

An Aslan Family Christmas Update

Aslan Youth Ministries P.O. Box 270, Red Bank, New Jersey 07701-0270



As I sit here writing this letter to you, I begin with the end in mind. First I want to thank you for your past support of Aslan. Second I ask you to please not forget us as the year comes to a close.

Not a day goes by that each of you is not hit with an endless stream of appeals ~ radio, television, internet, mail, email, Facebook, Twitter ~ asking you to support a myriad of “causes.” This time of year the entrances to many shopping areas are blocked off with people holding buckets for you to “drop your donation into.” And after you navigate past the bucket lines, there is always someone standing outside the entrance to major stores with another bucket waiting for your “generous donation.”

Through the years, Aslan has resisted the temptation to make every newsletter another frantic appeal for your help. With only 2,500 people on our mailing list, we know nearly every one of you by name! We



Making a gingerbread house is an annual event for Christmas at Aslan!



One of our Aslan moms and her son at our annual Christmas party in Asbury

remember where we met you. We've stayed in many of your homes. Some of you have supported us from the start of Aslan 36 years ago.

There's never a time when you send your gifts to us that I don't pause for a moment and think about the sacred trust I feel about every gift ~ large and small ~ that comes to this ministry. I know that you willingly and sacrificially give so that Aslan can exist. No one twists your arm and says you have to! Lynn Ann and I, Queenie, Barbara and our hundreds of volunteers are able to fulfill God's calling in our lives because you are willing to give. So, you see, you are truly partners with us in Aslan's work. You aren't merely stuffing a dollar or two in a can. You are the life's blood of Aslan Youth Ministries, and you're the reason for every smiling face on these

Stacy, Bida and Aaron in an Aslan Christmas play



pages and on every mailing we send to you!

And so we approach the end of 2011. Aslan has done okay this year, but we're still quite a ways behind in our giving from individuals ~ about \$25,000. We need to make up that deficit. If there's any way you can help we hope you will.

This week we have a wonderful "Christmas" present we want to share with you. As we picked up one of our Asbury students, a beautiful young woman stopped Lynn Ann and said, "Do you recognize me?" Lynn Ann knew her face, but she couldn't remember her name! The girl said, "I'm Laquella!" and she gave Lynn Ann a huge hug. This girl was in Aslan 10 years ago and gave us some of the biggest headaches we've ever had! Now she's a beautiful young woman with such peace on her face. All she could talk about was how much Aslan meant to her and how happy she is that we're still going after all these years.

For Laquella and all the children of Aslan for thirty-six years ~ thank you, again! Please don't forget us. And Merry Christmas! God bless us . . . Every One!

Craig & Lynn Ann
Queenie
Barbara

Jack "Skip" Buckman
Rob Swikart

Ed Vander Hey
Candy Pellechio

Heather Keefe
Gil Messina

Merry Christmas & God's blessings from the staff
& Board of Directors