

M A R C H 2 0 2 3

# The Suburban Connection

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## Messiah in the Passover

By

Chosen People Ministries

will be held on March 26, 2023, during the  
Worship Service

Guest Speaker: Derek Blumenthal

The Messiah in the Passover presentation is a powerful visual message not only of Israel's freedom from slavery in Egypt, but of the redemption of individuals from the bondage of sin through the atoning work of Jesus. The program is designed to give participants a deeper understanding both of Passover and of the Communion table.

A love offering will be taken up for  
Chosen People Ministries on March 26, 2023.

## Move Your Clocks Forward!

Don't forget daylight savings time begins on March 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 am this year. If you want to make sure you aren't late for church, it's a good idea to turn the clocks ahead before you go to bed on the night of the 11<sup>th</sup>!

### Save the Date!

**Men's  
Breakfast &  
Bible Study**

**March 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>**  
8:00 am  
Fellowship Hall

**Chosen  
People  
Ministries**

**March 26<sup>th</sup>**  
10:15 am  
Worship Service

**Seniors  
Ministry Mtg.**

**March 16<sup>th</sup>**  
11:00 am  
Fellowship Hall

**Blood Drive**

**March 21<sup>st</sup>**  
2:00 – 7:00 pm  
Fellowship Hall



## From the Pastor's Desk:

### “SUMMARIZING THE ARGUMENT OF PHILIPPIANS”

Written by John Piper, Founder & Teacher of [desiringGod.org](http://desiringGod.org)

#### 1. God rules over all things with complete sovereignty. (1:6, 12, 29-30; 2:13; 3:21; 4:19)

“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.” Philippians 1:6

#### 2. Christ is of supreme worth in life and death. (1:19-20, 26; 2:6; 3:3, 4-11, 12-16, 20-21; 4:19)

“Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ.” Philippians 3:8

#### 3. Let us embrace Christ in faith with all that God is for us in Him. (1:25, 27, 29; 2:17; 3:9)

“Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith.” Philippians 1:25

#### 4. Then we will experience joyful, peaceful contentment of soul. (1:3, 18, 25; 2:1-2, 14-16, 17-17; 4:4, 10-14)

“Rejoice in the Lord always, again I will say, Rejoice. . . . And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:4, 7

#### 5. Then joy and peace will free us to be fearless before adversaries. (1:28; 4:6-9)

“And not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God.” Philippians 1:28

#### 6. And this joy and peace will free us to be humbly loving toward other people, counting others better than ourselves. (1:9, 21-26; 2:3-8, 12, 19-24, 25-30; 3:7-8, 17; 4:5, 15-18)

“Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interest, but also to the interest of others.” Philippians 2:3-4

#### 7. And this joy and peace will free us to pursue a deep, unified mindset among believers. (1:27; 2:2; 4:2-3)

“Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel.” Philippians 1:27

#### 8. In this way you will give a sign of the truth of your salvation and a warning to outsiders. (1:28; 2:15)

“And not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God.” Philippians 1:28

#### 9. And in all things you will accomplish the final, ultimate aim of everything, namely, the display of the beauty of the gospel, the supreme worth of Christ, and the glory of God. Your lifestyle will be a clear sign/warning to others. (1:11, 12- 18, 26, 27; 2:9-11; 4:20)

“To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.” Philippians 4:20

## Sunday School

### Happy Spring!

John 4:14, "but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

Isaiah 40:8, "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

Psalms 1:3, "He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither: In all that he does, he prospers."

Isaiah 61:3, "that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified."

The coming of spring brings warmer temperatures, rain, flowers and new growth. May the nature all around us remind us of God's faithfulness and the work of growth that He is doing in each of us. If you would like to see this growth first-hand, you can sign up as a substitute Sunday school teacher. We would love to have you! Contact Laura Tyler at (757) 404-4510.

Laura Tyler



## Nursery News

### Nursery Volunteers for March 2023

| Date    | Sunday School<br>9:00 am | Worship Service<br>10:15 am   | Worship Helper |
|---------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 3/5/23  | Melissa Tucker           | Stacie Raymer<br>Ravyn Thomas | Samara Saucedo |
| 3/12/23 | Melissa Tucker           | Jeff Herring<br>Susan Haynes  | Abby Deuell    |
| 3/19/23 | Stacey Super             | Nancy Herbst<br>Chris Bulaski | Liana Wiggins  |
| 3/26/23 | Melissa Tucker           | Laura Tyler<br>Teresa Birk    | Sophia Deuell  |



If you would like to join the nursery ministry by helping one Sunday per month – during Sunday School or the Worship Service – please contact Stacie Raymer ([sraymer@odu.edu](mailto:sraymer@odu.edu); 757-589-5731). Young teenage helpers are also welcomed to help.

**"But Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 19:14**



The **Pastor's Study Partners** meet every Friday from 12:00 am – 1:00 pm at the church. Read over the Scripture noted in the bulletin and come prepared to share your thoughts. Everyone is invited!

## SCC Church Staff



Rev. C. Todd Haynes  
Senior Pastor



### **MISSION: WHY DO WE EXIST?**

To glorify God, by making disciples of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

### **VISION: WHAT WILL THAT LOOK LIKE?**

A growing faith in God  
A growing love for God  
A growing love for others

### **ACTION: HOW WILL THIS HAPPEN?**

Drawing near to God  
Pursuing community  
Reaching our world

Visit us on Facebook! Search for "Suburban Christian Church" on [www.facebook.com](https://www.facebook.com)

We want to hear from you! Contact us at [newsletter@sccvb.org](mailto:newsletter@sccvb.org)



## The Rivertones String Ensemble Coming to Suburban

On **Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, at 7:00 pm**, we have a wonderful opportunity to hear The Rivertones String Ensemble from Indian River High School in Chesapeake in concert here at Suburban. Their director is Ms Amy Coxwell and our own Abby Cooke is one of the violinists in the group. They are performing around town in an effort to raise some funds to help pay for their spring trip to Florida where they will be performing at Universal Studios.



Plan to come out to hear them and to help them on their way with a love offering. The concert is 20 to 30 minutes long and we will have a Cookie Fellowship to follow. Bring your favorite cookies (homemade or storebought) and we'll have beverages and get a chance to talk with the performers.

Lynn Cooke

## What's Happening In....

## Suburban Kids

### Children's Church



"Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name..." This month in Children's Church we have been working on memorizing the Lord's prayer. We learned that Jesus taught us to pray like this and that praying is just talking to God in your normal voice. We also learned that we should not worry, but trust God for everything. He provides food for birds and beautiful clothes for flowers so He will surely take care of us

whom He loves best. One of our lessons taught us that Jesus can calm stormy seas. Storms may be too big for people, but Jesus can rescue and save us. And we heard how Jesus fed 5000 people with just two little fish and five loaves of bread. If you want to hear more stories like these, play games, do crafts, and sing please come join us! We'd love to have you join us!

Mary Justis

### March Children's Church Schedule

| Date    | Lead         | Assistant    | Service Helper |
|---------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| 3/5/23  | Mary Justis  | Susan Haynes | Sophie Deuell  |
| 3/12/23 | Diana Gorski | Jeff Haynes  | Samara Saucedo |
| 3/19/23 | Lois Ritger  | Jeff Herring | Liam Cooke     |
| 3/26/23 | Mary Justis  | Susan Haynes | Sophie Deuell  |

## AWANA MINISTRY

In last month's article, I said I would keep you posted on what the kids asked Pastor Todd on Pastor's Popcorn Night.....So here you go!

**Q. Does God have a last name?** **A.** God doesn't have a last name like we do but He has titles (Jehovah Jireh, Yahweh)

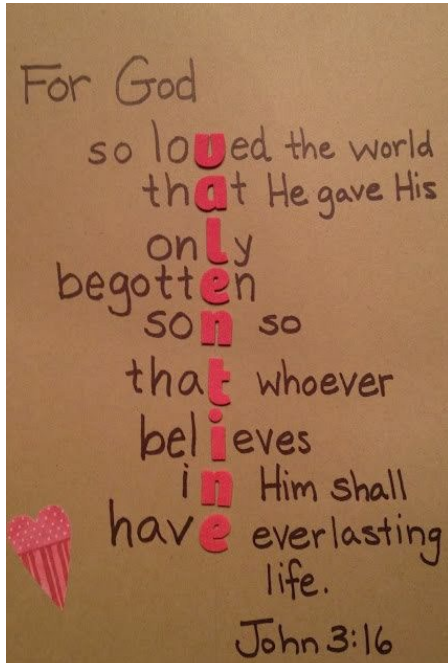
**Q. Some people say that they have had past lives and are also Christian. How does that work?** **A.** We only have ONE life.

**Q. What time of the day (the hour) did Jesus die on the cross?** **A.** From biblical accounts and descriptions, it would be around 3p.

I was so impressed with the kids and how they really thought about some good biblical questions for Pastor Todd. Sometimes we forget that what seems to be a simple, maybe even an elementary question, can be the start of a sturdy foundation in Christ.

As adults, we should never be afraid to profess that Jesus is the only way to heaven!! In February, we found in John 3:16 that it contains our very first Valentine! We also had an object lesson on how we should always build our house on the ROCK and not sand if we want to withstand challenges in this life. And have I mentioned how WONDERFUL our Leaders are??!! Well, they are!

Carol Brooks



### WHAT WE'RE DOING IN MARCH:

March 5<sup>th</sup> – Painting gratitude stones

March 12<sup>th</sup> – Crazy Sock Night

March 19<sup>th</sup> – F.R.O.G. Night (Fully Rely On God)

March 29<sup>th</sup>: The kids get to vote on a theme.



# AMBASSADOR YOUTH MINISTRY

## What is a Follower?

**Background Story:** Jesus has been healing the sick everywhere. People keep following Him everywhere He goes for all sorts of reasons. In this story, He is teaching in a home.

### Read: Luke 5:17-26

17 One day while Jesus was teaching, some Pharisees and teachers of religious law were sitting nearby. (It seemed that these men showed up from every village in all Galilee and Judea, as well as from Jerusalem.) And the Lord's healing power was strongly with Jesus.

18 Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a sleeping mat. They tried to take him inside to Jesus, 19 but they couldn't reach him because of the crowd. So they went up to the roof and took off some tiles. Then they lowered the sick man on his mat down into the crowd, right in front of Jesus. 20 Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the man, "Young man, your sins are forgiven."

21 But the Pharisees and teachers of religious law said to themselves, "Who does he think he is? That's blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!"

22 Jesus knew what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts? 23 Is it easier to say 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up and walk'? 24 So I will prove to you that the Son of Man[a] has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!"

25 And immediately, as everyone watched, the man jumped up, picked up his mat, and went home praising God. 26 Everyone was gripped with great wonder and awe, and they praised God, exclaiming, "We have seen amazing things today!"

### Big Idea: Not everyone who follows Jesus follows Jesus (Matthew 7: 13-14)

As we read Luke 5:17-26, we see different groups of people "following" Jesus physically. But were all the people who followed Jesus actually followers of Jesus? Let's take a look at each group to see application to our own life.

**1- Pharisees or Religious People:** This group of "religious leaders" were not there to learn from Jesus. They thought they knew better, and their hearts weren't teachable. They grew up in the Jewish faith and had developed arrogant and prideful hearts. Similarly, growing up in church does not make a person a follower of Christ. Church can be part of a person's culture or family tradition. But a Christian (or follower of Christ) isn't someone who has a religious tradition of attending church. A Christian is a person who has recognized they are a sinner in need of a Savior, and they choose to put their faith and trust in Jesus. A religious tradition without a revelation of Jesus is dangerous! This person can become self-righteous believing themselves to be better than the "sinners" outside the church and completely miss their need for a Savior.

**2- Crowd:** Jesus was a celebrity. Before tv, social media, and YouTube, people flocked to see Jesus' miracles. They were there for the experience, the feeling, and the hopeful message. But even as they saw Jesus' mighty works, many of these "followers" had no revelation that this man was the Messiah. We can go to youth group or conferences, scream delight at Christian bands, and post Bible verses to Instagram. But do these things alone make us a true follower of Jesus? Jesus said in Matthew 13:20-21 that some "hear the word and at once receives it with joy. But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away." Being a follower of Jesus requires us to get real... away from the lights and the emotions... where we pursue to know Jesus and follow Him in "Spirit and in truth" ([John 4:24](#)).

**3- Friends:** The friends who came with the sick man were there for only one purpose... their friend needed an encounter with Jesus, and they recognized that Jesus was the only solution. There is a longing in a follower of Christ to bring the lost, the broken, and the sick to the feet of Jesus. This longing arises from the simple truth that we were once that broken man on the mat without hope. We looked up from our place of brokenness to the face of the Messiah to find forgiveness and restoration. This truth creates a longing to share from the love and grace we received.

In response, today let's take time to pray that we would be followers of our Savior. That we wouldn't just follow in proximity for the experience, but that we pursue our Savior to know Him and make Him known. Taken from [Devotionsforteens.com](#)

AYM continued on next page

AYM Continued . . .

At our last AYM, Pastor Todd's lesson was on the Word. What does the Scripture have to say about God? How was it written, how every word is trustworthy and how it changes our lives.

Afterwards, the teens had a quick snack followed by a game of "Hide-and-Seek." Yes, your teens earned money for being able to "hide" and "find" their peers.

On February 19<sup>th</sup>, the teens enjoyed New Year's Eve with homemade ice cream sundaes.

**Please pray for our youth ministry**

- \*Pastor Todd and the youth leaders
- \*Development of leaders among the young people
- \*For God to cause unity among the older and younger members
- \*For God to lead in searching for a new Youth Pastor
- \*For our youth group to grow

## Food Pantry

On the first and third Tuesdays of every month our Food Pantry is able to help families in our community who are in need. This is made possible because of the donations from you! The food list is updated in the bulletin after every distribution. Items for immediate needs are always printed in bold. Thank you to the volunteers, Utey and Gloria Livingston, along with all the others who serve in the Food Pantry Ministry and for those who come in need.



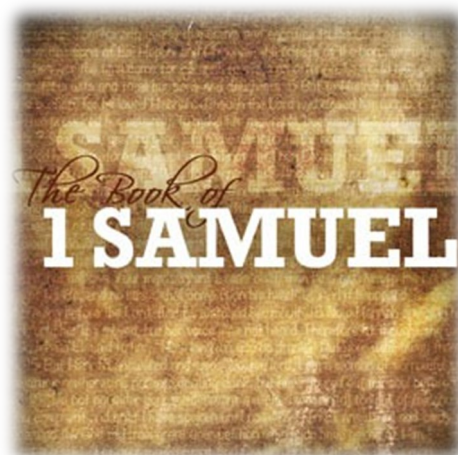
**R**

Peanut Butter  
Jelly  
Saltine Crackers  
Spaghetti Sauce  
Rice-a-Roni  
Cereal  
Canned Vegetables  
Fresh Fruits/Vegetables  
Hamburger/Turkey  
\*Toiletry items are available



## Saturday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast and Bible Study

The Saturday Morning Men's Prayer Breakfast and Bible Study will meet in March on the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 18<sup>th</sup> and will continue with the study on the **Book of 1 Samuel**. As usual, the study will feature a chapter by chapter, verse by verse, word by word, comprehensive study of Chapters 13 and 14 which deal with Saul's reign as Israel's first king, his continued warfare with Israel's enemies, and leads up to God's rejection of him for his disobedience.



The Men's Prayer Breakfast and Bible Study is an outstanding opportunity for the study of God's Word, prayer, and fellowship for men of all ages; church members and non-members.

The breakfast and the Bible study are open to all men and all are invited to enjoy a good, homemade breakfast of eggs (scramble and fried), sausage, corned beef hash, pancakes, waffles, biscuits, grits, sausage gravy, fruit, orange juice, and coffee. Come and enjoy good fellowship, and the Good News found in God's Word. It all begins at 8:00 AM and concludes around 9:30, or so.

Bob Grymes

PLEASE JOIN US

## PRAISE THE LORD!



All honor and praise to our heavenly Father for the baptisms we had in the month of February. We praise God for how He is moving in our church family. Please continue to pray for each family in our church – for God's protection over each family, that God would humble our hearts in repentance, and that we would share what He has done in our own lives with others. Let us also pray for those who have made decisions for the Lord – that their faith and love for God's Word will grow.



## Operation Christmas Child Corner

The volunteers for OCC are still distributing the shoebox gifts collected in 2022. Every day another child is hearing about Jesus thanks to people like us who packed shoeboxes and sent them off around the world. Thank you!

We have begun our monthly workdays on the 3rd Monday morning of each month at 10:00 am. Come and join us if you are crafty, or even if you're not, there will be something you can do to help. Here are some of the supplies we'll be using if you wish to donate them: 12 inch chenille stems (pipe cleaners), pony beads, low temp glue gun sticks, colorful buttons, flannel fabric, used Christmas card fronts, 1/4 inch ribbon, and snack or sandwich size zip lock bags. Anything you can help with will be much appreciated. Thanks, Lynn and the Team

## Music Notes

Sacred music is the basis for a lot of our worship. We might go about our lives with a song in our heart to help lighten the load of everyday stress. The songs and hymns we've learned over the years help us to keep Jesus in our minds and to stay in a state of constant prayer. So join in singing whenever you can at church. Everyone is invited to sing with the choirs or to sing during our congregational worship times.

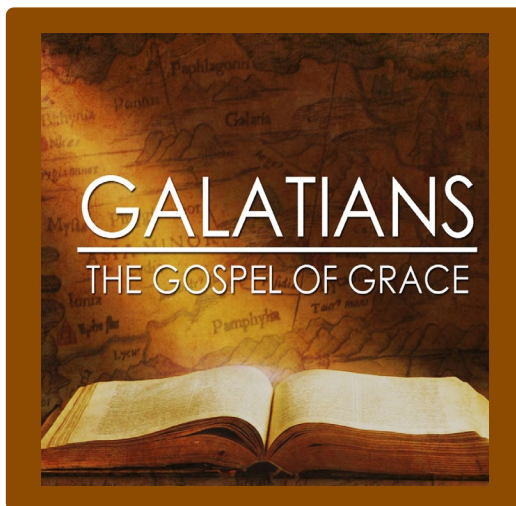
For the next few months, our Senior Adult Choir will have rehearsals on the 2nd and 3rd Monday afternoons at 1:00 pm each month. Come and join in if you like the old hymns just for the fun of it!

Our Adult Choir is beginning work on some special Easter music as the season fast approaches. We'd welcome more singers if you're interested. We use a variety of styles of music and get to taste several new contemporary arrangements as well as old faithfuls. We rehearse Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm. See you in church, Lynn Cooke

## The Discovery Class

**Sunday Mornings - Fellowship Hall A – 9:00**

We will continue our series in Galatians and as we head into March, we will engage in different devotions each week highlighting the attributes of God as revealed in the Old and New Testaments. Understanding the character of God enables believers to seek after him in prayer and to nurture spiritual priorities as a result of knowing His nature. It is in thinking about God in His greatness, in the full array of His attributes, that our minds are enlarged, our lives are reoriented, and our thirst for Him is deepened. Please come and enjoy the fellowship of the Discovery class.... no Bible knowledge is necessary.... just an open heart for the Lord. Bill Cofer

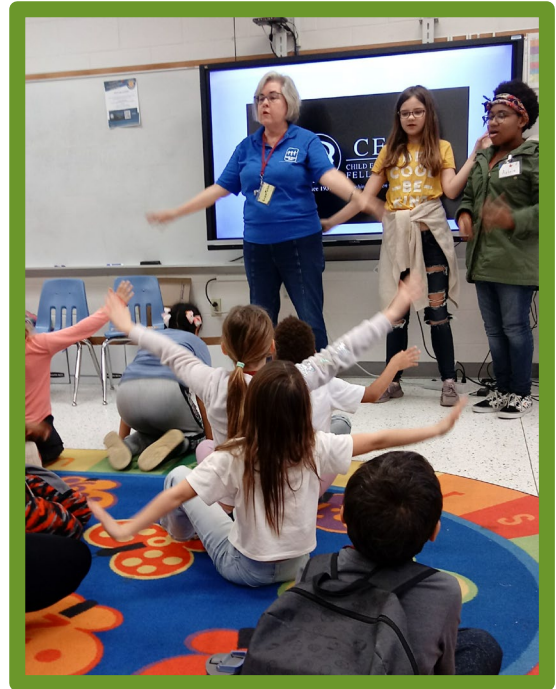




# Good News Club Update



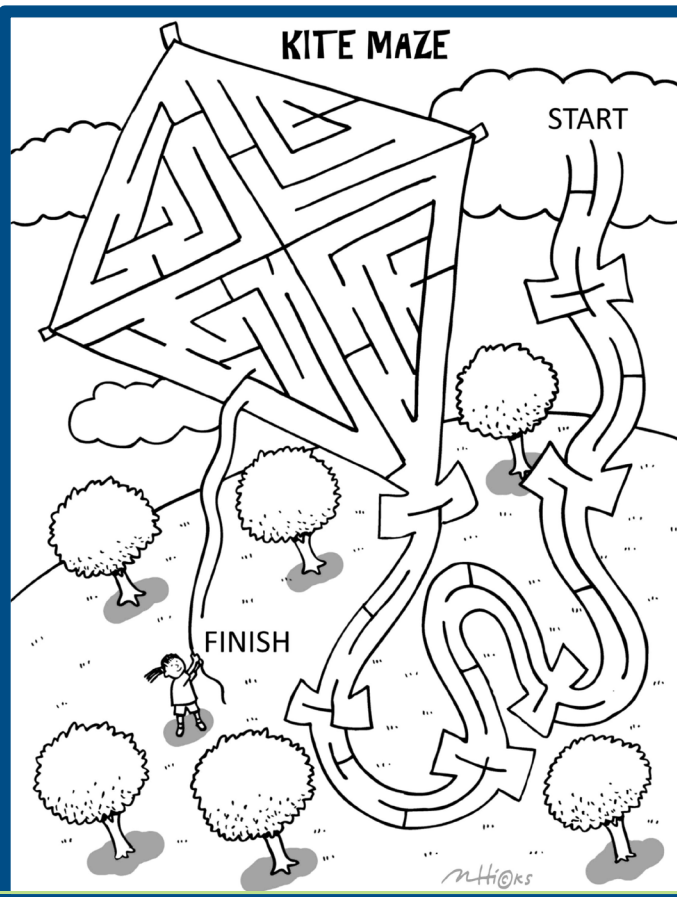
Pastor Todd and Jan Grills were not available for picture.



Many people assume that public schools are closed to the message of the Gospel of Christ. Good News Club is a notable exception to that assumption. For the last several years, Suburban has been partnering with Good News Club – an outreach ministry that presents the “Good News” of Christ to students in an after-school program. GNC ministers to 23 schools in our area; Suburban’s club meets in Woodstock Elementary. COVID caused us to suspend face-to-face meetings for a couple of years, but we are excited to be back in the school this year. On any given Thursday, we have the privilege to meet with over 40 very active 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders. Each week, our volunteers lead the students in songs and games and, most importantly, a lesson from the Bible that presents Jesus as Savior. We are so thankful for our team of volunteers, the Woodstock administration who so warmly welcomes us each week. We are also grateful for the prayer team at Suburban; your support is vital to this important ministry.

Lou & Ara Miller





**DID YOU KNOW** the Bible describes God as a lion and a lamb? Look up the following verses and see.

**Revelation 5:5**

"Weep no more; behold the \_\_\_\_\_ of the tribe of \_\_\_\_\_, the Root of David, has conquered."

**John 1:29**

"Behold, the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, who takes away the \_\_\_\_\_ of the world."

**WHAT'S THE ANSWER?** Pastor Todd played a certain sport when he was growing up. You must be in good shape to play the game and work as a team. What do you think the sport was? Write your answer in the blank, then bring it to Pastor Todd to see if you have the correct answer. If you do, you get a prize!

I think the sport was \_\_\_\_\_.