

# Children & Youth Team Meeting

The Children & Youth Team met on Wednesday September 4 at 6:30 PM in the Cornerstone Room. In attendance were Rhonda Linsley, Karen Butner & Pastor Julius Ketsenburg.

## **Children's Ministry: by Rhonda Linsley**

### **Rhonda's Mission Statement**

To teach the children to love God, love others and share that love with the world. To teach the children to memorize scripture that will affect the way they live their lives.

### **Children's Church**

Going well. Reading in Exodus for the next several weeks. Working on "Everything We Need," to sing in both services on September 22.

### **Sunday School**

Those teaching for the Fall quarter (Sept, Oct, Nov) are Matt Kauffman in Preschool-Kindergarten, Sandy Sunderlund in Grades 1-2, and Judy Headley and Rhonda Linsley in Grades 3-5. I put an article in the newsletter to recruit teachers for the school year.

- Dec, Jan, Feb
  - Preschool – Matt Kauffman
  - Grades 1-2 –
  - Grades 3-5 –
- Mar, April, May
  - Preschool – Matt Kauffman
  - Grades 1-2 –
  - Grades 3-5 –
- June, July, August
  - Preschool – Matt Kauffman
  - Grades 1-2 –
  - Grades 3-5 –

We are continuing with Buzz from Group Publishing. Everything we need to teach a class is in their nifty cardboard box. We have two years of curriculum in my closet and have been rotating through them since 2009. The teachers seem to really like the material.

- Attendance Awards will be given out September 15 to 23 students during the 10:45 service.

**Rhonda is working to have teachers in place for upcoming semesters. If anyone would like to volunteer in the Sunday School ministry they should contact Rhonda.**

**Acolytes** We welcome 8 new fourth-graders into our program, which gives us a total of 14 acolytes. They are as follows: Dakota Bettles, Sofia Burks, Emilee, Audree, Gracee, Levi & Will Butner, LilliAnn Crooks, Zach Fink, Evie & Jacob Nelson, Allison Simons, Kaden & Rayce Truitt.

- Each has their own robe and a chart is on the cabinet door listing their robe numbers.
- Each acolyte will acolyte every 7 weeks.

### **K-5 Alive**

Our Wednesday After-School Program will start October 2 and run through April 30. Time will be 3:15-5:00 p.m. each Wednesday that Macon R-1 School is in session.

- This is an outreach program, so we encourage your children to invite their friends and get them a Registration Form.
- The hours will be 3:15-5:00 PM every Wednesday that the Macon R-1 School District is in session. If there is no school for whatever reason, then we do not have K-5 Alive.
- Registration Forms are now available in the church office and on our website, accompanied with a Policies & Procedures Sheet.
- We have 28 weeks scheduled this year, and our curriculum will continue with Group's LIVE Curriculum, where we will be focusing on communicating with God.

I need at least 4 adults and/or two youth helpers to help with the Bible Study part of this program.

So far, volunteers are:

- Myself, Karen Butner, LilliAnn Crooks, Emilee Butner
- Sandy Luzader and Suzann McLain will work out a schedule for the two of them to provide snacks for the program again each week. The budget for snacks will remain the same as last year at \$20 per week.

### **Crafts for Holiday Bazaar & Meal**

- Bead Mobile (have 24)
- Bead Melts (ask congregation for translucent beads to make coaster sets)
  - I need to talk to Brenda Cole, she has made these.
- Bird craft made out of CD's
- Teddy-Bear stuffing craft from S&S Toys (to make 12 bears that could be purchased for OCC shoe boxes.
- Christmas tree decorations made out of metal juice lids, stickers and sealant (spray lacquer or clear fingernail polish?)

### **VBS for 2014**

I'm looking at curriculum for next year. Group has two new field-tested programs: Weird Animals and Wilderness Escape. I have not seen anything yet from anyone else.

Weird Animals is about how God filled the world with a lot of crazy creatures...including you! When kids feel weird, different, or even lost in a crowd—nothing compares to the unconditional love of Jesus. Weird Animals is set up like Kingdom Rock.

Wilderness Escape is a lot like the Bethlehem, Nazareth and Jerusalem formats. Journey to the Promised Land and learn straight from a well-known Bible hero, Moses, as kids travel as tribes and discover firsthand what it was like to live in the Israelite camp.

Read through the article on “Why Weird.” What are your thoughts as a team in doing a similar format next year?

- Do we want to make it a four-day? (I think I have already ruled out a weekend VBS.)
- Are we interested in doing Journey to the Cross instead of VBS? Briefly explain that and other options below.
- Set date for next year. **July 28 to August 1**

**We looked at the Weird Animals VBS and liked the concept but Rhonda will research further. There was discussion about doing meals next year. Mandi Brown was a huge asset cooking for the children & adults who have allergies. Big thanks to her and the rest of the kitchen crew!**

#### **Fundraising with Camp Committee**

- I’m looking ahead about what we want to spend our time on and determining what would work best with our time in K-5 Alive before Rhonda Smith and her committee talk to us.
- I have two Musicals/Dramas and a few Easter options.
  - God of the City (about saving a Shelter) and The Christmas Carol Special Report (25-minute musicals)
  - Two one-rehearsal Pageants or the Journey to the Cross. Easter is April 20<sup>th</sup>.
- What are your thoughts.....set date for VBS if we decided to do that?

#### **Discuss 2014 Budget**

**Operation Christmas Child:** How many boxes should I order – 100 for \$43.17 or 200 for \$86.34  
**It was decided to order 100 boxes for this year.**

#### **Calendar Dates**

Sun., Sept 15	10:45 Service, 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter SS Attendance Awards
Sun., Sept 22	Both Services, Children’s Choir Special “Everything We Need”
	<b>SEPT 2013 – Operation Christmas Child – Order Boxes</b>
Wed., Oct 2	3:15-5:00 PM First day of K-5 Alive
Wed., Oct 9	3:15-5:00 PM, K-5 Alive
Wed., Oct 16	3:15-5:00 PM, K-5 Alive
Wed., Oct 23	3:15-5:00 PM, K-5 Alive
Wed., Oct 30	3:15-5:00 PM, K-5 Alive
Wed., Nov 6	3:15-5:00 PM, K-5 Alive
Sun., Nov 10	10:45 Operation Christmas Child Dedication
Wed., Nov 13	3:15-5:00 PM, K-5 Alive
Sun., Nov 17	Both Services, Bell Choir Special “We Gather Together”, with 3 possible soloists
Nov. 18-25	Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Collection Week
Wed., Nov 20	3:15-5:00 PM, K-5 Alive
Wed., Nov 20	Hanging of the Greens Practice with just the children (During K-5 Alive)

Sun., Nov. 24	9:45 Hanging of the Greens Practice with Youth Readers (During SS)
Sun., Dec. 1	8:45 & 10:45 Hanging of the Greens Program/Ornament Procession
Wed., Dec 4	3:15-5:00 PM, K-5 Alive
Sun., Dec 8 ?	Both services – Praise Dance Special
Sun., Dec 8	9:40 Bell Choir practice “O Come All Ye Faithful” – with singers.
Wed., Dec 11	3:15-5:00 PM, K-5 Alive
Sun., Dec 15	8:45 & 10:45 Bell Choir Special “O Come All Ye Faithful” – with singers.
Sun., Dec 15	10:45 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter SS Attendance Awards
Wed., Dec 18	3:15-5:00 PM, K-5 Alive
Tues., Dec 24	5:00 PM, Bell Choir Special “What Child is This,” Christmas Eve Service
Wed., Dec 18	3:15-5:00 PM, K-5 Alive
Tues., Dec 24	5:00 PM, Bell Choir Special “What Child is This,” Christmas Eve Service

**Youth Ministry: by Karen Butner**

**Vision Statement: Grow.... Share.... Serve.... For the transformation of the world for Jesus!**

**Mission Statement:** “Our Youth Ministry exists to **Share** our faith with non-believing students, to connect with other Christians, to help them **Grow** in their faith, and to challenge the growing to discover their **Service** and worship God with their lives.”

**Discipleship (Grow):**

**Sunday School: meets at 9:45 AM on Sunday mornings in the Youth Center**

**Youth Group: meets from 4:30 to 5:45 PM on Sundays: for students in 5<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grades**

**Methodist 101: Sunday morning at 9:45 AM**

Pastor Julius will be leading a class beginning Sunday Sept. 15. We have 6 youth signed up: Allyson Bramer, Emilee Butner, Evie Nelson, Rayce Truitt, Kattie Peyton & Trever Peyton. Since all of the students who regularly attend the Jr. High Sunday School class are signed up- Scott & Julie Burdin will also be attending the class. There are an additional 4 adults also signed up.

**Summer Scripture Challenge:** We will be going to Fun Spot in Quincy for Sunday September 29 after the dinner being held by the Sharing Team. This will take the place of our regularly scheduled time.

**Pastor Julius gave an update that the Sharing Team would not be doing a dinner. He volunteered to cook pizza for the youth. While the pizza is cooking, Carolyn will lead the youth in assembling the health & school kits for festival of sharing.**

**Camp Jo Ota Youth Rally:** Sept 7 & 8 We have a total of 14 youth & adults registered to attend.

**Evangelism (Share):**

**Dare 2 Share “Reverse”** Dates for the Dare 2 Share “Reverse” tour in 2014 are March 21 & 22. It will be based on the life of Daniel- a teenager used by God to change the world!

## **High School Life Group**

- High School students only & encouraged to bring their friends
- Sunday Sept. 22 6:30 PM
- Meet for a movie, pizza & time of fellowship

### **Ministry (Serve):**

**Unity Service:** The youth (led by McKenna Nelson & Rayce Truitt) will be leading the song portion of the service on Sunday September 29. I've checked with Jamie Baker & Rona Nelson- as well as sending an email to the Uplifters. Jamie, Rona & Matt Burks responded that it's fine that the youth lead worship. We will be practicing during youth group on Sunday September 22 & Wednesday September 25 at 4:30 PM.

**Serving Team Bizarre:** We will be working on some craft projects to donate for the November 2 fundraising bizarre hosted by the Serving Team.

### **Family Ministry**

**All Church Fall Family Hayride & Hotdog Roast:** Wayne & Sharon Hackman have graciously agreed to host a fall hayride & hotdog roast at their farm. The date is Saturday September 14 with a rain date of October 5. Rayce Truitt will be leading praise songs. Chris Nelson had a scheduling conflict, so we need someone else to do the devotion. I will be at the Youth Rally this weekend- could someone please stand up & announce?

**Rhonda volunteered to make the announcement during both services. Julius will be doing the devotion.**

**All Church Skating Party:** Sunday October 20- 3:30 to 5:30 PM

### **2014 Youth Ministry Budget Request**

**2013 Budget:** 5140 Youth Group: \$2500/ 5145 Trips & Events: \$2500

**2014 Request:** 5140 Youth Group: \$2500/ 5145 Trips & Events: \$2750

The increase of \$250 is for sponsor mileage to Dare 2 Share which is located in St. Louis.

**Family Ministry 2013:** \$1200/ 2014: \$1200

**The Family Ministry budget is not part of my budget, but the Children & Youth Team are planning the events.**

### **Youth Calendar of Events:**

September 7 & 8: Camp Jo Ota Youth Rally

September 8: No Youth Group (Youth Rally)

September 14: All Church Hayride/Hot Dog Roast at the Hackman's

September 22: Youth Praise Band Practice

September 22: High School Life Group  
September 25: Youth Praise Band Practice  
September 29: Summer Scripture Challenge outing  
October 20: All Church Skating Party  
December 1: No Youth Group (Thanksgiving weekend)  
December Christmas Break: Date to be announced  
January 18, 2014: Snow Day  
March 22-23, 2014: Dare 2 Share  
April 25-26, 2014: Crazy Days

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### **Sharing Team Mission Statement:**

*This is what we have from the church:*

The Sharing Team seeks to create ways to bring people into a meaningful relationship with Jesus Christ. Keeping a watchful eye for new faces and helping them feel comfortable within the congregation and church activities. Reports to the Ad Council.

*First draft of new mission statement:*

The Sharing Team's mission is to share the love of Jesus Christ within our congregation by welcoming members and visitors and making them feel comfortable at all church activities. We also seek to represent the MUMC at community functions which present an opportunity to make our presence in the community known, to distribute Christian materials and to invite community members into our congregation.

### **Sharing Team Minutes September 11, 2013**

Members Present: Sandy Sunderland, JoVaughn Kelly, Carolyn Ketsenburg, Linda Smith, Tanya Schmidt, Eunice Karr and Mandi Brown

#### **Old Business:**

1. Greeters have been signed up for the month of September. Each month we will be signing up greeters for the following month. Reminder phone calls or texts will be done as a courtesy toward the end of the week. The Youth will be greeting on Unity Sunday.
2. The carry-in meal scheduled for Unity Sunday, Sept. 29<sup>th</sup>, has been postponed due to a busy schedule of church events. We will instead be doing a catered meal on Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, which is the Charge Conference. The Sharing Team will host the meal during which time we will share our mission statement, discuss our activities, answer questions and ask for any ideas the congregation has with regards to our mission. We will also be encouraging others to join our team. After the meal, the diners will be asked to remain for the Charge Conference. We will not serve dessert with the meal, but will

have cookies and drinks after the conference. We have the money to provide the meal, but might consider asking for a free will offering to help offset the expense.

3. We did give away Bibles and children's DVDs at the Fork 'n Cork and we served at the soda concession from 12:30 – 6:30. There were nine Sharing Team members and friends who helped.
4. We are actively recruiting new members and are still making contacts. We are pleased to already have Eunice Karr join our team.

#### New Business:

1. Recurring jobs: The Sharing Team members are pitching in to cover the tasks that our team does on a recurring basis.
    - Greeter sign up and phone calls for October – Mandi
    - Mugs stocked in foyer and Chamber of Commerce – Eunice
    - Attendance Sheets distributed and picked up – Sandy/JoVaughn
    - Mugs distributed to visitors – Sandy/JoVaughn/other members
    - Labels on Bibles and DVD's – Carolyn
    - Researching new mugs – Eunice
  2. Mission Statement: Sandy wrote a first draft of our new mission statement for the team to consider. We will vote on it at the next meeting after everyone has a chance to consider and contribute. (See attached sheet.)
  3. Budget 2014: Sandy presented a first draft of the budget for the upcoming year. After some discussion, it was decided to present it to the Administrative Council for approval.
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### **Macon UMC Serving Team Meeting, Sept. 17, 2013**

#### **Team Mission:**

**To provide opportunities for our congregation to deepen their relationship with Christ and share their faith with others through service to our community, nation, and world.**

Four team members were present for the meeting.

#### **Rummage Sale**

The team raised approximately \$1,700 at the Rummage Sale held Sept. 13-14.

#### **Festival of Sharing**

The congregation has donated items and funds to create approximately 55 health kits and 100 school supply kits (many more than our goal) to contribute to the Festival of Sharing. The Youth Group will assemble the kits next Sunday.

### Serving Saturday – October 5

Serving Saturday will be held on October 5 from 9:00 to 12:00. We will work on the following projects:

First Responders Appreciation Bags  
Laundromat Outreach  
Dress a Girl Around the World

The team also discussed (1) holding a children's Jump-A-Thon fundraiser during our January Serving Saturday, with funds earned to go to the Rainbow Network, and (2) doing work on the Tri-County Christian School playground during a spring Serving Saturday.

### Cherokee Nation Mission Trip

Eight people have committed to attend the Cherokee Nation Mission Trip in October.

### Holiday Bazaar & Meal

November 2, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

This will be the Serving Team's major fundraiser for the year. The team discussed plans for all aspects of the event: Turkey Dinner Meal (on site and delivery), Bake Sale, and Craft Sale.

### Misc. Business

We are pleased to welcome Mandi Brown to the Serving Team.

The team discussed a 2014 budget/funding request for the Serving Team to present at the next Ad Council meeting.

Marching Band Breakfast Outreach – The Macon High School marching band travels to competitions on four upcoming Saturdays, leaving so early in the morning that many of the band members don't have a chance to eat breakfast and later get weak and sick as a result. Band Boosters provide lunch on these days, but not breakfast. The Serving Team plans to provide an easy bagged breakfast on one of the Saturdays and will include a note in the bag along the lines of, "Donated by Macon United Methodist Church. We are praying for you today."

We closed with prayer and set the next Serving Team meeting for October 14 at 6:30 p.m.