



News from the Nest

May 2010

Ministry Center Hours:

- Mon – Thurs
Noon to 2:00
(Clothing, food, laundry, showers)
- Youth and Children
Thursday, 6:00
- PALS
Women's GED & Life Skills –
Mon and Wed
Noon to 4:00
- "Breakfast Club"
Homeless Ministry
Saturday – 7:30

In This Issue:

- Annual Banquet
- Breakfast Club
- Jump Start Workshop
- Youth Artwork

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sparrowsnestmission.org

Facebook:
"Sparrow's Nest Athens"

sparrowsnestathens.blogspot.com

The Sparrow's Nest Mission Church

Annual Banquet Celebrates Volunteers

After the opportunity to come together and celebrate the past year at our Volunteer Appreciation Banquet, we are reminded once again that **each person and church involved with the Sparrow's Nest** in any capacity is a blessing to the ministry as a whole. Thank you for your

continued support in its numerous forms. After everyone ate barbeque together, Pastor Tommy recognized about 40 volunteers, including PALS, weekday ministries, and youth volunteers. A member of each group shared the impact serving at the Sparrow's Nest has

had on his or her life. Volunteers also received water bottles or coffee travel mugs to commemorate their service at the ministry. The praise band played for those in attendance, and Archie Crenshaw shared an encouraging message.

"Breakfast Club" Serves the Homeless

Beginning in February, the Sparrow's Nest began offering a Saturday morning breakfast for the homeless. On Saturday, churches, agencies and other services are usually closed. Thus, a **Saturday morning breakfast combined with Christian fellowship and Bible teaching is a way that we can reach out to this population.** We offer coffee, breakfast, and a time of serving, relating, and

sharing from the Bible beginning at 7:30 am every Saturday.

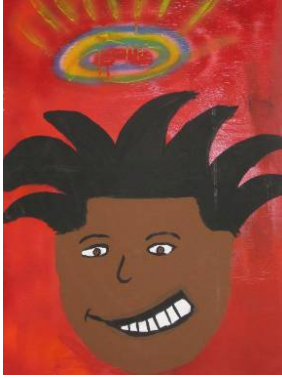
Originally designed to serve clients of the two winter shelters sponsored by The Bigger Vision and Walk on Water Church, our volunteer team felt strongly about continuing the breakfast past the winter season. Twenty to twenty-five people gather each week to take part in the breakfast.

The format varies, but our desire is to share the mercy and love of God and to bring Bible Study, prayer and discussion of faith and life to people at their point of need.

For the BREAKFAST CLUB, we need helpers in the following areas:

- Contribute food for a Saturday breakfast.
- Be present to get to know those who come and help us minister to them.

Sparrow's Nest Youth Create Artwork



The youth group at Sparrow's Nest has taken an active role in developing their worship environment. The blank walls that had previously enclosed the sanctuary have been replaced with colorful student artwork.

Framing the washroom doors are two panels that illustrate Jesus' invitation in John 7:37, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink". The words

"Sparrow's Nest" are painted graffiti-style and hang as a backdrop to the stage, while a painting of a boy with a halo smiles from the adjacent wall.

In addition to canvas-and-brush art, the students also explore other creative forms of worship. Praise takes on a hip-hop character as youth compose raps about their personal encounters with Christ.

In early May, Christian rapper Zerubbabel performed for the youth on Thursday night, praising God with his lyrics and inspiring students with his story.



Three "Jump Start" Workshops Held

Participants of the "Jump Start" Workshop



Three "Jump Start" workshops were held this winter at the Sparrow's Nest.

Shirley Criscillis of the Genesis Center encouraged participants who are dealing with homelessness, unemployment, or other difficult life

circumstances. **The workshops explored themes of God's purposes for us, who we are by personality, abilities and experiences, and different ways we can get stuck in a difficult place.** Practical job seeking skills were also presented.

Six volunteers and twelve different participants attended the workshops.

During the summer, a modified version of the workshop will be presented to the youth during their Thursday night meeting.

Ways to Get Involved in The Sparrow's Nest

- Monthly Financial Support is needed to maintain the many ministries of the Sparrow's Nest. Please send contributions to:
745 Prince Avenue, Athens, GA 30603
- Provide or serve a meal - Church groups or Sunday School classes can fulfill a vital role by providing or serving one of our twelve monthly hot meals. To get involved contact: Pam Allen at 706.296.0202.
- Donations of clothing and toiletries are always accepted.

