# the newsletter of southeastern children's home

# Bang! Life changed.

children's



- Resident of the quarter
- Children helping children
- Good habits to get into
- more ...

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**Bang! Life changed.** 

... and a time to every purpose under heaven. - Ecclesiastes 3:1

### By Robert Kimberly

**Executive Director** 

In just one moment on March 10, the nation of Japan was set on a new, uncharted course. The recent series of earthquakes and subsequent tsunamis radically altered the lives of the residents of Honshu.



I've read that the death toll is expected to exceed 10,000 and that the financial devastation will cost over \$2 billion. Those are mind-boggling figures.

While watching pictures of this tragic event unfold on my television, I was moved by one particular photo of a four month-old child being rescued in the village of Ishinomaki.

That one Japanese child was saved because several rescue workers refused to stop searching. The young girl was swept away from her parents' arms in the tsunami. Remarkably, three days later, she was found, unharmed, wearing a pink woolen bear suit in the rubble.

The odds of this child surviving are slim, at best. Yet, I believe God was responsible for saving this child.

I also believe that God continues to save children. He not only saves them from earthquakes and tsunamis, but I believe he watches over the children at Southeastern Children's Home

It is impossible to map our entire lives. God

continues to throw twists and turns into my own life. As soon as I think I know the next chapter in my life, God changes things.

Most of the children we minister to have been placed into positions that they never dreamed possible. They have been abused and neglected by the ones they love the most.

It is our goal to change the lives of these young people. Each child placed in our care will have a life-changing experience in which they can shed their troubled past and turn to a bright Christian future. We hope that living with Godly housepar-

ents and spending time with Christian counselors and staff will shape their lives for their extended future.

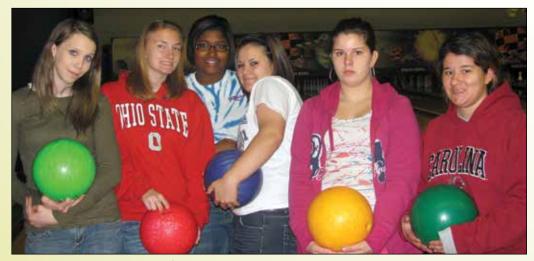
"... As soon as I think I know the next chapter in my life, **God changes** things ..."

Life changes every day, sometimes in a massive event like a tsunami, and other

times through small events like a warm conversation or friendly smile.

Every day I witness small changes taking place with our kids, and I know that God is at work in their lives and he is rescuing them from their past. Please pray for us as we strive to change the lives of our young people.





Our lady bowlers pause between frames during a recent outing.

### A chance for you to serve in vital Christian ministry

If you've ever considered devoting a period of your life to a ministry that's committed to helping troubled children, you need look no further than this issue of Hope!

Southeastern Children's Home is seeking a ministry-minded Christian couple with a strong marriage and team spirit to the fill the position of house parents that is now vacant.

Please visit our website at sech.org for more information.

If you are interested in applying for the position, please submit your resume to Executive Director Robert Kimberly by email (rkimberly@sech.org) or by fax to 864. 949.0248.



Located in a quiet corner of South Carolina's scenic Upstate region, Southeastern's campus offers easy access to both mountains and metropolitan amenities.

# Good habits to get into

### Planned giving an easy way to make big impact on young lives

### J. Philip Murphy, Esq.

Director of Development

We're all creatures of habit. I have some good habits: I brush my teeth daily, I exercise three times a week, and I attend church services. But, I have not some not-so-great habits too: I drink far too much Dr. Pepper, I'm addicted to college sports, and I tend to be overly critical of others.

Habits work for and against us.

In 2011 we're asking our partners to become habitual donors to Southeastern Children's Home. Make giving a habit. Even a \$20 gift each month will greatly benefit the children at SECH.

### Giving is easy

We've set up two easy ways to give each month:

- 1. Go online to sech.org/giving and sign up with a credit card, or
- 2. Fill out an ACH form (below) and mail it to us with a voided check.

These are safe and secure methods.

Too often, we base our gifts upon environmental factors. Was the sermon good? Did I receive a bonus this week? Do I feel like giving today? When we give based upon our feelings, we often go without giving at all.

Planned giving is an excellent spiritual discipline. A purposeful gift is less likely to be given grudgingly or out of necessity.

Additionally, I find that upon making a planned gift, I don't account for this money

in my family budget. In other words, it's out-of-sight and outof-mind. I don't even think about that gift as being "my money."

We're searching for 211 people to partner with us in 2011. Elsewhere in this newsletter, you'll read about how a Clemson youth group was one of the first partners we had in this campaign.

Please consider becoming a habitual giver. Simply visit our website (sech.org) or fill out the attached ACH form on the envelope and mail it to us with a voided check. If you have any questions or concerns, please call me at 864.439.0259

"... Habits work for and against us

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Please consider becoming a habitual giver

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# **Children helping children**

## **Clemson youth group raising money for Southeastern**

Sometimes, a gift is more than a gift. A single item, which may be a trivial trinket to one person, can become a treasured jewel to another. Gifts are, by their nature, more than mere tokens of affection. Meaningful gifts are often pieces of a much larger story.

In December of 2010, the youth group from Clemson Church of Christ pledged \$20 per month for the year of 2011. Such a gift from a group of young people is special in and of itself. However, the gift was made even more special when we were told that in order to raise

the funds, the youth group had agreed to clean the church building.

"The church needed someone to clean the church building and they wanted to see the teens do more. Plus, they wanted to see the money going to a good use," said Andrew Newman, Clemson Church of Christ teenager. "I didn't always have enough money to do all the things the "... The youth group's decision to help Southeastern Children's **Home began** with a discussion among several of the group's members. .."

youth group was doing. Now, instead of getting other people to pay for me, I can work a few hours each week and get to do everything the youth group does."

Most children may have used the funds to buy clothes, pay for a trip to the movies or purchase the newest game. The Clemson youth group opted to help others.

"We know that Southeastern Children's Home is doing God's work, and we just want to see it continue," Newman said. "I also know some of the kids there."

Of course, cleaning the building and the surrounding grounds isn't an easy task.

"The worst job is cleaning the bathrooms," Newman said. "Luckily, I have Savannah as my cleaning partner. She cleans the girls' bathroom and I clean the boys' bathroom. Some adults might think teens are lazy, but I would have to strongly disagree. Though some teens are lazy, we are all not the same."

"Our group of teenagers is unbelievably unique," Clemson minister Danny Vaden said. "We have about eight kids that have taken the



Clemson Church of Christ youth group members clean their church to raise money for Southeastern Children's Home.

initiative to be active in our community. They not only clean the church building, but they help at the local soup kitchen and homeless shelter. They have even taken on the task of organizing our Vacation Bible School."

The youth group's decision to help Southeastern Children's Home began with a discussion among several of the group's members.

"They were the ones who met about the idea of helping Southeastern Children's Home," Vaden said. "They discussed it among themselves and decided they wanted to be involved. I couldn't be more proud of their willingness to help others."

The Clemson youth group's gift is more than just a gift. It's a glimpse into the larger story of how God works amongst us, both young and old. It reminds us that we all have something to contribute. We all have something to share. We all have something to give.



children's

Hope! is a publication of Southeastern Children's

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Visit us online at sech.org, then link to our facebook page!





# he resident of the quarter



17-year-old sophomore Megan is this issue's resident of the quarter. "The thing that makes me smile the most is being with friends and family," she says. And what a beautiful smile that is!

### Meet Megan, our resident of the quarter

**Age:** 17

Year in School: sophomore Favorite movie: Love & Basketball

Favorite food: pizza rolls

**Best memory:** trips to Carowinds **Future occupation:** registered nurse

Favorite subject: math Favorite color: lavender

**Favorite hobby:** writing/drawing **Highlight of her week:** going to school

### Megan in quotes...



"I can't wait to turn 18!"



"The thing that makes me smile the most is being with friends and family."



"If I had a million dollars the first thing I would buy is a car."

# Have a little more than you need?

### Basements, garages and storage units can answer prayers

Southeastern Children's Home relies on the generosity of people like you for our day-to-day operation.

Please take a moment to look around your own home – and around your heart. You may find that you have some of the things we need right now in *our* home.

Here's this issue's list of things we urgently need right now ...

- Dependable used cars
- Vacuum cleaner
- Brooms
- Liquid laundry and dishwasher detergent
- · Body wash for guys and girls

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# **New board manual adopted**

Southeastern Children's Home Board of Directors is pleased to announce that, with

the assistance of a grant provided by the South Carolina Rural Communities Compassion Project, we have recently adopted a new Board manual. The new manual is the product of months of work, training, and discussion among the

"... The new
Board manual
... ensure(s) that
the mission of
Southeastern
Children's Home
is carried out effectively ..."

Board members, including a retreat in which the Board examined the issues relating to the governance of Southeastern Children's Home. The Board brought in an expert consultant to help facilitate discussion, develop new goals, and implement these changes.

The new Board manual has changed the governance roles and responsibilities of the Board to ensure that the mission of Southeastern Children's Home is carried out effectively. Namely, the new manual specifically addresses the areas of recruitment, education of the new 990 requirements, changing economic and political climates, diversity issues, training, legal and financial issues, and succession of Board members.

With the aid of this grant from the South Carolina Rural Communities Compassion Project, Southeastern Children's Home will better serve at-risk children through group home care, foster care, adoption, maternity services, and counseling.

# 2010 annual report 2010 childcare statistics Children served ..... Baptisms......7 Referrals .......63 **Counseling Center statistics** Counseling Sessions ..... Contacts with previous residents...... 126 Statement of financial activities Program support payments .....\$578,855 Contributions ......\$381,843 Grants......\$14,551 Miscellaneous ......\$52,076 Program service expenses.....\$675,010 Management and general expenses.....\$88,817 Fundraising expenses.....\$124,344 Transfer to reserve.....\$50,000 Capital expenditures......\$22,394 Net unrestricted revenue ......\$66,760 (Un-audited financial statement) children's

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MIT. & MITS. Fred York
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Mr. Clint Isbell
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Church Church Church
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Mrs. Jaci Bearden
Ms. Elosie Bell
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Mr. & Mrs. Greg Horne
LOIS WILLIAMSON
Mr. & Mrs. Lampe Edwards Mr. & Mrs. James Edwards ERIC PATRICK WILSON Mr. & Mrs. Franklin Wilson BUD WRIGHT Ms. Myrtle Wright FRANK YEARWOOD Mr. & Mrs. Carol Woodley

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GORDON & DEBBY SUMMEY Mr. & Mrs. Mike Smith
OUR CHILDREN KIM, CHRIS & GREG
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Witte EVERITT WITT Mr. & Mrs. John Martin HASKELL & PAT YENNY

### In Honor of Birthday

JUSTIN COLLINS Dr. Lydia Guillot

Mr. Jerry Satterfield KAY YENNY Mr. Jerry Satterfield ANDY HOOD Dr. Lydia Guillot ROBERT LEATHERWOOD Travis, Christy, Tyler & Ryan Nodine EMMA NODINE Travis, Christy, Tyler & Ryan Nodine RYAN NODINE
Mr. & Mrs. Travis Nodine & Tyler
BROOKE TESNER Travis, Christy, Tyler & Ryan Nodine CAROL WOODLEY Mr. & Mrs. James B. Edwards

### In Honor of 85th Birthday

JANE K FARLEY Mr. & Mrs. Jim Farley, Jr.

### In Honor of 92nd Birthday

In Honor of 90th Birthday

KIRK COLE Ms. Donna Cole

CLARA COLE Ms. Donna Cole

### In Honor of 65th Wedding **Anniversary**

JIM & JANE FARLEY, SR. Mr. & Mrs. Jim Farley, Jr.

### In Kind Gifts / Volunteers

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Apalache Baptist Church
Ms. Angie Bagley
Mr. & Mrs. W. Quinton Batson
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Mr. & Mrs. Derny Blackshear
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Ms. Delores Shivar
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Southern Hospitality
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Mr. & Mrs. Jacob Stidham
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