



The Patrick Press

Personal Comings & Goings

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

We are changing gears at the Patrick home. Our school year is winding down (in most subjects), school-related activities are finished, and we're excited about the change of pace over the next few months.

To begin our update, Daniel, now 15 and eligible to get his learner's permit, has almost completed his first year of high school. Like his brothers, he's not altogether eager to assume the responsibilities of driving or paying for it, and that's OK with us for now. He has also completed his first year with Montgomery Youth Orchestra finishing the year with a Mothers' Day concert at the Davis Theatre. What a treat! The Speech and Debate tournament year ended with

a trip to Regionals in Monroe, Louisiana (for which he had previously qualified), where Daniel competed in Apologetics and Team Policy Debate. He had a blast! He is now eager to participate in the Leader-In-Training program at Camp Chandler (a division of YMCA), a program designed to train young people for leadership and service and prepare them for future opportunities among the Camp staff. We are praying that God will direct Daniel's paths through the three-week period that he will be at camp and use these experiences and relationships to prepare Daniel for the mission God has for him.

Next, we have Katie! Summer means swimming, lots and lots of swimming...the more, the better as far as Katie is concerned. She will be participating on the Wetumpka Y swim team over the summer months, and we're praying that she'll continue to develop a teachable spirit and a healthy competitive attitude. Summer is also quite popular in the Patrick home for finishing

(Continued on page 2 - See Personal)

Ministry Headlines

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ:
Ephesians 1:3

It has been easy to tell that another club year drawing to a close because the activity has been picking up for us; club visits, church presentations, awards ceremonies and leader appreciation dinners. We already have seen sixteen new clubs registered to start next year and summer hasn't even started. I have been able to sneak in a few other activities over the past couple of weeks as well.

During April we began doing some work outside the house in our "free time." Along with the regular activities such as cutting grass, the boys and I finally finished putting on the siding and roof on my office. This project was completed in record time, about 5 years, but it is complete now except for the paint. I hope that doesn't take as long.

In May it was off to Streamwood, home of Awana Headquarters for the semi-annual missionary meeting and my first

opportunity to meet with my new regional director and team. It was great to meet the new missionaries with whom I am now working, and get together with some of the old faces. During the time there, we were brought up to date on what's new at Awana, and I must say that I'm excited about the good things that are coming.

A couple of things that I thought were especially exceptional were *Leader Based*, the new *Sparks* program, and *HomeBase*. *Leader Based* is a new approach to International support focusing on leader training. Although this may never completely replace *Adopt-a-Club*, it has already proved to be more successful. The *Leader Based* concept is to go to a country and conduct a "*Seed Planters Conference*" for leaders, a week-long intensive training in the Awana ministry. When leaders graduate from the training, they go home with their "box" which contains the materials to get them started in their own Awana ministry. This was done recently in Zambia, a country whose club growth had remained flat at about twenty clubs. Now there are

(Continued on page 2 - See Ministry)

(Continued from page 1 - Personal)

school subjects and projects, and this summer is no exception. Katie has been remarkably eager to learn in her first few years of school, so why take a break, right? One of the highlights of Katie's year was attending her first church wedding where her friend (and Bill and Sandy Myers' daughter), Katy, married John Kirkwood. Our Katie was mesmerized, but I'm sure her emotions and excitement didn't compare to Katy's or John's. It was a grand event!

Both of our older sons, Andrew and Michael, are attending college. Andrew has finished his second year at Southeastern Bible College, and is planning to stay in Birmingham for the summer as he continues working at a local restaurant. Michael will begin classes in a few days at Central Alabama Community College, the first in several stages of his educational career. Please pray for both of them as Andrew is away from home for the summer, and as Michael travels to school and back while he continues to work two jobs. They'll both be pretty busy, and we'll be praying.

We certainly cannot end our letter without letting you know of our newest family additions—two more CATS! Lily and Max are holding their own against Claire, the feline matriarch and self-appointed queen, while enticing her to join in their antics. Katie is our animal lover, and she had begun to feed and care for an old sickly beagle that had been dropped off near our house. We decided we couldn't keep the beagle, took him to the animal shelter, saw the kittens, and...well...the rest is history! The kittens are both very playful, and most importantly, they don't object (too much, anyway) when Katie wants to hold them. If we've visited your home, and you have cats, you'll either groan (for the kittens) or chuckle! KATIE LOVES CATS!!!

(Continued from page 1 - Ministry)

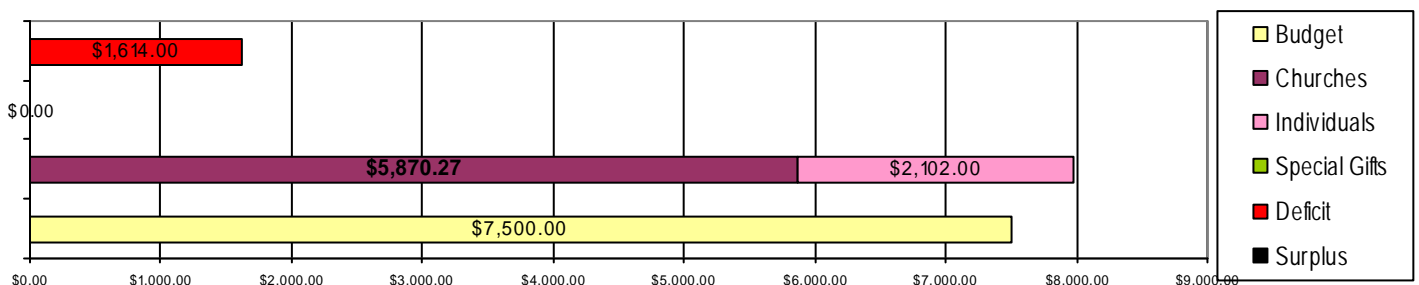
nearly fifty clubs thriving in Zambia, and they are self-supporting. Through the *Leader Based* plan, an individual may sponsor two leaders from a church to attend the Seed Planters Conference and provide them with their box. Then they will be able to return to their church and start an Awana program using the materials and training they have received. The cost to sponsor two individuals is \$360 or \$30 per month for one year.

The new Sparks program looks like another winner as well. Although not quite the rewrite overhaul as T&T was, there are some significant and exciting changes. This coming year, we will be replacing "Skippers" with "Hang Gliders". Flight or flying is the new motif, and yes, we still have Sparky and the Sparks song. I am sure that the clubbers will all enjoy the new program once the leaders all figure it out. The overall transition to the new Sparks program will be ushered in over a three-year period, one book per year.

What is *HomeBase*? It is a ministry of the Rorheim Institute to assist parents in their role as the primary spiritual trainers in their children's lives. It is designed to work in conjunction with Awana, training parents while their children are attending Awana Clubs. This fall Awana will be working with several churches piloting the new *HomeBase* ministry.

As I mentioned earlier, we already have sixteen new churches starting Awana this fall. That brings the total number of churches in the DixieShores Territory to 280. If each church could reach ten kids with the gospel (that's the national average) it would mean that 2800 more boys and girls would come to know Jesus as their Savior—what a blessing. But how many more would still be lost and headed for an eternity in hell? Please pray with me that we all would get the vision and a passion for reaching boys and girls with the gospel to ensure **that all children and youth would come to know, love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ.**

Our Financial Picture



Projected Monthly Budget Amount	\$ 7500.00		
April Giving (Churches)	\$ 5870.27	# Churches	47
(Individuals)	\$ 2102.00	# Individuals	28
Special Gifts/Projects	\$ 0		
April Surplus	\$ 472.27		
Balance in Ministry Account	\$ -1614.00		



Patrick Prayer Page



Our Monthly Praise and Prayer

Blessings

- ⇒ For the safety and health of our four children and the blessing they are to us
- ⇒ For leaders who are burdened to train warriors for Christ in today's society.
- ⇒ For the new ministry team members that God has supplied to work with us, and for those that have been serving with us as we minister in the DixieShores Territory.
- ⇒ For the opportunities that God provides us to minister to His people. May we always be faithful in doing our very best for Him.
- ⇒ For the blessing of homeschooling our children. We thank God for providing that opportunity to our family through the past several years.
- ⇒ For Melanie's and Bruce's dads continued recovery and good health
- ⇒ For God's provision and blessing in our lives.
- ⇒ For Andrew's recovery and good health and completion of another successful year in Bible college.
- ⇒ For safety through our travels this summer

Prayers

- ⇒ For a fruitful planning sessions as we plan for fall leadership conferences.
- ⇒ For the many leaders who will attend training sessions this summer in preparation for the Awana club year in the fall. Pray that the training would be timely and relevant and used of God to bear fruit for His kingdom.
- ⇒ For Michael as he begins college this summer. Pray that he will follow God's leading in his life through these years of study, and that he will look to God to provide the resources he will need.
- ⇒ That Daniel's visit to his orthopedic doctor would yield a good report of continued healing of his leg.
- ⇒ That God would be glorified through our lives, and that we would rest in Him for every provision in our lives
- ⇒ For even more ministry team members to help us in ministering to the over 270 churches in the DixieShores Territory. We especially need additional help in the Central and Northern areas.
- ⇒ That regular monthly giving would increase to bring us back into the black.
- ⇒ For God's provision of reliable vehicles for the family and for Michael as he begins college this summer who will be traveling 70 miles round trip per school day.



Bruce & Melanie Patrick
 Awana® Missionaries—DixieShores Territory
 1614 Owens Road
 Wetumpka, Alabama 36093
 334-514-6279—Office
 334-322-6118—Mobile
 brucep@awana.org or missionary@dsawana.com
 www.dsawana.com

But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

I Corinthians 15:57-58



DixieShores Awana Missionary Calendar

May 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- May 5-10 Missionary Conference, Streamwood IL
- May 11 Mothers Day
- May 12 Church Presentation, Bessemer, AL
- May 13 Speak to Leaders at Banquet , Montgomery, AL
- May 14 Awards Ceremony, Prattville, AL
- May 18 Awards Ceremony, Wetumpka, AL
- May 21 Church Presentation, Jay, FL
- May 22 Staff Presentation, Albertville, AL
- May 24-26 Memorial Day Weekend w/family
- Jun 1 Church Presentation, DeFuniak Springs, FL
- Jun 5-7 Support Raising Trip, Columbus, GA
- Jun 6 Daniel to Orthopedic Doctor, Atlanta, GA
- Jun 14 Planning Meeting w/Ministry Team
- Jun 21 BT Orientation, Oxford, AL
- Jun 22 BT Orientation, Pinson, AL (Bill Myers)
- Jun 28 BT Orientation, Lynn Haven, FL
- Jun 29 Church Presentation, Phil Campbell, AL
- Jul 4-5 Independence Day w/family
- Jul 12 BT Orientation, TBD
- Jul 19 BT Orientation, Tuscaloosa
- Jul 26 BT Orientation, TBD

