

NEELEY FAMILY WENTZVILLE, MISSOURI



Sponsoring Church

Holly Springs MBC 217 Jeff Rd Star City, AR 71667

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Exciting Times

July has been a busy and exciting month. Our Backyard Bible Club has been very successful as the kids learned about God the Creator King. We have had 27 children come through this summer with an average of 15 each night. We also had several of the parents stay and listen to the lessons. This has given us opportunities to get to know the parents better. We will continue our Backyard Bible Club throughout the school year on Wednesday night.

We had the pleasure of having two churches join us. Grace Missionary Baptist Church from Jonesboro, Arkansas and Emmanuel Missionary Baptist Church from Malvern, Arkansas came and helped us reach out to Wentzville. On Friday, we handed out around 2,000 invitations to our worship service. We rented a pavilion at one of the local parks, played games, painted faces, and set up a tent and offered to pray for people. We had four people come by our tent and were able to pray with them as well as get their contact information. On Saturday we handed out more invitations and met at our house and had water games with the kids in our neighborhood. That Sunday we rented a room at the Wentzville REC Center and had our first public worship service.

Finding a consistent place of worship has been a challenge, but God has been opening doors. We have made an offer on a house and five acres of land that sits between Wentzville and Foristell city limits. This is a great location with hundreds of houses being built within a mile on each side of the land. The High School and Middle School that Foristell attends are located on this road, and hundreds of people travel past it going to school and work. The county is in contract with the land owners to widen the road in the next couple of years. This is a great location and will only get better as the two towns grow toward each other.

The house gives us several opportunities. We will sign on the property September 2 and start clearing the fence and trees at the front of the property. We have the Wentzville REC Center rented until the last Sunday of September so we can work on the house and property and have it ready for the first Sunday of October for our worship service there. This gives me time to dig up some of the grass and put down gravel for a parking lot. I will also need to add smoke detectors and some handrails for stairs. Most of the work on the house will be for ease of entering the building and for insurance and safety purposes.

We will not be living in the house. The house is in great shape and has an open living room, dining room, and kitchen area. This will give us enough room to seat at least thirty people and use that area for the worship services. It also has three bedrooms that we can use for classrooms and my office. It has a large, finished room in the basement with a bathroom, a large room for storage, and two doors that lead to a patio. This gives us a place that says we are committed to this community. It also gives us plenty of room to grow and build as we need.

I need chainsaws, weed eaters, and people to help clean up the fence and trees. Oh, and if anyone has \$400,000 dollars laying around, on September 2, we will have a mortgage payment!