

Children's Ministry Report

For October 21, 2015 Ad Council

Rhonda's Mission Statement: To teach the children to love God, love others and share that love with the world.

Sunday School

I'm putting a lot of thought and prayer into curriculum for the 3rd-5th Grade 3-5 Sunday School class. Group's Buzz is not getting the kids INTO the Bible like I want to see happen. Prayers would be appreciated as I discern options for what could get these kids excited about God's Word.

I'm currently viewing two options from TeachSS.com and viewing the NKJV Early Readers Bible, which has some great teaching tools at the front of the Bible that can be incorporated into SS lessons, such as:

- What is the Bible?
- Who Wrote the Bible and How the Bible came to be.
- Building Christian Character Through the Proverbs.

For any parent who is wanting to purchase a Bible for their elementary age child, I would strongly suggest this Bible, which contains full color maps, illustrated timeline, dictionary/concordance and 100 pages of cool study stuff.

LOGOS Program

This program is coming along well, I believe. There are currently 26 children from K-5th Grade enrolled.

The Kindergarten-1st Grade class seems to love their curriculum. Grades 2-3 and 4-5 are half way through the 8-week study on "**Christian Relationships.**" There has been good conversation around the table in the classrooms. The use of the theograms is beneficial in helping the children understand the biblical and theological concepts of living as a child of God, especially for those visual learners.

In November, the middle and upper elementary will begin the study of the following curriculum:

Grades 2 nd – 3 rd	Faith For Life – Friends and Family in Faith
Grades 4 th – 5 th	Faith for Life – God's People Worship

Children's Church Program

I recently purchased two copies of the "Shine Your Light Devotional," by Sheila Walsh to give as gifts. Upon viewing it, I discovered it would be a wonderful teaching tool for Children's Church; so will be using it this fall and winter. There are 55 devotions filled with Bible Stories, prayers, memory verses and activity ideas to let God's light shine through His precious children. I will read the devotional each Sunday to the children, and they will continue to participate in worship by reading the scripture and the prayer. What will be added to the Children's Church bulletin are "Bright Ideas" and a "Shine Your Light" section. These are cool crafts or activities that you can do at home with your children that will reinforce how your child can shine their light each day

and keep that light growing. I will be communicating this to the parents and congregation through a newsletter article, and by reminding the kids each week to show their weekly bulletin to their parents.

“You should be a light for other people. Live so that they will see the good things you do. Live so that they will praise your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

Safe Sanctuaries

I’m currently working on creating some resources (with Meghan Riegerix), so that we can do our own church safe sanctuaries training for those individuals who are only doing ministry at the local church level. The current safe sanctuaries on-line training that is provided by the conference office is out of date and not conducive to our needs for those just doing ministry on Sunday morning or during VBS.

Hanging of the Greens Advent Program

November 29 is the first Sunday of Advent. The children and youth will be doing this Advent program in the 10:00 Unity Service in the Worship Center. As we begin the Christian Year, it is a time when we prepare ourselves for the coming of our Messiah. Advent means “Coming.” We celebrate these days of Advent in expectation and preparation for Christ’s arrival.

The program will include readings from the youth kids, as the elementary children carry in various traditional decorations to adorn the alter area. Then the youth kids will present the Nativity as the Christmas Story (from Luke) is read. We have been requesting families to mark the attendance book of their availability, and I will soon be assigning parts for this program. We will have a couple of practices either in LOGOS or Sunday School in November.

Children’s Ministry Calendar Dates

Wed., Oct 21	3:15-6:30 LOGOS, “H.O.G. Night”
Wed., Oct 28	3:15-6:30 LOGOS, “Halloween Night”
Sun., Nov 1	Children’s Choir Special, “Let Your Light Shine,” both services
Wed., Nov 4	3:15-6:30 LOGOS, “World Series Night”
Wed., Nov. 11	3:15-6:30 LOGOS, “Mouse Trap Night”
Nov. 16-23	Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Collection Week
Wed., Nov. 18	3:15-6:30 LOGOS, “Give Thanks Night”
Sun., Nov 22	Both Services, Dedication for OCC Shoe Boxes
Wed., Nov 25	NO LOGOS - THANKSGIVING
Sun., Nov 29	Advent Sunday, 10:00 Unity Service – “Hanging of the Greens Program” in the Worship Center