

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY– YEARLY REPORT 2011**

### **Sunday School: Elementary (2 years through 5th Grade)**

Rotational workshop approach continued for this educational year. We are using the theme "God Calls Us". This theme provides a basis for selecting the stories.

After assessing last year's experience, we are modifying our rotational approach to include two Sundays of workshops followed by one Sunday of class time with Shepherds. The "Shepherding Sunday" provides time for the leaders to review and reflect on the story. It also provides time to intentionally develop deeper connections with the Shepherds and classmates.

### **Sunday School: Middle School**

Anticipating enough Middle Schoolers this year to create their own class, a room was claimed and redone for them. This class averages 5- 7 students and has two teachers. All the students are in either the 6th or 7th grade and will be invited to participate in our Confirmation Program next year. To prepare them for this experience, this class is working on a overview of the Bible and its stories. A variety of materials are being used.

### **Milestone Ministry:**

Blessing of the Backpacks: Keychains Sept. 11, 2011

3rd Grade Bibles: Identified a "Bible Presentation Sunday. Following Sunday School we offered a "Get to Know Your Bible" Class. Parents and children had a chance to eat together and explore their Bibles. Worked with Pastor Doug on this event.

Faith Chests: The first of 9 Faith Chests was presented on Easter. These chests are filled with items for families to use at home. Many folks involved with making and supplying the gifts.

Birth Baskets: Looking forward to celebrating this milestone this coming year.

Graduation Quilts: Celebrated this with our High School graduates in May. Great gift of quilts from the Quilters.

First Communion: Worked with Pastor Doug to offer instruction for children and their parents. April 10, 2011

### **Vacation Bible School 2011**

81 children and 59 volunteers. We added a new opportunity for our teen helpers, a Middle School pool party and a High School pool party. Have begun the planning process for 2012

### **Activities:**

Hot Pots: 39 painters. 50+ items sold. 50 pizza eaters April 3, 2011 Easter Theme

Field Trip: Worked with Ted Menold to offer a field trip to see the Gospel Mission in Grants Pass. We visited the Women's Facility, the Family Facility and Wagner Wild River Pizza for lunch. May 14, 2011

Easter Egg Hunt: 29 kids all went home with eggs!

(6 teens had a special stash of golden eggs.)

End of Year Party: Hawaiian Luau with all the trimmings ... even Hula. May 22, 2011

Rally Day: Celebrated the Shepherding and Teaching Sunday School Staff for the year 2011/2012 and the Blessing of Backpacks Milestone. During the Potluck the kids were able to connect with folks as they played a People/Bingo game. Games for the younger ones were set up in the Fireside Room.

Octoberfest: Developed children's activities.

Trunk or Treat: Oct. 29, 2011

Advent Event and Christmas Program: prep

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