

CLCN CHRONICLES

The official newsletter of the Christian Learning Center and Network

December

2008

INDOOR SOCCER

Liberty Bible Church has indoor soccer on Saturdays, January - March, for kids in pre-kindergarten (minimum age of 4) thru 8th grade. Registration is going on now at the church. For more information go to LBChurch.org.

FREE EDUCATOR SCREENING AT PORTAGE 16 IMAX

You and one guest are invited to the Free Educator Screening of Antarctica and The IMAX Nutcracker 3D! The screening will take place on Thursday, December 4, 2008 at 4:30pm for Antarctica and 5:45 pm for The IMAX Nutcracker 3D (please arrive a half hour prior to check-in and register). Additional guests will be charged \$5.00 one movie, or \$9.00 for both. Email groupsales@ggti.com or call 888-447-1361 to RSVP by noon on Wed., Dec.3rd. Please leave your first and last name, school name, and number of people attending. If registering via email, you will receive an email confirmation. Visit <http://www.ggti.com/imax/education/filmlibrary.aspx> for a description of the films.

FOLLOW THE NORTH STAR FIELD TRIP REPORT

My name is Caitlin, and I went on a field trip with my sister, and 3 other friends to the "Follow the North Star" Tour at Conner Prairie in Fishers, IN. The night was cold and wet, rain drizzling off and on, basically a miserable night. We were prepared for our tour to be cancelled, but to our amazement, we were told that this was a perfect night. The dogs were less likely to catch the scent of us, as we tried to make a run for freedom. All of us were slaves and we were considered nothing more than "Property", just "Something" to do their work for them, or to gain money from by being sold. At this time period, 1830, the slaves in the North were being freed. We were owned by a man in Indiana -who could not keep us any longer because Indiana was a free state. He sold us one evening late and from there it was either to "run" to freedom or be captured by Two Legged "Wolves" who would then sell us to someone in the south. This "Walk -in -the- shoes- of" kind of history required us to become - and to be treated like fugitive slaves. We met many people along our way that cold, wet evening. Some tried to help us- others we couldn't trust. Not all of us made it to freedom- but the lessons we learned from this unusual journey taught us of the hate of long ago and how thankful we are that this doesn't happen anymore to any color race in America. This Tour was very realistic and thought provoking. My sister and I both would encourage anyone 13yrs. and older to go experience this realistic lifetime opportunity- up close, and personal. For more information about the tour call (317) 776-6000

A NOTE FROM DONNA

I would like to send a huge thank you to everyone for all their prayers, cards, meals, food, visits, etc. We have been so overwhelmed by all the love and support that everyone has shown through this unbelievable accident. I still can't believe it happened to me . . . wasn't it someone else in that car???? . . . but reading everyone's emails and posts, I'm assured it was me and my family directly involved. As you can tell, I have no memory of the accident or the next week-and-a-half in the hospital, but everything else is still there!! I came out of the experience with two overwhelming feelings:

1. God is so good to have spared my life and given me back to my family, when He could have so easily done something entirely different. I have never felt so warm hugging and kissing my kids, and my husband . . . and I hope to never take those opportunities for granted ever again.
2. I LOVE my life and every aspect of it, from homeschooling my children, to helping with homeschooling organizations and people, to freelance reporting for the newspaper, to being involved in theatre. I am so glad to have another chance to do those things again and look forward to getting 100% of my life back . . . although I know it will take some time for it all.

Since the accident, it was obvious that I would not be able to homeschool our kids for the next several months. Rachel is still homeschooling, but Ellen Roetker is helping keep her on schedule and with anything she needs help with (bless her heart!) Rachel didn't want to start over during her senior year and that's perfectly understandable. She will be included in the third annual CLCN homeschool graduation ceremony May 30th, and I will be her very proud mama, up on stage with her.

Some very generous people (completely anonymous to date) have contributed for Ellie, Seth and Amelia to attend Victory Christian Academy through the end of this year. Silas received approval from the Chesterton Middle School Board to attend CMS with his dad and to go out for wrestling (Stan is the physical education teacher and head football, wrestling and ass't. track coach there). . . tonight is Silas' first wrestling meet in Michigan City! They are all on their second week of school and felt really lucky to earn a snow day the day after registering!!

Stan's fellow teachers surprised us the day before the kids registered for school by dropping off completely filled new backpacks for each one, to make their transition that much easier. Of course, it's been hard on the kids, but they have adapted very well . . . I'm sure it's the flexibility that comes with homeschooling! They are still adjusting to the new routine, but we're all getting used to the homework each night, laying out school clothes before bed, packing lunches each morning, and trying to understand what each teacher wants from them. Keep us in your prayers, if you could, for this transition time, and for good health, good attitudes, and good behavior.

My therapy is going well, but is hard, as can be expected. I am picked up around 11 am and driven to Homewood, IL, where I take therapy at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago . . . one of the best rehabs. in the country, we're told. I was so worn out yesterday, I went directly to bed when I got home. They even wanted me to figure out a checkbook register . . . without a calculator!!!! I'm pretty good at math, but don't even do that in "real" life . . . after all, that's why I married Stan!!! It's humbling, though, to know that if I don't pass the math tests, I really shouldn't qualify to teach my kids math in homeschooling!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

I spend about 4 hours there, doing occupational and physical therapy, which will help me in the long run, I know. Please also pray for a good attitude on my part, and to be consistent to attend when I need to . . . it's quite humbling being around severe stroke patients and accident victims . . . but God has a plan in this too. I know it will make me a better person in the long run, not just physically but mentally as well.

We were so pleased to make it to church on Sunday . . . just for a few minutes of Sunday School, then an hour of church. People were so surprised to see me . . . I LOVED THAT, being the drama queen that I am!! But we felt it was important to let everyone there know how much we appreciated their outpouring of love and support for us.

That's about it for my update. I welcome any and all emails, phone calls, visits, etc. from any of you, so please don't feel like you're invading my space!

Thank you, again, for keeping us in your prayers . . . we are the walking, talking, breathing, and loving examples of your prayers in action!

Our love to all of you,
Donna

LENDING LIBRARY

CLCN has partnered with Liberty Bible Church for the Homeschool Lending Library. So go to the Liberty Bible Church Library and "check it out". Books in the homeschool section (as well as all the other books) are available to borrow for two weeks at a time. You just need to give them your name, address, and phone number for their records.