, to enjoy gardening and to physically be able to work, even if it is only on the days his body allows, not when he chooses. As with all of life, many are much worse off, many are much better. Life goes on...and God is good, all the time!



John & SuDawn with grandkids Angelica, Sydnie, and Caden

## SHADY CREEK ACADEMY

As a family we are thankful for the freedom to choose the academic approach that best meets the needs of our individual children.

Having always schooled with us, Angelica is now attending a local public school for the first time, is doing well and enjoying many new experiences. As one grand child moves on, two different "grands," Sydnie and Caden Peters (along with their teacher & mom, Amber), are sharing

our school this fall.

McKenzie continues with her studies at Shady Creek Academy (SCA), enjoys an art class two times weekly and is praying about what God would have her do after she completes her high school studies.

Tori, Gabe, Aaron, Abigail, and Daniel are in Ecclesia Prep's choir along with their regular classes at SCA.

Austin recently began his 7<sup>th</sup> year at Conductive Education of NW AR. We are most thankful for all who aide him and make his participation possible.

We are praying that this year will bring a newness of integrity and increased desire for the children to learn the academics that will enable them to be great men and women for God.



Nick and Nate have started their second year of public high school after finishing their first year on the honor roll—wow! Way to go men!!

## BEYOND SHADY CREEK ACADEMY

Jordan completed two years at Ecclesia College and decided to take a year off to reduce his debt. He intends to resume his studies at International

House of Prayer in Kansas City, MO in 2010.

Meanwhile, he works as an aide to a 16 year-old severely handicapped young man. He also works

at New Heights Church leading worship and teaching a middle school Bible study.



Jordan during VBF

## THEY THAT WAIT UPON THE LORD

Those of you who have read "Hidden for Glory...Destined for Adoption" know well how God gave SuDawn and others visions and dreams often long before the arrival of their children. The book shares the struggles they have experienced while in God's waiting room and trying to understand the Lord's plan.

There have been many prophecies, promises and conversations of hopes and dreams with regard to yet another purpose and plan for our family. Not

just in adoption, but also in organized ministry.

Illness and financial setbacks have brought restlessness to our souls at times. Sometimes it is hard to hold on to that which we believe God has for us. Like Sarah in the Old Testament, we laugh a sad and unbelievable laugh at the impossibility of the miracle we so long for. Humanness is a frustrating frailty.

A handicap accessible house has become a necessity as Austin's needs

are rapidly increasing.

Please lift us in prayer as we hold onto the vision of an expanded version of VBF where children of all abilities can come to a safe haven and learn of God's love, experience physical therapy or spiritual healing as their needs may be.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY...GREAT things HE HATH DONE!!!!



Child like faith in the eyes of Daniel, Gabe, Aaron and Caden enjoying a romp on "the promised land."

Learn about upcoming Preparedness Classes at:

[www.destinedforadoption.com](http://www.destinedforadoption.com)

OR

Join our new Yahoo! Group, **Fullcupboard**, for tips on storage and the latest workshop information.

We are on the web!

[www.destinedforadoption.com](http://www.destinedforadoption.com)

**MARVELOUS LIGHT  
MINISTRIES**

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**A SAFE HAVEN FOR ALL GOD'S  
CHILDREN**

## Enlightening Words

**Enlighten:** To provide with spiritual or intellectual understanding. To inform.

A publication of the

Peters Family

John and SuDawn

Jordan, McKenzie, Nick,  
Nate, Tori, Gabe, Austin,

Aaron, Abbi and Daniel

As well as our adult children  
and their children

Leah, Todd, Angelica, and  
Taylor

Jared, Amber, Caden and  
Sydney

Trista and John

Andrea and Tim