

**Keeping
Parents
Plugged in...**

Children's Ministry News

**April
2010**

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Reminders:

- Sunday School classes during the first service end at 10:30
- Have you turned in your registration form?
- Any last minute surveys? Get them to us ASAP!!!

Children's Ministry Visioning Process

The Children's Ministry Team (CMT) initiated the Visioning Process by forming a team consisting of CMT members Melissa Eller, Kimberly Frost, Dave Phippen, Stephanie Ramos and Janet Sonnanburg. Mark Poch, a parent and Sunday school teacher was also invited to join the team. Relevant information was compiled: community demographics, notes from CMT's 2009 retreat and ideas from discussions about future goals.

In January 2010, CMT moved forward with the related goals of discerning God's vision and seeking a permanent director. On Jan. 23, the team met with consultant Jane Van

Antwerp for a working retreat. Jane is an ordained pastor with 25 years experience in children's ministry. She provided an overview of trends affecting ministry to families, and helped us reflect on our purpose and start dreaming about possibilities. At her suggestion CMT members read the book, "Think Orange," which discusses the partnership between church and parents in raising children.

After further reflection and communication the visioning team met on Feb. 2 to discuss how to move forward. We postponed writing a mission statement until a permanent director is

hired to allow that person to contribute to, and feel invested in, our vision. We identified two main areas of focus: an ongoing emphasis on relationships, and a focus in 2010-11 on strengthening the Sunday morning program.

On Feb. 7 CMT shared the visioning process with teachers, gathered their input, and listened to their concerns and perspectives. Some of that feedback has already been implemented and CMT is following up on other concerns raised. Possible program changes are being considered based on input received to date. That discernment process continues.

See p. 2

Summer Bible Camp is Coming July 12-16

This summer North Creek Presbyterian Church will host a trip to Africa via Summer Bible Camp. This year's theme Baobab Blast! is based on the giant baobab trees of the African savannahs. Baobabs are centers of community

for the people and animals of that region. Our goal is to teach that same sense of community and interconnectedness to the kids of our area.

The Summer Bible Camp (SBC) team is

already planning our adventure. As always we look to our church family to move this project out of a book and into reality. How can you help us?

See p. 3



Visioning Process...

continued

On Feb 28 CMT held a parent input session, offering the chance for both written responses and dialogue. A survey included more detailed questions.

Although the deadline for returning surveys has past, CMT members remain eager to hear from you. Feel free to contact any member with your input (see contact info below). Responses will be used to help us identify the right CM director and to develop a program that will nurture life-long disciples.

While CMT has been actively engaged in prayer, reflection, and discussion with volunteers and parents, the visioning team has taken steps in the search for a permanent director.

In January two representatives from the team met with the personnel committee to coordinate the search process. A job description was presented at the personnel meeting on Feb. 17. After several revisions, the description was approved by CMT, Personnel and Session.

Lori Schafer, Mark Poch and April Heivilin will serve as CM representatives on the search team. The team will also include Pastor Kurt, and personnel representatives, Bruce Lavers and Susan White.

We plan to share more information with you next month about what God is revealing. Please continue to send us questions and comments and watch for updates in the church bulletin and next CM newsletter. *Thank you for allowing us to partner with you in raising your children!*

The CMT Visioning Team Wants to Hear From You!

The members of the Children's Ministry Team want to hear your input about the future direction of our program.

Please feel free to contact any of the members:

Chair Kimberly Frost: 425.697.6059; frostfamily@verizon.net

April Heivilin: 425.483.8345; bobandapril@comcast.net

Dave Phippin: 425.745.9360; dwhippen@comcast.net

Mark Poch: 425.402.8983; mpoch@bellevuewa.gov

Elder Melissa Eller: 425.582.8038; melissaeller@comcast.net

Temporary Children's Ministry Director, Janet Sonnanburg: 425.743.2386; childrensministries@northcreekpres.org



Sharings from the Classroom

Did you notice the poster in the hallway from the Club 56 Sunday school class? Classes have the opportunity to share what they are learning by creating posters or banners to hang in the hall near our classrooms.

Club 56 members designed a very colorful and creative poster displaying themes from their classroom during the last quarter, as well as their learning goals, including the Lord's Prayer, books of the Bible and the Apostle's Creed.

Special thanks to: *Katie Helmcke, Zoe Miller and Mikaela Mitchell* for their creative efforts!

Thanks also to Don Mitchell, Jerry Hanson and Andy

Lazzarini for teaching our 5th and 6th graders!

Needed: Summer Bible Camp Help!

Safari Guides: each age group needs a guide to lead their kids through each day's activities. Safari guides also lead a short daily Bible study discussing the day's lesson. Curriculum provided. **We need approximately 26 safari guides.**

Assistant Safari Guides: assistants partner with safari guides, working hands on to guide kids through the day. **We need 30 assistant safari guides.**

Game Leaders: all safari groups rotate through a game time. Children are divided into preschool and elementary groups. We need a leader and an assistant for each group. **4 vounteers needed.** Come ready to inspire kids and move with the spirit!

Music Leaders: SBC always has fun worship songs to learn. Our music leaders will teach these songs through words and motions. The preschool and elementary groups each need a leader and two assistants. We also need an AV technician. **7 volunteers needed.**

Crafts: Susan Kinsman has graciously volunteered to lead the preschool crafts again this year. She needs help preparing the craft materials and assistants to work with the children. **7 craft volunteers needed.**

We also need someone to lead the elementary crafts this year, as well as 5 assistants. **6 volunteers needed.**

Snack: Our snack leader will plan daily snacks and direct a team in preparing them for delivery to the classrooms. **1 leader and 8 helpers needed.**

Last year almost 400 kids came to our church for SBC! This project requires a **lot** of church support so please consider joining our efforts. **Contact Glenna Carter @ 425-670-2729** as soon as possible to volunteer, or if you have questions.

SBC

Registration

Online registration is available on the church's website:

<http://www.northcreekpres.org/>

Forms will also be available at the church by Easter.

Return forms & payment to the church office (if closed, you can slip it under the door)

SBC Supplies Needed:

- ◆ Gallon size bags
- ◆ Napkins
- ◆ Small paper plates
- ◆ 5 oz. "Dixie" cups
- ◆ Small plastic "to go" containers
- ◆ Graham crackers
- ◆ Chocolate bars
- ◆ Marshmallow cream



Emergency Drill April 25



On April 25 we will hold our semi-annual emergency preparedness drill during Sunday school classes. All classes will participate in a lockdown and fire drill. No alarms will sound and parents are asked to remain in worship. In an actual emergency parents would be asked to

exit the building and meet their children in the back parking lot.

If you have questions or concerns, contact Janet Sonnanburg in the office or at childrensministries@northcreekpres.org.

Emergency Drill in SS classes

Children's Ministry

North Creek
 Presbyterian Church
 621 164th St Se
 Mill Creek, WA 98012
 425-743-2386

**KEEPING PARENTS
 PLUGGED IN...**



Happy Easter!!!

He is Risen!

Worship & Sunday School
 for 3 yrs - 2nd grade:

8:30, 10:00 & 11:30

April 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Easter SS for 3 yrs—2nd gr 8:30, 10 & 11:30	5	6	7 NO Club 56	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Club 56 6:30—8:00	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Club 56 6:30—8:00	22	23	24
25 Lockdown/ Evacuation drill	26	27	28 Club 56 6:30—8:00	29	30	