

REPORT FROM CAMP AGAPE



At lunch Wednesday Brenda Dingwall (St. Alban's, Salisbury) got to talking about the impressive changes in the behavior and attitudes of the children since their arrival last Sunday.

Brenda said the kids really pushed the adults Sunday afternoon and again on Monday. By the end of the second day, though, they had learned the permitted boundaries of their actions and the consequences for breaking through the boundaries. Pushing too hard usually meant a counseling session with one of the grownups.

Starting Tuesday morning the kids were mostly on their best behavior. Just in time, too. The cabin counselors were beginning to look old beyond their years.

* * *

One of the happiest campers is Opie, beloved by children and adults alike. He accompanied camp nurse Lynda (St. Paul's by-the-Sea) to oversee her repairs to cut fingers or apply ointment to insect bites. At just ten pounds he's smaller than anyone else, but a lot faster.



The kids will be heading home Saturday morning. As they leave each one will receive a personalized photo album with his or her picture on the cover, and inside the albums will be photos of all the other kids, the adults, and some of their activities the past week. The counselors will also be on their way home, exhausted, worn out, but far happier than they were last week at this time because they've been practicing their Christian servanthood for some really needy children. And, as usual when we follow the Way of Jesus, we've all gotten a lot more than we gave.

Reese Rickards
Camp Agape
Thursday, August 16, 2007