

Fall 2011

## Beyond the Holidays

*To Infinity and beyond!* Thank you Buzz Light Year for inspiring my five year old grandson to fly -- or as some would say, *fall with style* -- from the top of the kitchen stairs into the dining room below.

On October 29<sup>th</sup> the Portland Promise Center hosted a trunk or treat fall festival. We had twenty cars decorated with storybook themes and gave away tons of candy and children's books. My grandson, better known as Buzz Light Year, was there along with 275 other children. It was a fantastic way to kick off the holiday season.

The children at the Promise Center always enjoy this time of year. During the holidays volunteers from all over the city help make great memories for our kids. The love they share and the gifts they give inspire our children to dream and hope. This year will be no different. We have six more holiday celebrations on the calendar.

The holidays are going to be a blast! But, what happens after the holidays have come and gone? What happens after the decorations are put away and winter rolls on? The obstacles that our families face will continue to challenge them beyond the holidays.

**Children at the Promise Center are no different than any other kid in the universe...they dream of flying! They dream of being and doing great things!** But the challenge of living in a culture of poverty has a way of killing dreams in children before they get a chance to try on their wings. At the Promise Center we encourage children to dream. We introduce them to Jesus and to people who believe in them, people who spend time with them, who love them and help them build the skills they need to succeed.

This newsletter will give you ideas on how you can join the team. Yes, you can fly with us...*to the HOLIDAYS AND BEYOND!*



## Holiday Celebrations

**Community Church Thanksgiving Dinner:** November 19<sup>th</sup> community churches in Portland will join together to host a dinner and give out food baskets. The Promise Center will contribute 1000 boxes of Jiffy Cornbread mix. You can help by sending lots of cornbread to the Center.

**Thanksgiving Dinner:** November 20<sup>th</sup> / 2:00 PPC will host a Thanksgiving Dinner for family and friends.

**Breakfast with Santa:** December 3<sup>rd</sup> / 9:00 to 11:00 children will have breakfast and pictures taken with Santa.

**Youth Christmas Party:** December 9<sup>th</sup> / 6:00 to 8:00 PPC teenagers will have their annual Christmas party.

**PPC Christmas Store:** December 11<sup>th</sup> / 5:00 to 8:00 Parents with children enrolled in the afterschool program are invited to shop at the Christmas Store. We need donated toys to stock the store.

**Children's Christmas Party:** December 16<sup>th</sup> / 4:00 to 6:30 PPC children will have their annual Christmas party.





## Every Day Ways to Help

### **Kroger Cards...**

Get a special Kroger Gift Card linked to the Portland Promise Center. The card is reloadable and comes with \$5 already on it. We receive 4% of the money you spend every time you buy groceries and gas. Just tell the cashier how much money you would like to load on the card before checking out. Contact Kathie, 502-776-2635, to get your Kroger Card today!

### **GoodSearch...**

GoodSearch allows you to search the web, like Google, while raising money for PPC at the same time. All you have to do is download the toolbar from [www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/portland-promise-center](http://www.goodsearch.com/toolbar/portland-promise-center) and begin searching the web. To find out other ways you can use GoodSearch visit [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) or contact Drew at 502-776-2635.

### **ACH Monthly Donation...**

With ACH, making monthly donations to PPC couldn't be easier. When you have it set up, a monthly donation amount that you specify will automatically be deducted from your checking account. If you want to find out more about this contact Joni today at 502-776-2635.

## Volunteer Opportunities

**Child Care and Nursery Workers** The Sunday Morning Worship Celebration and the Thursday evening Celebrate Recovery program is looking for a small team of volunteers to help provide quality child care during these two programs. (Sunday 11:00–1:00 / Thursday 6:30–8:30)

**Children's Church Teachers** The small group of folks who meet for worship at the Promise Center could use some help in creating a worship and educational experience for kids. We are in the process of building a team of volunteers to make Sunday Morning a special time for our children.

**Classroom Assistants** We need assistants to serve one day a week and help teachers in our afterschool program. Having an extra set of hands to offer love and nurture to our children is always a good thing. The youth room is open Monday – Thursday 2:30 to 4:30; elementary class rooms are open Monday – Friday 4:00 to 6:30.

**One-on-One Tutoring and Homework Helpers** We can always use one more tutor afterschool to encourage children and teenagers in their academic work. Time: 2:30 – 6:30pm, once a week. Contact Angel 776-2635

**V.I.T.A (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance)** Over the past ten years we have provided income tax assistance for low income families. It is a great service and a good place to meet people. Volunteers will help prepare taxes or greet and host our guests. (No tax experience needed – IRS training provided) Time commitment: January – April, one morning or evening a week. Contact Eurana 776-2635



## Stay Connected

One of the best everyday ways to help us out is by staying informed with what's going on here. There are three easy ways to do this.

### **Like us on facebook...**

Visit [facebook.com/PortlandPromiseCenter](http://facebook.com/PortlandPromiseCenter) and click on "Like" to stay connected via facebook.

### **Follow us on Twitter...**

Go to [twitter.com/PromiseCenter](http://twitter.com/PromiseCenter) or search for @PromiseCenter and keep up with what where doing through twitter.

### **Receive text updates...**

You can get Portland Promise Center text updates sent straight to your mobile phone. All you have to do is text the word portlandpromise (all one word) to phone number 41411, it's that simple!



*ONE MORE WAY TO HELP...*

*YOU CAN INCLUDE THE PROMISE CENTER IN YOUR YEAR END GIVING!*

We are grateful for all you do. Our neighborhood and the children we serve need friends like you. Thank You. To help express our thanks I asked two of the young ladies from the Promise Center to write a thank you note.



*The reason why I am thanking you is that I love to come and learn about the Lord and the Promise Center is an awesome place to be.*

*Catherine Riggle*



*Thank you for giving because I like coming to learn about the Lord. Thank you God! With love.*

*Monica Walker*

*A gift during the last quarter of the year will help meet social needs of the Promise Center Kids.*

**A MONTHLY GIFT THROUGH-OUT THE YEAR WILL HELP  
PROVIDE QUALITY PROGRAMS...  
BEYOND THE HOLIDAYS!**