



FAITH NETWORK NEWSLETTER

Our mission is to give hope to disadvantaged children by showing them God's unconditional love and by guiding them into becoming whole persons - socially, intellectually and spiritually.

December 2005

Faith Network of the East Bay, Inc. Monthly Newsletter

THANKS FROM

- *I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped put together the delicious luncheon today. Many employees mentioned how Faith Network not only helps our students, but appreciates our staff and makes everyone feel special. We could tell that a lot of work went into making this luncheon a delicious one. You have a group of great chefs.*
- Wendi Caporicci, Principal of Emerson Elementary



THANKS TO

- Jessica Garaway for the donation of iMAC computer & color printer that went to the School Street after school program.
- Bentley School PE coaches for 8 donated footballs that went to MLK Jr. Elementary.

CONTACT

Interested in volunteering?
Contact us :

email: info@faith-network.com
phone 510.836.5100
fax 510.836.5105

Joys of a Lunch Buddy

by Rob Jacobus

Thanks for letting me be a part of your Faith Network program by serving as a "lunch buddy" for Webster Academy in Oakland. The job entails hanging out with students on the playground during the lunch recess. My time is usually spent helping someone tie their shoe, finding a Kleenex for someone who needs to blow their nose or sitting with someone who is alone with a sad face.

I do feel that my presence and interaction with these children does have an impact and is personally very fulfilling! It takes no special skill or ability on my part to be an occasional "buddy" for some of these kids during their playground time...I just wanted to say thanks again!



Rob Jacobus with Webster students

Over 20 Attend November Tutor Training Workshops!

Dynamic literacy training specialist Zaretta Hammond gave our volunteers a better understanding of tutoring in general and literacy tutoring in particular, including how to select the correct materials and activities to support a student's weak areas of reading development. She also demonstrated how to structure a strategic tutoring session to make the best use of the limited time most

volunteers have with their students. The children of Oakland are the ones being blessed by volunteer tutors who help them learn to read and to know what it feels like to have someone show up and care. Thank you to all our volunteers who attended!



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



Randy Roth

Dear Friends,

Kudos to our performers, sponsors, event coordinators, and everyone who worked behind the scenes to make our 3rd annual Bear Fruit Benefit Concert a resounding success. The predominate feedback we are getting is, "Best ever!" Funds were raised to support our schools, plus a significant number of concert attendees expressed interest in volunteering. Our talented and gifted Oakland Stars really did shine and won everyone's hearts. And Jesus who said, "Let the children come to me," was lifted up and honored.

On a personal note, our youngest son, David, who is finishing his ER residency in New York this summer has just been offered a position at the Walnut Creek Kaiser Hospital, starting in July. After 8 long years of medical training in New York, Dave and Jen will be returning home to the Bay Area with our two precious grandsons, Samuel and Eli. So if you catch Diane and me beaming, you'll know why!

Thank you for your partnership. Truly this urban ministry is a team effort, as together we seek to be bearers of the Good News of Christmas. May this be a season of joy for you and your loved ones.

Blessings,



P.S. Your year-end and ongoing financial gifts are needed to provide tangible expressions of love to children from low-income families, including their teachers, parents and care-givers.

CHRISTMAS GIVING

Are you interested in purchasing gifts for families or a child in need this Christmas? Please contact our office by phone or email and we will provide you with more information.

Teacher/Staff Appreciation

Thanks to Piedmont Community Church volunteers, the Nov. 16 appreciation luncheon at Webster Academy was a spectacular success. The colorful fall decorations were perfect, the pumpkin soup, salad, rolls and condiments were delectable, and the decorated cake was enjoyed by all.



Webster teachers and staff enjoying the luncheon

Individual gifts were the icing on the cake. Teachers and staff were smiling, including Principal Willie Santamaria.