



SPRING 2010

DAYBREAK NEWS

LADIES NIGHT

*By Ladies Night Ministry Leaders
Laurie Wiesner and Ariel Pierson*

Every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m., a group of middle & high school girls from Lincoln Heights enter the doors of DayBreak for Ladies Night, a Bible study that had its beginnings last fall. The study started out with two girls but God has increased our membership to 10-15 girls. In addition to our weekly Bible study times, we have taken trips to the National Mall and an ice skating rink. We have also had the opportunity to visit and support members of our group at school events such as concerts. The Lord is really blessing us in allowing us to build relationships with the girls. God is leading them to ask wonderful questions every week, and they have done a great job at learning scripture this past year. One of our favorite parts of Wednesday nights is watching the girls as they develop relationships with one another and learn to encourage and compliment one another.

Please PRAY for us and the girls as we continue to meet. Please also pray that God would provide some women to volunteer with us since we are growing quickly. If this is something you might be interested in, please contact Becky at rebecca.weeks@mcleanbible.org.



Parents Plug In

By Andrea Coleman

Over the last few months, we have seen an increase in parent involvement from those parents with children enrolled in our after school program. As we became more intentional about building relationships and creating opportunities for parents to volunteer, parents have responded in such an overwhelmingly, positive way! Some have acted as chaperones on our "Fun Friday" field trips, enabling them to see firsthand part of the way in which DayBreak is investing in the lives of their children.

Another unique opportunity in which the parents have taken ownership is the family dinners held every Thursday. Family dinner is when the staff, children and volunteers gather together to

sit down, eat and talk about each other's day. All have enjoyed this new tradition. Each week a parent comes and makes a delicious meal for us to enjoy. The children take pride in seeing their parents come and make one of their favorite dishes. Many times, this dinner experience is fondly remembered and is the topic of conversation for weeks!

One of the biggest ways in which we have seen God answer prayer related to our parents' involvement is through the Prayer Breakfasts held every other week. Prayer breakfast was created to provide a chance for DayBreak staff to serve the parents. Every other Wednesday, parents arrive on our doorstep at 9:30am to the aroma of coffee and hot breakfast. The morning is full of laughter, good food, and a Bible study time. Our family breakfast times have created



a unique way for us to continue to get to know our parents and for them to get to know us. A few have even expressed interest in learning more about Jesus, which we are excited about!

Please continue to PRAY for the DayBreak parents as they continue to stay involved and as we as staff continue to share the love of Jesus with them. Our prayer is that Christ's love would permeate through the house and that, through their involvement, those who do not know Jesus will soon come to know Him as their Lord and Savior.

After School Program Update *By Jeremy McClain*

The Lord has been abundantly gracious with the after school program for the 2009 – 2010 school year. This ministry has experienced growth in the areas of child retention, parent involvement, and volunteer sustainability. Another notable area of growth in the After School Program has been found in the children's character. The term character is used purposefully in this evaluation because it is the ministry's belief that good behavior is not a primary goal but rather godly character. This increase in godly character has become very noticeable in the way that many of the children react to academic hardships.



At the beginning of the school year many of the children would completely shut down when they encountered tough problems in homework. They would not ask for help and would get mad if offered

help; they would not even attempt to try and find the solution. This attitude of defeat began to change, however, towards the end of the year. Now, when a child becomes frustrated, other classmates toss words of encouragement across the room such as "You never gonna get it if you don't try!" or "Don't give up!" One quote in particular was very special and it came from a third grade student named Bernard: "Son, just do it, God gonna reward you!"

God deserves much praise for showing the staff and kids how to overcome difficult circumstances with the hope that comes from faith in Him and His compassionate character.

Keep PRAYING for us and for the volunteers as we seek God on how to teach godly character qualities to the children.

Meet the New Director: Lauren Allgood

Where did you grow up?
Dublin, Georgia.

When were you first introduced to DayBreak and how did you get involved? I was first introduced to DayBreak through McLean Bible Church. In 2006, I began volunteering with the after school program a couple days a week. That led to tutoring two of the children then mentoring one of the young girls. I still mentor Anna and we will celebrate 3 years of mentoring in August! While my motivation for serving with



DayBreak was to pour into the children of Lincoln Heights, I have found that God has profoundly

changed my life through my experience with DayBreak. God has used my service to grow me closer to Himself and learn how to love others better and more deeply.

How have you seen God work at DayBreak since you have been director? Parent involvement.

From the first day I started in my position at DayBreak, I noticed a tangible difference in how the staff was interacting with the parents

and how the parents were becoming more involved in our programming. That is a work of God. DayBreak has been in existence for 9 years and has struggled with connecting with parents. But, this shows us God's hand in the ministry. As we have prayed that the Lord continue building our relationships with parents, we have seen not only involvement from them in our ministry, but also true friendships built between staff and parents. We love our parents!

Favorites: Show and/or Movie, Food or Snack? Dancing with the Stars. Don't judge me.

When you have free time, what do you prefer to be doing? I prefer

to be outside and with people I love. I am close to my family, but they all live in Georgia, so I have some really great girl friends in DC that make up for the distance from my family when I can't get down for a visit to Georgia. I also love to read, spend time with the Lord, and practice my new hobby since finishing graduate school, photography.

What is an interesting or unique fact about you? I have flown on Air Force One (more than once).

How can we PRAY for you? Wisdom, leadership, and that God would be glorified by our work at DayBreak and in my life.

Looking Ahead

Summer Program. The school year is almost over and our After School Program will be ending but the doors of DayBreak will still remain open throughout the summer! We are bringing on six summer interns to help us run a five-week summer camp from June 28-July 30. We will be offering academic enrichment opportunities, field trips, Bible lessons and more! Please PRAY that God would bring the children He wants to be in the program and that He would be glorified this summer!

Back to School Carnival. Our annual Back to School Carnival will be held on August 21. We are starting preparations and are excited to see what God does! Please PRAY that God's name would be lifted high on that day and that people would come to know His love and forgiveness.

Saturday Outreach. The Gathering, the college ministry of McLean Bible Church, has taken the lead on our Saturday Outreach program. This past year, students from University of Maryland, American University, Georgetown, and George Mason University have come out to Lincoln Heights every other Saturday and led an evangelistic outreach for any child in the community ages 5-12. It has been a great partnership. We will be taking the summer off for planning but look forward to starting back the outreach in the fall. Please PRAY for our leader, Candace, and the students as they plan for the fall.

PRAY WITH US

- *Pray for the salvation of the kids in the after school program and their parents.*
- *Pray that God would continue to use the Wednesday prayer breakfasts to encourage parents, build community and allow a safe environment for spiritual questions to be answered.*
- *Pray for the staff as we prepare for the summer program. Pray also for the kids who will be attending.*
- *Pray that God provides more mentors for our kids who are getting too old for our programming.*

PRAISE WITH US!

- *Increased parent involvement!*
- *An amazing year in the after school program!*
- *Provision of tutors for every child in the after school program this year!*
- *Three more mentors have joined the team in the last few months!*
- *Praise God for providing Lauren Allgood as the new director of DayBreak!*



DONATIONS

By Lauren Allgood

As many of you know, we entered 2010 in very good financial standing which has carried us through the first half of the year. I want to extend a big thank you to all our donors! But, as the year rolls on and we begin planning and dreaming about how to impact the entire community of Lincoln Heights, we need people like you to come alongside of us and support the ministry. Our desire is to preach the gospel in word and deed to every person in Lincoln Heights.

First, we covet your prayers. It is God's work in Lincoln Heights, and we need prayer warriors on their knees asking Him to move in the community and in the hearts of individuals. Please go on our website and sign up to be a prayer warrior to get our weekly prayer requests.

Secondly, we need financial partners. We are an independent 501c3 fully dependent on God's provision through individual donors. Would you considering being a DayBreak donor? Go online to give a one-time gift or set up a recurring monthly donation.

Thank you for your consideration. As you can see from the above stories, God is doing amazing work in Lincoln Heights and I challenge you to be a part of it!