

Rippling Brooks Ministries

"...ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8

Spring 2017

We have, as a family, been enjoying the many appearances of new life springing out all around us. Even inside the house we have marveled at the tiny sprouts



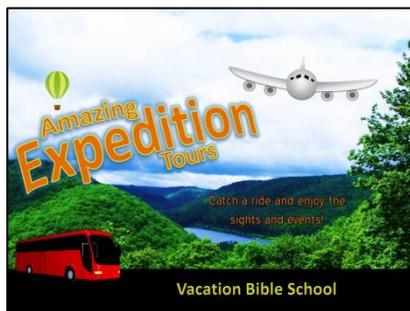
Picture Breanna entered in Talents for Christ

bravely breaking out of their seeds and developing into plants that we hope will provide a plenteous garden harvest in due time. Braelyn faithfully checked the trays of dirt and reported daily whether any new seeds "grew last night!" With the help of a candler, we have watched chicks develop in their shells and then seen them hatch in

the incubator. How appropriate that these amazing demonstrations of new life surround us right at the time we also remember Christ's crucifixion and celebrate His resurrection, placing a special focus on the new life that Christ has provided for us spiritually. It is our prayer that our children will learn through these projects and celebrations that God loves to give life, but most particularly spiritual life.

We were busy all winter with a full schedule of Sunday meetings as well as winter retreats at camp. Now that winter is officially behind us, our focus is turned to summer events. We have spent much time developing our 2017 VBS program "Amazing Expedition Tours."

Lessons, crafts, games, snacks, puppets, skits, and more await the children who join us on the tour! We have also set up online registration for the programs, accessible through



our website, to help churches have complete contact information for following up with the children. We are excited about the three churches we will be bringing this

program to, as well as about being VBS missionaries for another church. Those four weeks of VBS, combined with camp weeks, will keep us running right into fall!

We have also been developing special features and details for the summer camp program, "Proclaim!", set in the colonial days of America. Shawna has been collecting decorations and ideas, and making maid aprons for a special Friday night meal each week. We have also been researching mighty servants of God from the colonial time

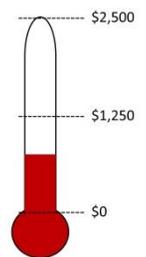


frame whose testimonies can encourage us as we, too, have the same gospel message to proclaim to the world.

It can be a challenge at times to balance the separate VBS and camp themes, but our prayer and focus for both programs is the same – that people will understand the gospel message and receive the gift of **new life** that God has prepared for them.

Praises:

- Churches who have invited us to help with their VBS programs.
- A supporting church increasing their support. It brings our monthly support to 31%. There is still a ways to go, but we are so thankful for the support the Lord has provided through churches and individuals.



Prayer Requests:

- "that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified"(2 Thess. 3:1) through camp and VBS ministries this summer.
- Strength and health for our busy summer schedule.
- Good contacts with community people as we set up street hockey and other games in the parks or gathering areas as an avenue to invite children to VBS and share the Gospel.

Serving the Risen Savior,

*Erich & Shawna
and family*