

# Carpenter's Cross ministries

## SEPTEMBER 2007 NEWSLETTER

What a summer! It was 'full steam ahead' when Carolyn flew in from Australia mid-June. For the next two months we ministered in camps, kids' crusades, Vacation Bible Schools and churches in Washington and Idaho states. While every church is different, every program prayed over and tailor made for that church or organization, there is a common thread in all. The thread is in people who have a heart for kids, who realize that the future is being molded NOW in values, beliefs, behaviors embraced by each child's family. These people have a sense of urgency to see young hearts and lives touched by the love and power of a mighty God; a God to lead and guide the kids of today to become responsible young adults tomorrow.

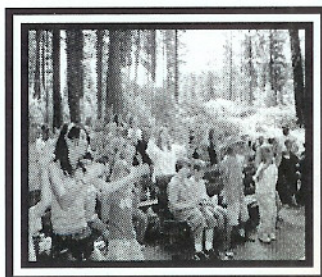
### **HOW** does God speak to kids?

Remember the story of young Samuel in the Bible? He was understudy to the prophet Eli, lived in the temple and was already participating in temple rituals. Yet when God spoke to him with an audible voice we are told that this was before Samuel knew the Lord he served. He didn't recognize that voice at first, but he heard it and eventually responded. Samuel grew to be one of the most trusted and revered spiritual leaders in Israel. Every word that God spoke he faithfully imparted to the people concerned, and not one word failed. Check it out for yourself in 1 Samuel.

And so it is today. God speaks to kids (big and small, young and old) who are willing to hear His voice.

He speaks:

- Audibly
- In an inner voice
- Through reading His Word, the Bible
- Through listening to preaching and teaching
- During worship when the words of a song speak to our hearts
- During prayer – when we stop doing all the talking, and start listening
- Through others – either directly through a prophetic word or exhortation, or through a word of advice which God 'quickens' to us as it is spoken.
- Through dreams and visions
- Through His creation – nature.



Kids joining in worship songs at Mountain Kids' Day Camp, Idaho City. The organization sponsoring this camp is Isaiah's Ranch.

INSIDE:

What's God Saying? - Jeanette Remembered - 20th Anniversary Celebration - Fall Schedule - Prayer Requests

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**Eph 6:22 "I am sending Tytichus to you for this very purpose...to encourage you."**



## What has God been saying?

God Speaks Through Nature...

We had a great experience as we loaded up the Subaru Forester to leave Miracle Mountain camp. The camp had gone really well with several kids and an adult inviting Jesus into their lives. We needed to be at Warm Beach, north of Seattle Sunday evening to set up for our next camp, and so needed to leave the camp near Grangeville, Idaho during the morning session. Our last sharing time was on "Leadership" and Sue brought a great message taken from the example of Canadian geese making their long trek south. She talked about the 'v' flying formation – how each goose is given lift by the one in front, how they rotate the leader in order to ensure the flock continues on, and how the noise they make when the "honk" is purported to be encouragement signals to the other geese. "Honk" – you are doing fine. "Honk" – we're going to make it! "Honk" – it won't be long now, keep going! It was a very good message. When it came time to leave, one of the leaders invited the children to pray for us saying "Sue and Carolyn have to drive six or seven hours to set up for their next family camp." From the back row came the sound "HONK". He continued "and when the next camp starts, they will have the kids for up to six hours a day". There were several more HONKS. We laughed, but we got the message – it was encouragement. After the prayer (all those kids really prayed!) we started out of the tent toward the car. As we opened the doors and climbed in, we heard it – "Honk...honk....honk.... all the kids and leaders sending us on our way. We started down the mountain and still the sound followed us "HONK....HONK....honk....honk.. "You can do it...God is with you...We love you...God bless you..." With tears in our eyes and a warm feeling in our hearts we headed for Seattle. God's word to the kids bounced back to be God's word to us. Sometime later when we had a few days with my parents in Boise, we wanted to bless them so we got up early to paint the gazebo, trying to get ahead of the summer sun's heat. After several hours as the sweat was pouring down our faces, we heard it again...two geese flying overhead with the familiar "honk, honk" encouragement from God's creation!

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## Prayer Requests:

Anointing and Creativity as we prepare for the 2008 Tour of Asia-Pacific nations.  
Sue's parent's health.  
Blessing for the needs of Southern Cross Kids Camps  
Carolyn and Sue health and safety.  
Resources in both materials & finances to bless and equip children & workers.





## JEANETTE REMEMBERED

In May my cousin Jeanette passed away. Many of you were praying as she struggled with Non-Hodgkin's so I wanted to share with you a glimpse of her life and spirit. She was like a sister. Our families vacationed each summer together. She was a vibrant bubble of joy and her laugh still echoes in our hearts. One winter the youth group went snow tubing in the mountains, climbing up a long hill and sliding down. We didn't have enough tubes for everyone so we took turns. I was bundled in a snowmobile jumpsuit. It was the slickness of the suit that gave me the idea that maybe the material would slide downhill. I told Jeanette "Why don't I lay down and you can ride me down the hill?" She asked if she would be too heavy and I assured her it'd be fine. I lay on my back. She sat on my stomach. We pushed off and started to slide downhill. It was working great! However, I forgot one thing - moguls or bumps. That revelation came to me the first one we hit, flying up in the air and slamming down still picking up speed. We were screaming laughing as we hurled down the mountain bump after bump. That was Jeanette - game for anything and laughing all the way. As a teen, she asked a pastor from Australia if he knew someone she could write to. It was Richard Holland. Her pen pal was Carolyn. That simple request led to a bridge between two nations and the founding of 5 camps for kids in foster care, Southern Cross Kids Camps. It seems quite a fitting legacy. Her life was one of showing Christ's love & care for those in need around her. I don't think she realized the ever-increasing ripple effect of her small acts of kindness done in obscurity. I'm glad she knows now!

## Schedules

### Sue:

U.S.A. October – January 23<sup>rd</sup> Ministry in Seattle, WA and Boise, ID

### Carolyn:

AUSTRALIA October – December

SCKC Directors Summit –

Ministry in Victoria

January:

New Zealand Inauguration SCKC Camps

## Carpenter's Cross Ministries 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary USA

Regarding the subject of ENCOURAGEMENT (see geese) the Board of CCM were busy this summer planning a surprise celebration to mark my 20<sup>th</sup> year in itinerant ministry. My sister DeAnn played a great role too in the organizing and subterfuge! Over a hundred friends came from surrounding states and blessed me with their love and support! Mitzy Hansen did a fantastic DVD of the last 20 years of traveling ministry. If you would like a copy, let me know and I would be happy to send you one. (If I have already promised you one – be patient, it is on the way.)



Brother in law John Slaughter, Kathy Peretti and Sue

## Prayer Requests:

- Anointing and Creativity as we prepare for the 2008 Tour of Asia-Pacific nations.
- Sue's parent's health.
- Blessing for the needs of Southern Cross Kids Camps
- Carolyn and Sue health and safety.
- Resources in both materials and finances to continue to bless and equip children.

Blessings,  
Sue Carpenter and Carolyn Boyd

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For your friends, our newsletter is online at:

[www.carpenters-cross.org](http://www.carpenters-cross.org)

Our online travel journals are found at:

Sue's blog: [www.travelmonkey4christ.blogspot.com](http://www.travelmonkey4christ.blogspot.com)

Carolyn's blog [www.cubsplace.blogspot.com](http://www.cubsplace.blogspot.com)



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## upcoming schedule

### HEARING GOD'S VOICE

During one of our camps Sue asked the children to spend some time quietly listening to God's voice.

One young camper shared how he had heard God talking about the spread of the gospel worldwide, that His Word would reach every nation. Several other campers and junior leaders clearly heard from God during that week.



Kids from New Hope  
International Church praying.

**THANK YOU** for your encouragement, prayers and support.  
We love and appreciate each one of you!

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