

Work in Progress

December 2003

Dear Friends,

As we celebrate the birth of Jesus with the **joy and hope** that brings, we are very appreciative of your partnership with us. Your prayers, service, and financial gifts are the means God is using to break the cycles of despair, neglect, and hopelessness that plague many children and their families. We are always amazed at how the grace of God transforms lives, *including our own*.

Our fall programs culminate in the crescendo of the Parent Volunteer Christmas store and the “Big Christmas Party”. Parents from over 90 families have volunteered almost 4,000 hours this fall to earn “parent bucks” (credits) that can be used at our special Christmas store. These parents have the dignity and pride of being able to provide Christmas presents to their own families, many for the first time.



Please take a moment to thank our Lord for His work here this Fall in Phoenix.

- All fall, the kids in our programs have been learning from the life of David in the Old Testament. Did you know David as a young boy had much in common with our kids? For instance, David did not take revenge on Saul. A second grade sister this week helped her 4<sup>th</sup> grade brother not seek revenge and bring a weapon to Kids Life on Monday night. She reminded him, “We learned last week that God wants us to love our enemies.”
- 65 high school kids attended a retreat in November centered on trusting others and trusting God. Highlights included watching the seniors sitting and intensely journaling during the “quiet time” with God.
- Mom’s Place: The mentoring program for teenage mothers added a second group of younger mothers (ages 14-18). The first group of mothers (ages 19-24) are eager to share what they have learned with their younger peers.

Grace and hope to you this holiday season,

  
Kit Danley  
President

  
Richard Speck  
Executive Director

P.S. We appreciate your remembering us in your year-end giving. We need your help! Would you please send a gift in the return envelope today?