



### Upcoming Events

#### Service Saturdays

Saturday, September 9th and  
November 11th at 10 am

We will be visiting Bolingreen  
Home to sing songs, visit and  
make crafts with the residents.  
All ages welcome!

#### Mercer Football Tailgate

Saturday, October 21st at 3 pm

It doesn't get much better than  
food, football and fun! (And it's an  
off-weekend for Dawg fans.)

#### Reformation Day

October 29th at 5 pm

Join in the celebration for one of our  
favorite Reformers!

### That's Not Fair!

That's not fair! I'm going to take a guess that you've said those words before - I know I have. Maybe your sister got a bigger scoop of ice cream. Maybe you practiced your sport all summer but the kid who chose to play video games made the team instead of you. Maybe your brother made a mess with the Legos and your parents made both of you clean them up. (That last one is a real life example from the Cathey house!)

Oftentimes when we are tempted to yell out "That's not fair!" we are upset that someone got something we feel they didn't deserve. But do we want God to treat us as we deserve?

We know that every one of us is a sinner, and because of our sin, we are separated from God. But God doesn't stop there! Romans 3:23 - 24 says "For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard. Yet God, with **undeserved kindness**, declares that we are righteous. He did this through Christ Jesus when He freed us from the penalty of our sins." And Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death, but the **free gift** of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord." We did absolutely nothing to deserve God's goodness and kindness. In fact, we deserved to be forever separated from Him. But because God is so loving, generous and kind, He gave us the gift of Jesus so that we can be friends with Him and serve Him both in this life and for all eternity. How thankful I am that God didn't treat me like I deserve!

Are there times when things don't seem fair and it hurts? You bet. We live in a fallen world and so things aren't how they should be. Family members get sick. Friends hurt our feelings. Bad things happen in our lives, and it doesn't seem fair. But when you begin to feel that way, remember that God loves you and is in control of all things. Our God is so powerful and amazing that He promises that He will use everything - good and bad - that happens to us for His glory and our good.

As Romans 8:28 says, "We know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him. He appointed them to be saved in keeping with His purpose." When we are saved by God, there is absolutely nothing that can take us away from His love and promises.

So next time you're tempted to complain, and you feel yourself about to say, "That's not fair!" think about the amazing, undeserved love of your Heavenly Father and how He is working everything for His glory and your good.

### Family Time

- Have you ever felt that things were unfair? Ask your parents if they ever felt like that growing up.
- Read Luke 23:42 - 43 and discuss how Jesus displayed undeserved kindness and how He displays such kindness to us.

# NMPC Kids Spotlight

Let's get to know the fabulous and fun Fyke Kids!

## **What makes your sibling awesome?**

*Imrie: Buck is awesome because he helps me build forts.*

*Buck: My sister is awesome because she rides horses.*

## **Would you rather have a tarantula or boa constrictor as a pet?**

*Imrie: I would rather have a boa constrictor as a pet, because they don't have hair. Boa constrictors are cool because they choke their food, but also a little scary because they could strangle you.*

*Buck: I would rather have a boa constrictor for a pet because I think they are cool. If you give them a rat, they will squeeze it until it dies and then swallow it.*



**Imrie, age 10, and Buck, age 8**

## **Describe a perfect Saturday.**

*Imrie: My perfect Saturday would start with helping to teach horse camp at the barn. After teaching, I would ride my favorite horse, Lilly or Tex. Then, I would go fly fishing with my family and catch a big trout! Mom would make spaghetti for dinner.*

*Buck: My perfect Saturday would start with watching a little T.V. Then, my Dad and I would work in the barn. After that, I would ride my dirt bike around the yard. My mom would make spaghetti and meatballs for dinner.*

## **What is something you are learning about God?**

*Imrie: I am learning about the 10 Commandments right now. I am learning to love my neighbor as myself. We are also learning about idols and not worshiping little gods, but only our God.*

*Buck: I am learning that you need to be rooted in Christ. I can stay rooted in Christ by helping others, praying, and reading my Bible.*

## **Children's Choir**

We will be singing "Jesus Strong and Kind" with the Ensemble on Sunday, October 1st. The lyrics are enclosed, and the music can be found at [www.jwpepper.com](http://www.jwpepper.com) and search for the song title.

We will practice on Wednesday evenings or you can learn the song at home.

**We will have a practice on September 24th at 5 pm with the Ensemble.**

## **VBS UPDATE** **HOLA, ELLA AND BENNY!**

This year we raised money to support a local family, Clay and Hannah Jones and their three young boys, as they entered the mission field in El Salvador. The Jones family have two beloved dogs (Ella and Benny) that they wanted to bring with them to help their boys transition to their new home. With funds raised at VBS and a generous donation from NMPC, the pups are now in El Salvador! Let's keep praying for the Jones family as they share the good news of Jesus in their new home.