

## Celebrating 20 Years of Sidewalk Funday School

Twenty years ago, Sidewalk Funday School began its ministry when Betty and Burl started visiting Normandy Estates Trailer Park on Jacksonville's Westside. They started with one or two handfuls of kids showing up. Twenty years later SFS is still in Normandy Estates; still one or two handfuls of kids. What kind of impact can be made if just a half-dozen to a dozen kids are showing up?

Cierra, the mother in this picture, attended SFS at Normandy Estates when she was a child. She now has her children attending there. This year we also celebrated our twentieth Happy Birthday Jesus Party and this is a picture of Ciera's family at that party. We also had this Facebook post from another young lady who attended Normandy Estates some time ago and is now a young adult.



*"I just want to give a HUGE thank you to you guys. I'm now 19 and y'all used to (I don't know if y'all still do) come to Normandy Estates all the time when I was 8. God saved me at the age of 15 and I'm proud to say I'm in the family of God but I want to encourage you guys to keep doing what you're doing and God bless y'all. I will keep you guys in my prayers."*

*Caitlin Marie.*

It appears Jesus went to Samaria for no other reason than to meet the one woman at the well...if we had nothing but the picture and Facebook post, it seems just showing up, whether to a site of many or a few, can make an impact for Christ. We are thankful to be a part of a ministry fulfilling a direct command of Christ.

### **Happy Birthday Jesus is one of our favorite times of the year!**

By our recollection, Saturday December 3<sup>rd</sup> marked the 20<sup>th</sup> Happy Birthday Jesus Party, too! So, once again, early that morning volunteers from at least six churches and ministries started showing up at First Baptist Church, our hosting church. By 10 AM, busses were returning with 220 children and 30 moms and dads and by 11 AM, 250 Chick Fil A chicken sandwiches, graciously provided by our host church, had met their demise. From there, we marched over to the main auditorium for a fun and fired-up time led by Pastor Angel and followed by the Kingdom Kidz, led by Teri Van Duyn, and the presentation of The Fear Not Factor.

This year, for the first time, we were excited to partner with Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist Church at Centennial Townhomes West. We ran a pilot program in November and then invited those children and families to which we ministered to our Christmas Party. We had some 50 children and parents from that pilot program attend with us! This was in addition to our other sites from Normandy Estates, Desert Winds, Washington Heights, and Eureka Gardens. Some 75 volunteers came together to help wrap presents, pass out presents, set out food, escort children and families to the auditorium and, finally, counsel those wanting to trust Jesus Christ as their Savior. Thirteen people made professions of faith this year, praise God!



## Today at Normandy Estates *By Jamey Weber, Site Leader*

"What a privilege it is and has been to work with the children at Normandy Estates. We are a somewhat unique site in that we are watching year after year many of the children grow, from young children to teenagers, non-readers to readers.

God's purpose for us is to disciple and it is such a joy to see His work with young Children. There are 7 children that have been faithful to the program for at least 4 years or more, and then we have a few drop in and out and then in. We see changes in the children, some have softened attitudes, and a few that we know are growing to know the Lord personally. There is such an advantage to having God's word and influence in the same neighborhood. We are reminded that we may be the only Jesus they see, and now these children – these disciples - may be the only Jesus others see.

God certainly works in us, the SFS missionary volunteers, to be able to build relationships and be encouraged every week to return to our extended family."



**Kimberly Hansen, President 904-545-5336**

**Bernice Scheele, Administrator 904-805-2509**

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[www.SidewalkFundaySchool.org](http://www.SidewalkFundaySchool.org)

## New Truck Time? *By Richard Hansen*

You may have heard we are trying to replace our 17-year old primary truck we use on-site. The converted plumber's truck, practically donated by Darley's Plumbing, has been a Godsend and a VERY versatile tool. For those who have not visited a site – and we encourage you to do so – that truck has to hold: flags, footballs, soccer balls, hula hoops, trash can, tarps, sandbag weights, extra battery, inverter, charger, tester, candy, prizes, coloring sheets, crayons, memory verses, attendance records, collection tin for First Coast Women's Services, Bibles, Bible stories, song posters, pledge posters, song recordings, sound board, speakers, mics, wiring, work desk, folding table and chair, etc, etc, etc (imagine an old Bugs Bunny cartoon where that list is being said faster and faster until the individual words are unintelligible). Oh, and a driver! It has to hold a driver...for which we are always looking for new volunteers!

Anyway, we'd like to put our truck down...er, out to pasture and get a new one. Yes, frankly, there may be some selfish reasons for this, like the smell we can't seem to get rid of in the current truck and the disintegrating steering wheel (for which Charles found a work-around, thankfully). But, the practical items are the real driver, pardon the pun. We would like to have one where everything is working as it should, possesses some safety features that have become more common in recent years and finally, some additional storage capacity and capability. For one thing, we currently spend about 15 minutes to set up the sound system each day and another 15 to break it down (okay, so Charles can do it faster than I can, well... John can too...and so can Brandi, but anyway the point is we spend about 20-30 minutes setting the site up and breaking it down every day). Many of our volunteers are not comfortable with setting up our sound system. With a new vehicle, we hope to have the system more permanently set so that you just pretty much open the doors and start the music. We really think in this day and age introducing a display screen on-site would be good for displaying pictures, presentations

and videos relative to our story for the week. We think we can do that with the vehicles we are currently considering. Finalizing the decision is difficult and we appreciate your prayers and appreciate those of you who are contributors to this tremendous expense.



**Site Leader - Jamey Weber**  
(904) 631-5631  
**Normandy Estates**  
8985 Normandy Blvd.  
Jacksonville, FL 32221  
Monday 4:30 p.m.



**Site Leaders**  
**Beth Neece / Karen Elin**  
(904) 254-8392  
**Desert Winds**  
300 Silver Creek Circle  
Jacksonville, FL 32216  
Tuesday 4:30 p.m.



**Site Leader - Doreice Denson**  
(904) 553-0096  
**Washington Heights**  
4229 Moncreif Road W  
Jacksonville, FL 32209  
Thursday 4:30 p.m.



**Site Leaders**  
**Richard and Kimberly Hansen**  
(904) 237-3376 / (904) 545-5336  
**Eureka Gardens**  
5150 Hollycrest  
Jacksonville, FL 32205  
Friday 4:30 p.m.



**Site Leader**  
**Debbie Maize**  
(502) 541-7421  
**Centennial Townhomes West**  
1261 Broad Street  
Jacksonville, FL 32202  
Saturday 1:30 p.m.



## VBS – The Highlight of the Summer!



For a second year, we were able to take some of our kids to Vacation Bible School. First Baptist was once again gracious enough to provide busses and many of our missionaries volunteered to ride the busses and help get the kids to VBS. The numerous volunteers at FBC and their commitment to our kids and the children of the church and other invited guests is amazing and the job they do is truly impressive. I wish you could see and hear how excited the kids are. Many of them get off the bus on Friday talking and asking us about next week only for us to have to explain to them that it is over. Throughout the year, many of them will still excitedly talk about VBS and ask whether we will be doing it again this year.

We make an effort to reach out to the households of those children making decisions during the week hoping to have them back on Sunday night so they can be baptized with their family present. This year, we had a brother and sister get baptized with their mother present. All in all, we saw 35 children from four sites attend and seven make decisions to trust Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Getting our kids to VBS may be one of the harder things we do because we do it on a shoestring budget of volunteers. So many of our SFS missionaries are involved in working at VBS, we can be short-handed on volunteers. If we are able to attend VBS again this summer, we can use people to canvas the apartment complexes to let them know we will be picking their children up for the week and then to help ride the bus each morning and afternoon to get the kids to VBS and back home. For those of you who can envision the children asking to go again next week, please know we welcome the opportunity to partner with other churches who might want to invite some of the children to whom SFS ministers to their VBS and who can help in providing the resources necessary.



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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Kimberly Hansen**

2016 marked the 20 year milestone of ministry for Sidewalk Funday School. While the faces of the missionaries may have changed during that time, their hearts have been seamlessly in one accord. We are so thankful that the Word of God and the Truth of the Gospel never change. He is always faithful to ensure His Word does not return void which is ever-encouragement to continue this glorious work.

Overwhelming blessings have been poured out this year with many new missionaries and other ministries coming alongside us. We are thankful for the ladies in Spanish ministry at FBCJax who cleaned and organized our storage space, wrapped hundreds of presents and distributed them at our Happy Birthday Jesus party. For many years now, Here 2 There ministries has partnered with us to do special "True Love Waits" sessions for us. They also partnered with Kaleid and University Church using the SFS truck to do ministry over the summer at La Esperanza Apartments. Additionally, in 2016, we were honored to have JSO Brad Hensley speak at each of our sites, he was able to share how he relies on God to protect and help him in his job. We hope this offered an opportunity for the children we serve to see the police in a different light and deepen their respect for authority.

2017 brings a new opportunity, we are partnering with the missions ministry at Shiloh Metropolitan Baptist church to bring SFS to Centennial Townhouses West. A soft start occurred in November 2016 and were able to bring around 60 souls from this community to our Happy Birthday Jesus party. Going forward we still covet your prayers, not just for the ministry and our missionaries but especially the children and families we serve. Pray that the Gospel penetrates their hearts and through these precious children coming to know Christ, that God would raise them up to lead their families to know Him and to change their communities. As Mrs. Doreice says, pray that they become Kingdom Builders and World Changers!

We are still on mission. Love Jesus. Love Children. Share the Gospel.

## Will you **POP** for Sidewalk Funday School?

### Pray

Pray for missionaries to share the Gospel unto Salvation with unchurched children.



### Offerings

SFS could not spread the Gospel without your generous offerings.



### Participate

Be a missionary in just two hours a week, no passport required.



**Cut Here and mail to:**

Sidewalk Funday School, Inc., 124 West Ashley Street, Jacksonville, FL 32202

### **YES, I WILL "POP" FOR SIDEWALK FUNDAY SCHOOL! I WILL:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Pray for the children who can't go to church, for the ministry and the missionaries.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Offer a faithful monthly financial contribution of: \$5 \$10 \$20 \$50 \$100 \$200 \$\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_ Participate on a local mission trip across town. I will visit the web site,  
<http://www.sidewalkfundayschool.com/be-a-missionary/> to learn more about this local mission opportunity!