



# The G-Force Gazette

## Inside this issue:

*More than just a* 2

*Sanctified: A* 3

*Just for Kicks* 3

*Fix our Exes on Jesus* 3

*A Year of Ser-* 4

*To the Class of* 5

*Matt and Chris: the "Senior" Citi-* 6/7

*One Heck of a* 8

## A Word from A. Ling

*By*

What? The school year has ended? How can it be? It was only yesterday that we heard 10 people give their candidate speeches. I am still waiting for our canoe trip. Ok. So maybe no canoe trip before Chris goes off to college. I will just play with my duckies in the tub. Hmm... too much info, back to the newsletter.

So, how did we spend the last 303 days? Well, we had 1 buffet welcome party, 8 gym nights and 30 fellowship meetings, 1 Christmas party, and 1 BBQ Pool party. We debated whether Halloween was for us or not, and went on a youth mini retreat where we learned who snored and who didn't. The youth praise band was almost 1/3 of the whole youth group and they even came up with a cool name – Sanctified. We celebrated Christmas with a fun and well attended party. The gifts exchanged was quite interesting, some good, some, well, you fill in the blank. For the church's Christmas celebration "The Gift", the youths made gingerbread houses and brought the house down with our body worship routine.

2007 sneaked in on us. Uncle Gordon shared with us about his experience being a soldier. We wrote cards and letters to the military personnel in Iraq. Johnson is still waiting for the recipient of his letter to make the next chess move. Some of the girls along with lots of ladies of Grace Church started the "Grace 2 Grace Knitting Club". To date, we have made 4 blankets and presented them as caring packages to the elderly. We went on an extreme make-over exploration. The youth leaders and committee leaders did a presentation on the 7 churches in the book of Revelation. The same group also presented on how war is perceived from a Christian point of view.



Our year was touched by many adults who have come into our path. (cont. on pg.4)

## A Big Splash

*By Alex Chin*



On May 26<sup>th</sup>, the G-force Youth Group took a day trip down to Point Pleasant Beach in South Jersey. Close to 20 people showed up at FDU early that morning to converse and organize before leaving for the beach. From there, our four designated drivers piled kids into their cars and headed to the beach. The drivers included: Auntie Ling2, Uncle Ray, Uncle Liem, and Jocelyn. Though the drive was loongg, the wait was well worth it.

After the two-hour drive, we finally arrived at Point Pleasant Beach. Then came a strange view, 20 Asian kids filing out of a total of 4 cars. From there plans were made and we all set off toward the beach. Once we got there, (cont. on pg.5)

### Top 5 Christian Songs from Billboard magazine

- 5) Bring the Rain  
By MercyMe
- 4) Undo  
By Rush of Fools
- 3) Every Time I Breathe  
By Big Daddy Weave
- 2) Give You Glory  
By Jeremy Camp
- 1) I'm Not Who I Was  
By Brandon Heath

# More than just a bath

By

Getting baptized is one of the most important decisions an individual can make during their lifetime. When you get baptized, you are giving yourself to God and it represents that our sins have been washed away. Although it is not necessary to be baptized to go to heaven, Jesus commanded us to be baptized.

This coming June will be the first anniversary of the baptism of some of the members of our youth group. The youth who got baptized last summer are: Kevin Hong, Laurence Huang, Courtney Mui, Ivan Ho, Jeff Chow and myself, Terence Lam. The baptisms of these people have changed their lives. Here's an inside scoop on all you need to know about their baptism, where you can learn how they felt about their own baptism and also more information incase you yourself wanted to get baptized.



### Was it hard to write your testimony?

**Ivan-** "It wasn't too hard"

**Larry-** "It was hard to decide where to start, but once I started, everything flowed right out."

**Kevin-** "It was a little difficult since there was so much I wanted to incorporate into it and I wasn't too sure how to put it all together."

**Courtney-** "Not, it wasn't really that hard."

**Jeff-** "I've experienced a lot so it wasn't that hard for me."

### Why did you decide to get baptized?

**Ivan-** "Since I know that I am saved, the next step was to make a public declaration."

**Larry-** "I felt it was the next step in my spiritual growth."

**Kevin-** "I felt it was the right thing for me to do as a Christian. I felt obligated to get baptized at some point in my life."

**Courtney-** "I felt that I was spiritually mature enough, I wanted to take my relationship with Christ to a more mature level—and I wanted people to know that."

**Jeff-** "It seemed like the right thing to do."

### How was the water?

**Ivan-** "It was cold."

**Larry-** "Exactly how water is supposed to be...wet."

**Kevin-** "I didn't mind the cold too much but I'm not really a water person so the soggy feeling after being dipped was a little more annoying to me than the temperature itself."

**Courtney-** "It was clean since I went first."

**Jeff-** "It was nice, I don't really remember."

### How have you changed since getting baptized?

**Ivan-** "I have grown more spiritually and have gained more trust in God for anything."

**Larry-** "I feel that I have changed a little, but not as much as I wanted. I believe that it is a common mistake to believe that once one gets baptized, their lives change dramatically. That's not the case, it's a continual effect."

**Kevin-** "It hasn't exactly been smooth sailing for me since I'm human but I feel like I'm still on the right path. I still struggle with my sinful ways at times but I think I'm improving."

**Courtney-** "I've deepened my relationship with Christ even more."

**Jeff-** "I've matured a lot. I have stopped being as hyper."



"The Baptisms of these people have changed their lives."

## Sanctified: A Year of Struggle, Growth, and Success

Wow, what a year the praise team has had! Although we have had many tough times, we have also had many fun times this year as well. We got to go out and perform for the college kids from FDU for their poverty awareness event. That was a very good



experience for the entire praise team because we stepped out of our comfort zone and played our hearts out to God, and He truly blessed the night because everyone was dancing and clapping and just enjoying us playing for them. Afterwards, we went to Burger King and Uncle Liem treated us to like a bajillion burgers, fries, and chicken nuggets. (Thank you Uncle Liem very much!)

I asked a few praise members what they thought about this year's praise team's progress and whatever other opinions they had. Terence said, "It's sweet like bagels." Courtney said, "I think that the praise team did well. We improved a lot." Vivianne said, "This year has been pretty rough sometimes, but in

the end we all pull through, learn and grow from it." Personally, I think that this year has been a lot of fun. I've learned that the praise team has a lot of potential and I shouldn't doubt them as I have before.



Next year Chris will be leaving us because he's going off to college. These few years being with him have been a lot of fun. He has been a reliable bass and electric guitarist and he has helped me out a lot. Chris says to me, "Rock on and keep the shenanigans going." I know the praise team will really miss him. Well, next year Alex will be joining Sanctified, taking Chris's place as bassist and electric guitarist. I asked Alex what he thought next year would be like and he said, "It is going to be fun."

As I said before, this year has been a very exciting and challenging year. There were times when giving up seemed like the best thing to do, but all these guys showed their support for me, and it feels truly good knowing that I'm not alone in anything. You guys are amazing people to be around, and I just want to say thanks for all your support and all your hard work! =)

## Fix our Eyes on Jesus

*By Pastor*

The school year is over, G-Force is in its summer mode, and we are ready for the summer! September, 2006 seems like ages ago. What are we going to do? I like what the author of Hebrews had to say, "Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith... (Heb. 12:2)." It is easy to drift away from our faith and from Jesus Christ during these lazy days of summer. My encouragement and advice is that during our summer months, we strive to fix our eyes on Jesus even more – now that we actually have the time. First, maybe, each morning,

we can begin the day with Jesus -- listen to praise music, read His Word, and then pray through how He wants us to spend the day. Second, we don't waste the whole day. It's a great time to help out around the house, or get the chores done. Third, don't let boredom drive you to do something stupid. It can easily happen – that's what Satan is waiting for. Bathe yourself with the Holy Spirit who is already in you! So, for this summer, 2007 – fix our eyes on, because He alone can help us perfect our faith, since He is author of our faith!

## Just for kicks

Compiled by  
Johnson Pau  
From lol .com

Jesus and Satan were having an argument as to who was the better programmer. This went on for days until they agreed to hold a contest with God as the judge. They sat at their computers and began.

They typed furiously for several hours, lines of code streaming up on the screen. Seconds before the end of the competition, a bolt of lightning struck, taking out the electricity. Moments later, the power was restored, and God announced that the contest was over. He asked Satan to show what he had come up with. Satan was visibly upset, and cried, "I have nothing! I lost it all when the power went out."

"Very well, then," God said, "Let us see if Jesus did any better."

Jesus entered a command, and the screen came to life in vivid display, the voices of an angelic choir poured forth from the speakers. Satan was astonished. He stuttered, "But how?! I lost everything, yet Jesus' program is intact! How did he do it?"

God chuckled, "Jesus saves"

## A Word from A. Ling (cont.)

*By Auntie*

Uncle Silas, Jocelyn, and Joseph were our amazing Bible Exploration leaders. We attended 2 workshops: Spiritual Gift led by Auntie Marilyn, and Depression led by Janine Gonzalez. We went each month to Bergen Regional to help with their Sunday Worship. You can say we are getting to be experts in moving heavy wheelchairs in and out of tight elevators. Lots of thanks to Uncle Johnson, Auntie Ruth, and Uncle Allen for teaching Sunday School. One must not forget Pastor Moy who teaches our Discipleship and Baptismal classes. And how about Kevin, who helped us at our every beckoning call, including countless trips to the grocery stores.

Everyone was incredibly busy this year, so we didn't have too many outings. However, the ones we did go were really GOOD. The boys went to Camp Herald and ate up a storm. The girls went shopping and had sushi. We walked across Brooklyn Bridge. Yes, teenagers walking, shocking isn't it? No \$1 dumplings this time, but yummy dim sum afterwards. Our G-Force T-shirt with a new awesome design by Shani is in the works. Maybe we will have one for our next outing.

All in all, it was a pretty productive year. I am sure I have missed many things like seeing Courtney, Ivan, Larry and Terence getting dunked. Oops, I meant baptized. Or, the night our very own Praise Band playing for a college event while decked out in very hip outfits. We got standing ovation for the body worship routine. Oh, can't forget about the 2 bake sales which yielded over \$500. I don't know what we put in the food but people seemed to like it. Our Café G-Force for Mother's Day and Father's Day coffee were both a hit.

OK. I gotta stop. Erin only gave me a little space and I was only suppose to write 300 words or less. It is now over 550 words and I am still talking. To end, I want to just give the glory back to God. Thank You Jesus for being with us throughout all this time. We still have much to grow and many fish to catch. Please continue to bless us, dear Heavenly Father. Thank you Boaz, Courtney, and Larry for hanging in there and giving us a great year. Love, your one and only, A. Ling2



*A picture of the walk-a-thon participants posing on the Brooklyn Bridge!*

## A year of Service at Bergen Regional

*By*

*Vivianne Ho*

From Bishop Singletary's uplifting sermons to seeing the joy on the residents' faces, I think we can all agree that serving at Bergen Regional has been an incredible experience. Starting in September 2006, members of G-Force have been faithfully going to Bergen Regional Medical Center every fourth Sunday of each month to help bring the residents who are in wheelchairs down to the Chapel, where they attend service.

Almost every month we presented a special item for the residents at their worship service. Whether it was body worship, skits, or praise led by Sanctified, it always touched the residents' hearts. "I always feel like I've done something good every time I perform for them, and it's always rewarding to see their smiling faces," said Raymond Shu.

In December, seven youths acted out the skit, "McJesus". One of the residents was so inspired by their enthusiasm and "acting abili-

ties" that he adapted a story called Heaven's Grocery Store and gave it to us. We practiced and were able to perform this skit the next month. This reciprocal participation of this resident was a great encouragement to us.

Throughout the year, many exciting changes happened in the Bergen Regional community. One got married, one went home to be with the Lord, while another one was discharged and returned home to their family. It is so great to personally get to know the patients there and to see how each one of them have grown in Christ.

Serving God through what we do at Bergen Regional (sometimes without air conditioning!) is such a blessing for all of us. I know that each and everyone of us will always cherish the memories. For those of you who have not had the opportunity to spend time with the residents, just come!

**"...serving at Bergen Regional has been an incredible experience."**

## To the Class of '07...

*By*

*As the days pass and you go separate ways,  
Always remember the memories of all your days:  
The laughter, the sadness, the tears that were shed,  
The obstacles, pain, and words that were said.*

*The lessons you've learned keep close to your heart,  
For you'll always need them, learned right from the  
start.*

*God's verses will help you to get through tough times,  
He knows what you're thinking, watching you from  
behind.*

*Go out and find friends who will comfort and love,  
But if you cannot, God is there up above.*

*He will be there for you, when others forget,  
He's there in your heart, one filled with love, hope, and  
regret.*

*Though you'll journey far and learn many new  
things,  
Never forget the joy that God brings.  
He's the one who forgives and is patient and kind,  
He says to you, "Child, you'll always be mine."*

*So whatever you do and wherever you go,  
There's one little thing that I think you should know.  
Our love and support is there with you too,  
So never give up, and may God's peace be with you.*

## A Big Splash (cont.)

*By Alex Chin*

we set up a little base camp, with a few umbrellas and chairs for the parents. After base camp was set up, all of the kids raced toward the shore. Once they got to the water they realized that it was a little colder than they had previously thought. While some eagerly jumped in the water, others resorted to different activities, such as playing football, building sand castles, burying people in the sand, walking the boardwalk, tanning in the sun, or just sitting around and having fun. Just ask Jocelyn and Boaz how much fun it was, the two of them getting buried in the giant pit.



After a morning of fun activities, everyone gathered around base camp and had lunch, sandwiches, potato chips, cookies, and as usual, some special Chinese food. After lunch, a group of kids set out to take a walk on the boardwalk, strolling back and forth along the short boardwalk and picking up some free stuff from the radio station. People went back to their previous activities after returning from their stroll: building sand castles, and large mounds of sand, tossing the football and such things. Nearing 6 o'clock everyone started to gather up the stuff and head back to the cars. From there, everyone and everything was split up into their respective cars. Finally came the 2-hour drive back for the drivers, and a 2-hour nap for most of the passengers. Point Pleasant was quite the adventure for the G-Force Youth Group, and it left people asking, what's next?



## Matt and Chris: the “Senior” Citizens of G-Force

By

Well, they've marched down to “Pomp and Circumstance” and sat in their respective seats, enduring numerous speeches made by classmates and school leaders. Then finally, waited for numerous names to be called before standing up and walking to the stage to receive their diploma, their reward, their trophy, and their proof that they survived, completed, and endured 4 years of high school. As they walk off that stage, they end another chapter of their life, and turn to a new page, ready to write another chapter in the story of their life.

I had the privilege to spend 3 years with Christopher Chin and Matthew Leung,



the 2 young men in the Class of 2007 in G-Force. Through these 3 years, they've contributed much to the youth group and to Grace Church, whether it was playing in the praise team, or volunteering time to the toddlers during service. I've emailed the seniors with questions about life as a senior and life in general. Here is their advice, outlook, and reflection on their senior year in high school.

I asked the two what the hardest and easiest things about senior year were. Matt gave the response that you'd expect: college applications. “They were hard in the traditional sense, but I felt like I needed to perfect them, like no other because these were the most important applica-

tions I will ever fill out, sort of.” Chris's response? “Trying to stay awake. I think most of the signatures in my yearbook had one thing or another to do with staying awake in class” Both also had something to say about senioritis and trying to still participate in class. Matt said that it was hard to stay concentrated for the first two marking periods, while Chris enjoyed the second semester enjoying the work-free environment.

Most people look back on their year and wish that they had done something differently. Surprisingly, both seniors were content with this past year. Chris said, “Well, I probably wouldn't have changed anything. Sure I could've worked harder or studied more but eh, how much would that have changed in the end?” Matt remarks on things that he could have worked harder on, but wouldn't do anything over, seeing the results of his work. “I wished I tried a little harder but I can't argue with my end result of acceptances, Villanova being the decision that rocked the senior class as to how on earth I got in being 35 kids applied (including the valedictorian and salutatorian), and only 2 got in and near 12 others got wait-listed, all of them being much better honor students than me.” Although he was content with his grades, he would have done one thing differently. “I would also like to have pursued companionship more aggressively, because strong bonds need to be formed with those you want to be close with long after high school. Don't believe in the common misconception, ‘There's no point in getting to know him/her because I'm never going to see these people again.’ Don't burn your bridges.”

I asked these two young men for their advice on how to balance everything in their life. Both agreed that you should set aside time for different things, especially God. Chris said, “First things first, leave time for God sometime during the day, anytime at all. For me, I did my daily devotionals in the bathroom and that worked for me 'cause I always remembered everyday and I always had privacy.” Matt said that we should always have some extracurricular activities in our lives, because: “the more

things you do, the sexier your college resume will look."

For everybody, senior year holds a lot of memories. For some like Matt, it's the time that you spend with your friends. Chris's response was a little more surprising. "Senior year is great and definitely a time to enjoy yourself, but probably the most memorable moments were when I got either accepted or denied from a college I applied to. I remember each time I got denied, some I expected and some of the I wish I could have gotten into, and I remember each school I got accepted to. It was a great sigh of relief when I finally got accepted into my first college guaranteeing that I would be going at least somewhere next year."

Chris and Matt closed with a few wise words of advice. Chris reminded us to put that past behind us, and not to stress too much. "Don't worry about that "F" you got on the test. Yes, I have failed numerous tests in high school (and when I say fail I don't mean getting a B or a C, I mean actual FAIL.) and look at me today. I'm still alive and looking forward to going to a great

school next year. If you fail, just put it behind you and move on. It's only a fraction of your grade, as long as you go up from there you should be fine." On the other hand, Matt gave us some advice to carry with us on our love lives. "If you ever find yourself chasing that special someone, don't let it get to you. It's their loss and you need to move on. You'll be glad you made that decision. Most importantly: be confident in everything you do. Your confidence will dictate your life, and that's a fact."

We've spent so many great times with our seniors throughout their stay in G-force. We hope that they'll remember us as they continue on their journey.

To our seniors: You will truly be missed while you go off to college. Have fun, and stay close to God. Don't forget to keep in touch and visit!

Reading Chris and Matt's responses to my questions was an enjoyable experience. To read their full answers, email me at [corkado-ink92@yahoo.com](mailto:corkado-ink92@yahoo.com).

## **FUNNIES**

*Compiled by Erin Mui*

From: "Richard L. Kuhn, Jr." dockuhn@mindspring.com

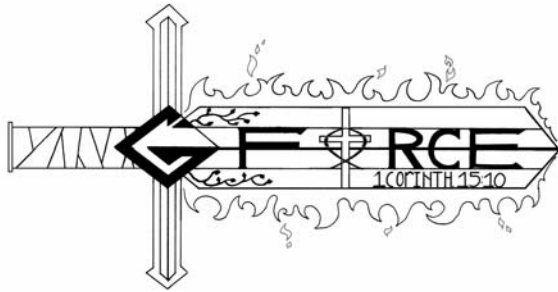
A little boy, who wanted \$100.00 very badly, prayed for two weeks but nothing happened. Then he decided to write GOD a letter requesting \$100.00. When the postal authorities received the letter to GOD, U.S.A., they decided to send it to the President. The President was so impressed, touched, and amused that he instructed his secretary to send the boy \$5.00. Mr. President thought that this would appear to be a lot of money to the little boy. The little boy was delighted with the \$5.00 and immediately sat down to write a thank you note to GOD that read: "Dear God, Thank you very much for sending me the money. However, I noticed that for some reason you had to send it through Washington, D.C., and, as usual, those devil's deducted \$95.00.

From: woodfam (woodfam@earth.sunlink.net)

One Sunday morning the pastor noticed a young man standing and staring at a large plaque hanging in the church foyer; the pastor walked over to the young man and bid him 'good morning'. The young man replied 'good morning, pastor', and not taking his eyes off the plaque asked 'sir, what is this?'. The pastor answered 'these are all the people who have died in the service'. Soberly the two stood there before the plaque and after a long silence the young man asked 'which service sir, the 8:30 or the 10:30?'



**OCM Grace Church**  
**90 Mt. Vernon St.**  
**Ridgefield Park, NJ 07660**  
**(201) 266-4400**  
**<http://ocmgracechurch.org>**



Check out our G-Force website for photos, updates, weekly information and lots more:

## G-Force Exists to:

- B**uild one another up  
(ministry)
- I**gnite our fire for the lost  
(evangelism)
- B**ear each other's burdens  
(fellowship)
- L**earn God's truth  
(discipleship)
- E**xalt him through words and deeds.  
(worship)

## One Heck of a Year

by Boaz

Chung

This past year has been a wonderful experience for me. I have been blessed to be a leader for the youth group and have really grown spiritually from it. During this year I have had the opportunity to get to know many people better, and gotten closer to our youth group as a whole. Yes, there have been many hardships and obstacles the leaders and I have had to surpass, but the overall experience was truly amazing. Serving God through activities such as pushing wheelchairs at Bergen Regional Medical Center to playing the djembe during service with the Worship Team was fun and truly rewarding. In addition, it brought me closer to God, and I give all my thanks to Him. I pray for next year's leaders and everyone in the youth. I pray that you will all have a great upcoming year and that you all will enjoy life to the fullest. Thanks for a great year, full of laughs, smiles, and unforgettable memories.

## The Leaders of '07- Revealed

