Dear Lexie,

"Stand Strong"

This past week was our annual Vacation Bible School (VBS), where the theme was, Kingdom Rock, and kids were invited to stand strong for God! Over 300 children registered for the event, with in excess of 140 volunteers helping. Here at Sligo VBS has become THE EVENT of the summer for children and, for many, the event of the year.
This Sabbath:
July 27, 2013

Speaker:
Pr. Charles Tapp, "Stand Your Ground!"

Special Musical Guests:
April Henline, Soloist
Charlene Milam, Chorister

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Homecoming 2013
We've only just begun

Homecoming is next week! Bring new and old friends for a weekend filled with fellowship, reconnection, and worship. You won’t want to miss a single event. Learn more>>

Hope For Today
Get involved

We have 20+ groups in the Washington Metropolitan area that are ready to move forward! However, we still need a lot of help, especially with discussion leaders and assistant leaders. The areas that have most need include Columbia, Laurel, Adelphi/Hyattsville, DC, and Virginia. Sign up>>

Hope Amidst Chaos
Q&A Part 3

In the past three weeks, we have had some amazing young people walk through our doors and deeply study Biblical topics with us, including salvation, the sanctuary, the Commandments, and eternity. Read more>>
Missed Last Week's Sermon?

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Sermon Audio Archive: Audio Archive>>

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Stand Strong! VBS Week

This past week was our annual Vacation Bible School (VBS), where the theme was, Kingdom Rock, and kids were invited to stand strong for God! Over 300 children registered for the event, with in excess of 140 volunteers helping. Here at Sligo VBS has become THE EVENT of the summer for children and, for many, the event of the year. From the start one could feel the energy, the buzz and the joy all around the church - staff getting all the rooms ready, volunteers running to their posts and stations, parents and children waiting to register and anticipating the start of the program.

VBS is an opportunity to show children who Jesus can be in their lives! It’s an opportunity to present Jesus in a very practical way, so that children know that they have a friend in Jesus. This year VBS focused on how children can stand strong as citizens of God’s Kingdom. The five lessons for the week were God’s love, family and friends, prayer, trusting God, and the Bible helps us stand strong. Each one of these lessons had Biblical backing, from David trusting God, Esther and Mordecai responding to God’s leading, Nehemiah’s dependence on prayer, God sending Jesus to save us, and King Josiah following God’s word. Kids were able not only to learn these wonderful Bible stories but also see God in action in each one of them.

There were also many community children participating, which provided the opportunity to speak with several of their parents. The most common theme for parents in general was that they felt Sligo really cared for children because they saw the time and effort put into this event. There were even a couple of families who decided to join Sligo Church because of what they saw.

VBS is not just a huge summer event for kids, which allows parents to go out and do some shopping, have some alone time, or take a break from the day to day hustle and bustle. No! This year two seminars were offered to parents as they waited for their children. The first one, which was on good dietary practices and facilitated by Sharon Ford, featured the movie “Forks Over Knives” and a condensed version of the “Full Plate Living” seminar. The second was a parenting seminar called, “How to Make Children Mind Without Losing Yours” by Dr. Kevin Leman. A video was presented each night followed by a time for discussion and questions.

There is no doubt that children are important here at Sligo Church and there is no doubt that family is important as well. One can see this in all the support that is given by the church family, leadership and pastoral staff. All of this falls right in place, where Growing Great Kids means exactly that! This was most obvious during VBS Sabbath when children participated and the programming was not the usual format. Kids were leading out in songs of gathering, hymn of praise and hymn of reflection. Two talented children sang for the Anthem and Offertory, and the church family embraced the experience and participated happily. Thanks to everyone who provided leadership or supported the program in any way during the week.

Children of this church are important! Children in this church are favored! Children in this church are accepted! Children of this church are growing to be great kids!

Gerry Lopez
August 2 & 3, 2013
join us ...

Friday, August 2
7:30 pm  Sligo Family Worship

Saturday, August 3
8:45 am  The Church at Worship
11:15 am  with Special Guest Hyveth M. Williams
           Former Sligo Associate Pastor
           Musical Artist Wintley Phipps
           and combined Sligo Choirs
10:00 am  The Church at Study
           Sabbath School
           with Dr. Gaspar Colon
1:30 pm  International Luncheon
           Sligo School
7:00 pm  Evening Concert
           with Wintley Phipps

www.sligochurch.org
I want to be a part of the Hope for Today project!
Please feel out this form so we can better organize the groups and provide you with FREE RESOURCES.

Name *
First
Last

Email *

Phone Number
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How would you like to be involved? *
- Discussion Leader
- Assistant Leader
- Home coordinator
- Supporter

Which training date will you attend? *
June 15th, 2013 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM EST
Hope Amidst Chaos Q&A, Part 3

Melinda
Stand Strong VBS Week DAT Feature: We Have This Hope!

In the past three weeks, we have had some amazing young people walk through our doors and deeply study Biblical topics with us, including salvation, the sanctuary, the Commandments, and eternity. The energy and response was incredible, and it has been encouraging to see the Holy Spirit work on the hearts of our attendees. This weekend will be the conclusion of our series. This Sabbath, we are joyfully baptizing three young people, and after the series, we will be starting Bible studies with 20+ people and incorporating others into our ministries. We ask our church to welcome these new members with open hearts, and to walk with all of us as we continue our spiritual journey.

Last week we discussed many heavy topics, and there were many questions! Here are a few, answered by Young Adult Leader Marcus Robinson and Pastor Pranitha Fielder.

Does time exist for those who are dead?
The dead don’t know anything (Ecclesiastes 9:5.) The Bible describes death as sleep where no time passes.

Did God create Jesus too, or was He just there like God?
No, Jesus was alive and always there. He was the one who created the Earth — John 1 “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.”

So if hell is only a temporary/one time event, where do Satan and his angels go? They have existed from the moment God made them ‘til now, they don’t die like humans?
Hell is temporary because evil people and things will burn until they are consumed and no longer exist. That means that the devil and his angels will no longer exist. That is what it means by eternal fire— the destruction caused by the fire is final, and there will be no resurrection of the evil things. 2 Peter 3:10 says, “But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.”

Jesus came to show us how to live and that through him we can overcome temptation. So at what point must we become sinless?
We do not become sinless on our own. We all are sinful creatures. Even the “right” things we do don’t make us righteous. We become sinless when we accept God’s gift of grace. Romans 3:23 says, “For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God.”
Romans 6:23 says, “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

With God’s help through the Holy Spirit, we will live lives that are pleasing to God. There are sins we will overcome through the Holy Spirit and there are other things we may continue to struggle with for some time. This is a lifelong process which we call the work of sanctification. In this process there are ups and downs, but God is with us each step, helping us and guiding us.