

6/26/ 19 Children's Commission Agenda and Notes

Members: Sonda Anderson, Lisa Sereni, Lisa Brazie-Barker, Su Rood-Cox, Holly Ficher, Candice Roark, Barbara O'Rear, Cathie Bryan, Lori Sawdon, Elizabeth Walton

Happy Birthday Sonda! Safe Travels for both you and Candice as you are away on your summer vacations. Welcome to Barbara on your first official meeting!

Our meeting was opened in prayer by Cathie.

VBS recap We had 31 Children and 38 Volunteers every day. Although it was a much smaller attendance from previous years, it was nice to be more mellow and have better opportunity to connect with the children. We LOVED the service theme! There is discussion about next year changing the format and potentially moving VBS to an evening offering at Montgomery. Spirit Cafe will be a major consideration. Ongoing thoughts....

Change in Childcare

In an effort to be good stewards of our resources and in response to personnel changes, our childcare providers at Montgomery, Jeanne Delgado and Joyce McCombs, have been moved to provide care at Stony Point. Lauren Anderson has resigned her position and accepted employment elsewhere. Jackson Comiskey has been notified that he will no longer be scheduled on a rotational basis and is now free to work the soundboard and/or play the drums in worship. Landon McAlister has been out of town and will be notified soon. Both boys are requested to remain as substitutes on an "as needed" basis.

Unfortunately, this change leaves no planned childcare/family support at Montgomery for the time being. The idea of volunteer childcare was re-visited but is not feasible at this time because of the lack of Safe Sanctuary certified volunteers. Should a visiting family need care, Su and Elizabeth are at Montgomery on a weekly basis and will provide care. More discussion/ budgeting is warranted to certify more volunteers as per UMC policy.

Growing Young Cohort

In May, Pastor Lori submitted an application for our church to be considered for a 1-year study with the Fuller Institute on how we could help our church "Grow Younger" through Children's Ministry. Unfortunately, we were not chosen to participate this year, but are encouraged to try again next year.

In the meantime, we have the opportunity to work on this idea on our own. Books on Sustainable Children's Ministry were purchased for the Commission and members will do a book study to generate new ideas.

Summer Family Sundays

Lisa and Candice have offered to plan fun family activities for the 2nd Sundays at SP. We have life sized games, bubbles, sidewalk chalk etc... The idea is to offer additional reasons for congregation and families to linger after church in fellowship.

Summer Sunday School

In response to a marked decrease of attendance over the summer and a need to give teachers a break, we approved the decision to not hold Sunday School through the months of July and August. The wiggie packs will be upgraded with new pages/toys and "Sermon Notes" for older kids. Lisa B. will research additional pages.

Camp Lodestar

We have our largest group of kids attending this year- 2 "Children" and 7 "Youth"! FUMC offers a \$100 per camper scholarship which was raised through the Silent Auction at the Spring Fling. Additionally, the Conference offers a 20% scholarship as needed. They will be attending Lodestar the week of July 14-20. Love notes were written to Samantha Derr and Chandler Dunbar wishing them a fabulous week. Similar notes will be written to the Youth campers by the Youth Commission and will be brought to camp when Elizabeth drops her kids off.

Monthly family fun events

Ideas were brainstormed to help bring families together at church. This includes the Preschool. Pastor Lori has mentioned the possibility of doing a sermon series using movie clips so having movie night/potlucks would naturally fit in. **WE DECIDED TO START OFF WITH AN EASY FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT on Friday, July 29th 5:00-9:00 in FH. We will need to further develop the plans, but it is now on the calendar and will be advertised soon.**

Here are some of the other ideas that were brought up:

Green Music Center- free family movie days. We would reserve an area at the Center for our families to gather.

En garde fencing- Lisa S will research

Rebounderz- Elizabeth to research

Game Night- Potluck and various board games

Taekwondo- Senior Strong-Lisa S and husband David to research

RP Gymnastics- Lisa B will research

Fall Curriculum- Deep Blue

Not much to report other than the topic: Loving God and Neighbor. This is a continuation of the VBS theme. Deep Blue is an UMC based curriculum which we have used in the past. Curriculum will be shipped at the end of July for the Fall season.

Fall Fun Event

The Charge Conference with DS Schulyer Rhodes has been requested for the day we would traditionally hold the Harvest Festival. . Su asked us to postpone a decision on a replacement event until the Youth Council meets on July 8 as they have plans to discuss a Harvest idea as well.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, July 24 @ 6:30 in the Library