

## Bronx Friends



The Friends Into Serving Him® group at Our Saviour, Bronx, New York, serves their community all year long. They labeled water bottles with church information and distributed them at the annual Columbus Day Parade, hosted a penny carnival on Halloween for neighborhood children (all pennies went into the mite box!), collected toys for Operation Christmas Child, made year-end teacher appreciation gifts, and cleaned and sorted items in the World Vision Warehouse in the Bronx.

"S'mores" fed the Friends Into Serving Him® group in two ways at the recent "Camp Woe-Be-Gone" event at Mt. Calvary in Wamego, Kansas. They enjoyed eating the gooey treats and then worked through a Bible study entitled "S'mores with Jesus," which fed their souls. Reaching out to others, they built birdhouses and butterfly houses that were given to local shut-ins. Fellowship lingered long into the night in their tents, pitched inside the church!

## Campout Lock-in



## E.S.T.H.E.R.S.



Daughters and mothers called E.S.T.H.E.R.S. (Every Sister Together Helping Everyone Reach the Savior), meet regularly at Faith, Lake Forest, Illinois. One gathering included spa treatments and a Bible study focused on inner beauty as seen through God's eyes. A tea party Bible study, with tea served

in their grandmothers' fine china sets, showed how God handcrafts us as fine china, and how we, in response, choose carefully what to put into ourselves with regard to the media, friendships, and worldly items.

Check out what LWML teens are doing at the Teen Light Feature <http://teens.lwml.org/teen-light.html>.

## Stuck on... Overload!

Ariana's mom notices that her daughter has been a little grumpy and seems distracted and uncommunicative. Frequent complaints of fatigue and headaches lead Ariana's mom to be concerned about the overloaded schedule that her daughter keeps.

Last semester, Ariana's days were filled with concert band practices, 7 classes including 2 AP courses, dance team, and traveling volleyball. Ariana loves swimming and is teaching these skills at the local pool two nights a week and on weekends this summer. She is very popular among her peers and has a steady boyfriend. Although she says she is a Christian, she has no space in her schedule for activities at her church such as worship or youth group. Her priorities are clear by where she spends her time.

Does Ariana's situation seem familiar to you? Do you find your schedule so full that there is no room for anything of God?

Orchestrating our lives according to our priorities, our dreams, and our need to be in control is a recipe for anxiety and discontent. Jesus has a different recipe for life. He directs us to "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness." When we let Jesus direct our choices and we listen to His counsel, right priorities are established and life sustained by Him becomes less stressful because we learn to trust in His provision and plan for our life.

Read the following Scripture references: Proverbs 3:5, 6; Jeremiah 29:11; Romans 8:28; Galatians 5:25; and Ephesians 2:10. Discuss how they teach dependency and trust in the Lord.

*Pray for the Holy Spirit's power to help you to seek first the kingdom of God. Rejoice that He promises to be with you, even when your life seems stuck on overload.*