

**Bennett & Idong Ekandem**  
MSC Missionaries in Georgia, USA

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July 30, 2008

Before we tell you about our July activities, we would like to invite you to a gospel music concert to benefit our missions work in Clarkston and Marietta. Performers for this concert will be Ms. Beverly Minor and Mr.



Gary Menzies, internationally known singer and pianist respectively, both of First Baptist Church of Atlanta. We will also present our own FHF children's musical ensemble. The concert will be held on October 19, 2008, 6:00 p.m., at Peachtree Christian Church and will be followed by a silent auction. The admission cost is \$25 per person.

We will have more information on our website ([www.fhfi.org/concert](http://www.fhfi.org/concert)) after August 15. You may order tickets online (starting Aug 15) or by calling us at 404-299-7766 or emailing your request to [donation@fhfi.org](mailto:donation@fhfi.org). We hope that you will support our ministry in this way, and we promise you a wonderful evening of Spirit-inspired music in return.

Last month I went to camp; this month, camp came to Willow Branch. We have had three weeks of camp, all different, all fun- and learning-filled.

The first week of Academic Camp was put on by Birchwood Baptist Church from Tennessee, using the math, language arts, and science curricula prepared for them by our regular volunteers. We started off each morning at 9:00am with breakfast, supplied by Jeri Austin, and then at 10:00 a.m., we began our learning sessions. Delicious, wholesome lunches were prepared by New Morning Light Baptist Church, followed by free play, and then back to work.

The teachers for second week of Academic Camp were our own year-round volunteers, assisted by many teen and preteen helpers from Atlanta's Church of the Apostles (COTA). Our volunteers told me that they really enjoyed being with our children in a different setting than the oftentimes rushed after-school homework sessions that they experience during the school year. This was a time of relaxed learning, games, and lots of bonding with the children. The COTA group also provided T-shirts for tie-dyeing, a messy but fun activity that the kids loved!



The highlight of this week was a field trip to our friend Judge Barbara Mobley's courtroom in the DeKalb



County Courthouse. The children had an opportunity that most will never have - seeing a courtroom in action. During their visit, Judge Mobley and the team of attorneys explained what their functions were in the court. A prisoner told the children that he was there for slapping his mother and not paying child support. An actual case that they saw in progress was one in which the prisoner had been in and out of jail for drug and alcohol use.

The campers had lunch in the Jury Room, where the court staff explained the cases and legal system to them. The children also got to role-play as jurors, deliberating over each case and coming up with a verdict. One important lesson taught to the children was that it always pays to tell the truth and live as law-abiding citizens. This was a day that these children will never forget, and we are very grateful to Judge Mobley and her staff for arranging it.

On the third week, we had Vacation Bible School, conducted by Etowah Baptist Church from North Carolina. On the first day, the team taught on The Creation and on each of the following days, they shared a Bible story with a theme. Bible stories included Jonah and the whale, Noah and the ark, David and Goliath, and Daniel in the lion's den with emphasis on obedience, courage, and love.



Once again, we thank Birchwood Baptist Church, Church of the Apostles, Etowah Baptist Church, and our volunteers for contributing their time and skills to a successful summer camp.

Now we have just a few short weeks before school starts again, when we'll be back in full swing - *even though we've never really been out of full swing this summer!* Our back-to-school drive, conducted by Mountain Park Baptist Church, will be held on August 2. We will have bag-packs, resource bags, and school supplies for our children to help them start the new school year.

Thanks to you, as always, for your continuing support of FHF. We feel the Lord's presence with each child's happy face and believe that, with your help, we are pleasing Him by serving these children and their families.

God bless you.

Bennett Ekandem

*Please support our ministry!*

**Make checks to the North American Missions Board, P.O. Box 116543, Atlanta, GA 30368  
designated to Bennett Ekandem #8241**