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August 2022

Dear Praying Friends,

The busiest season of the year has come to a close around here. Summer was full of Vacation Bible School (VBS) preparations, junior camp, VBS week, teen ladies' meetings, and a double baby shower!

Several church members helped with the VBS decorations starting the month before. We met at the church once or twice a week most weeks. Our underwater décor looked amazing and perfectly fit the "Ocean Commotion" theme. I went to camp every day during junior camp week to check on our campers. They played team games, swam, and enjoyed cold treats during their free time. This year, they heard some excellent preaching about making wrong and right choices with Bible examples.

When VBS week rolled around, we had the great pleasure of having a group from Worth Baptist Church helping us this year! I had the extra pleasure of having my mom join that group! She came a couple of days early and helped with the final decorating. The Worth team arrived very late Sunday night but were ready Monday morning to pass out a few hundred more invitations in the neighborhood near the church. I'm happy to announce that we had record numbers in attendance this year! Our highest night was just over 130. We also had ten children put their faith in Jesus! We are rejoicing for each soul won! We usually have 1 or 2 souls saved, but we changed the format a bit this year.

Instead of giving an invitation to ask questions about Jesus and heaven after the individual class lessons, we had a gospel presentation during the closing ceremony and then the invitation to speak to teachers about the gospel. No one was afraid of missing out on snacks, crafts, or games that way, so several people had the opportunity to speak with the teachers about Jesus. We will definitely be continuing with the new format in the coming years!

The teen girls had a bowling activity at the end of July. It was the first time bowling for many of them. We then returned to the church to begin a series on dating. It is highly based on a sermon I heard in Bible college by Dr. Jim Schettler. Please continue to pray for our teen girls. They face so many challenges and temptations in this world. Please also pray God would send a family to work with our teens and help in the ministry here.

Thank you all for your faithful prayers for me and the ministry here. May God richly bless you all!

Please enjoy the pictures of our decorating and Vacation Bible School.

In Christ,

*Melissa Houston*



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