

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, physically and spiritually



October 2009

TUTOR TRAINING

Help a Child Learn to Read!

What:

Literacy Specialist Carolyn Piraino will introduce the building blocks of reading and how to guide a child into becoming a successful reader.

When:

Saturday, October 3rd
9am to 11:30am

Where:

Faith Network office,
2633 Telegraph Ave. #409,
Oakland.

To sign up for this workshop,
call or email Natasha Hicks at
(510) 836-5100 or
natasha@faith-network.com.

TECH SUPPORT NEEDED!

- A volunteer webmaster is needed who can help renovate Oakland High's website.
- Do you have experience with Salesforce? Faith Network needs help setting up and implementing the software.

If you can help, please contact our office!

CONTACT

Interested in volunteering?
Contact us:

Email: info@faith-network.com
Phone 510/836.5100
Fax 510/836.5105

Serendipity by Jan Lewis, Volunteer Coordinator at Horace Mann

Sometimes things that serendipitously happen turn out to be wonderful and unexpected blessings. The St. John Episcopal tutors volunteering at Horace Mann Elementary experienced this last year when the college-age sister of one of the students began helping in the program. We were impressed with Blanca Ruiz-Pelayo's dedication helping her brother read, her desire to find a job and to pursue higher education.

Through the efforts of the **Rev. Frank Sterling**, funds were raised to purchase a computer for Blanca to assist her in achieving her goals. Volunteer **Laurie Bennett** took the intention from idea to reality, selecting and setting up the computer. She made sure it was fully functional before driving Blanca home with her new Dell laptop, following the presentation party at Faith Network on September 8. We are looking forward to working with Blanca and learning more about her plans as the new school year progresses.



L to R: Randy, Laurie, Blanca, Jan, and Frank

Dewey Student Excels in Bay Bridge Outreach

by Andrew Gordon, CalTrans Senior Project Associate



Margena and Marquis under the Bay Bridge construction.

Marquis Woolfolk, 17, witnessed the amazing work on the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. Under the supervision of **Margena Wade**, Caltrans Public Information Officer, he assisted with the public outreach efforts during Labor Day Weekend this year.

Marquis, a Dewey High School Leadership Student, not only earned a stipend for his work and elective credits in workplace learning; he also earned a new appreciation for the host of construction trades he was exposed to that weekend, which have sparked a new interest in Marquis.

"I want to be up there," said Marquis, pointing to the top of the bridge, adding that he wants to become a civil engineer.



RANDY ROTH

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

My dear colleague and mentor, **Pastor Frank Jackson**, went to be with his Lord on Friday, September 11th. Our friendship goes back to 1988 when I arrived in Oakland to serve First Covenant Church. Frank was one of the first pastors to welcome me and my family to "Hopeland". At that time he was serving on the Board of Harbor House, an outreach to San Antonio, a diverse neighborhood of immigrant families. Over the past 21 years Frank gained the reputation of consummate bridgebuilder and peacemaker. There wasn't a barrier he was afraid to overcome with love and grace.

His many other leadership roles included: Secretary of Pastors of Oakland, Co Chair of the East Bay Ministers Prayer Network, Co-Founder of the Korean-African American Fellowship, and esteemed Pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church. He will be dearly missed, especially by his wife Jimmye, his children and grand children, and the entire Faith family and friends.

The Bay Area Body of Christ, and beyond, has lost an esteemed servant leader who put shoeleather on his sermons. In the words of St. Francis, "Preach the Gospel at all times; when necessary use words." Frank was committed to see more sermons walking in the community...loving mercy and doing justice.

May God bless the memory and legacy of Frank Jackson.

Randy



THANKS TO

- **Craig & Pat Pratt** for the donation of office furniture that was gladly received by Burckhalter Elem, to **Paul & Natalie Figueroa** for lending us their truck to do the delivery, and to **Dave Hendsch** for helping with the heavy lifting.
- **National Charity League** and **First Covenant Church, Oakland** for donations of reading clinic materials, backpacks and school supplies.

STAFF

- Randy Roth, *President*
- Jocelyne Birren, *Grant Writing*
- Chelsea Boniak, *Executive Administrator*
- Norman Brooks, *Director Science Horizons*
- Rebecca Buckley, *Associate Director*
- Natasha Hicks, *Volunteer Director*
- Charlotte Martinez, *Director Health4Kids*
- Carolyn Piraino, *Director Excel Reading Clinics*

Help Feed Hungry Kids



The new school year is upon us, autumn is around the corner, and it's time to bag food for our wonderful kids. We've received great news from the Food Bank...they've been able to add schools, so we'll be able to serve more families. Last year, we were up to 800 bags each session; this year we'll be up to 1,370 each session! We'll need as many volunteer baggers as possible, so please recruit friends, family, neighbors, etc.

Bagging begins **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7th**, then continues every other Wednesday at the Alameda County Community Food Bank, 7900 Edgewater Dr., off Hegenberger, below 880, 9:30-noon. This is an amazing program...feeding hungry kids! What a great opportunity we have to partner with the Food Bank in this endeavor.

If you'd like to join us, please contact **Charlotte Martinez**, charlottemz@gmail.com, or 510-579-0521.