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What to do with a Summer...

Summer is quite often a busy time with outdoor activities and vacations. Sometimes it seems like keeping up with the schedule of ballgames, yard work, summer school, and vacations is almost too much to manage.

Well, in the midst of your near overload, let me offer a couple of suggestions.

USE THE SUMMER AS A TIME TO GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS. In the cold weather months a lot of us use the opener to open the garage door and then we close it behind us and go into the house. We don't interact with anyone next door or across the street.

In the summer there is an opportunity to actually talk to those people who live nearby. It is probably true that most of us have someone in our neighbor-



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hood who we don't really know. As you get acquainted, I hope you will ask them, "Do you have a church home?" It is still true that the vast majority of people who go to church do so because they were initially invited by a neighbor, friend, or relative. So, get acquainted with your neighbor and if they don't have a church home, invite them to Refuge.

If your neighbors have kids, don't forget VBS or the other activities that Nathan has outlined in his article on page two for kids. Plus, we have an all church picnic scheduled for August 5th at Forest Park.

FINALLY, TAKE SOME TIME TO RELAX, READ A BOOK, OR ENJOY GOD'S CREATION. Have a Great Summer! -Stan

From the Treasurer —by Pam Sweitzer

Well, it is the middle of summer and everyone is taking vacations. Many of you are enjoying long weekends spent with friends and barbecuing, but I am still here at church paying bills. With the second quarter of the year just past I sent out checks to the numerous Missionaries and Missions that Refuge sponsors.

Combined with the large gas bill that I paid last month, the church's checkbook balance does not look very healthy. It also needs a vacation! Everyone (me included) needs to take a good look at their giving and tithes to Refuge and hopefully increase it a little.

If we hope to pay our staff and keep current with our

bills and mission contributions, we all need to pitch in! Not just in the winter months, but also for the long hot summer. Don't forget your church when you go on vacation!

Before last weeks deposit and after the missions checks went out, the check book balance is just over \$3000.00. Ouch!!

Youth News...

For all those who were in 6th grade last year, you are now welcome to come to Youth Group! I know there's a number of young men and women who now qualify and we want you to feel welcome attending our events. Your first visit garners you a CD and some other fun stuff. So if you will be in 7th grade next year you are encouraged to attend youth events now. Our weekly services are at 7pm on Sunday evenings.

See next announcement for more exciting information...

THIS SUNDAY! July 8 will be the Youth Swim Party at 4pm. There will be food and swimming as well as some games and prizes! We'll meet at the Vaught's at 4pm Sunday afternoon. They will be provide meat and drinks, they do ask that teens brings sides and/or desserts. This is a great chance for the incoming Jr. High students to have a good time with their peers.

The Mission Trip is over. We want to send a big thank you to all those who participated in raising money for the trip. We would also extend a hearty thanks to those who sacrificed time and money to help the teens get out and back. It was an amazing experience and a first for most of the students. Thank you for planting some seeds.

JULY ACTIVITIES: VBS July 16-20, 6:30 p.m.

Youth Bible Studies at RCC on Sunday Nights 7:00 pm

O.F.F. at Forest Park (6-9 pm) for whole family.

Small Group Bible Studies on Wednesdays.

Men's Bible Study Sat. mornings at Riverview Hosp. Cafeteria. 7am

VBS: MARKETPLACE GALILLEE

VBS is fast approaching, this year we are creating a marketplace in our fellowship hall. Our goal is to give kids an idea of what it was like to live during the time of Jesus ministry. We are still looking for volunteers to partner with us to make this a reality. If you can only help one night we will be needing extra help on Thursday July 19th. Invite kids to participate, we are looking forward to a good turnout and a moving spiritual experience. Contact Nathan Wainwright at:

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Heather Sutton at: hnsutton@sbcglobal.net

