

Smoky Hill UMC Sunday School News

Dear Sunday School family,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I wish you and your family a blessed 2008 and I'm so glad that you are a part of our SHUMC family! May we all resolve to put our hearts and hands toward doing God's work this new year!

The year starts off with a bang, as we are in full preparation for **CHILDREN'S SABBATH on February 3rd!** On this special day the children are the focus and the presenters of our 3 worship services! They do it all from leading and presenting the music, to the sermon, to ushering, - EVERYTHING! We will be serving communion at all 3 services this year, too – so we are in need of lots of children to help! Please see the sheet attached to this newsletter and encourage your child to volunteer to serve at 1,2, or all 3 services that day!! **THANK YOU!** It is truly a wonderful day celebrating the children of our church, but it takes so many of us to put it all together! **Volunteer forms are due by 1/20!!**

Also, as part of Children's Sabbath, we will have our 1st annual **CHILDREN'S ART SHOW** in the Gathering Space. Please submit all types of hanging artwork by 1/20 or the sooner the better! We look forward to a fabulous display! More details attached!

All children in both the 9:15 and 10:45 hour Sunday Schools will be participating in our Children's Sabbath parades, so **we ask that they please be allowed to be in Sunday School from 9:15 until 11:05 on February 3rd.** The teachers will stay with them the entire time! THANKS!

Also new this month – our Kids Night Out once-a-month Wednesday evening fun nights begin for all children in grades K-5th! We hope you will bring your child to enjoy our **“Summer in Winter Beach Party”** on Wed., Jan. 16th, 6:45-8 p.m. See more details attached to this newsletter.

Lent begins early this year – see this newsletter for dates of our Mardi Gras pancake supper, Ash Wednesday prayer labyrinth and services, and other special events!

Happy Busy New Year to your family – enjoy each happy moment together!

Linda Ruggles, Director of Christian Education
303-690-9816, ext. 216
lindar@smokyhillumc.org

Please note our Braden's Place Special Needs Ministry has a new phone line for you to reserve a Braden's Buddy for your child or family member – 303-690-9816 x1. We're here to help!

**A SPECIAL WEDNESDAY EVENING
Kids Night Out EVENT!**

“Summer in Winter Beach Party”

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16th
6:45 – 8:00 P.M.
Room L06 downstairs**

All Kindergarten thru 5th graders are invited to wear their swimsuits (under their coats!), bring a beach towel, and come for a beachy evening listening to the stories Jesus told on the beach! Lots of beach fun – the Limbo, summer treats and more!

Come to WWF for supper and worship at 5:45 !

Helpers needed – contact Linda Ruggles, x216 – to volunteer

Special Event for your calendar!

***“CHILDREN'S SABBATH”
Sunday, February 3rd
ALL 3 services***

***Sunday School children
parading at the 9:15 and 10:45
service – please allow all
children to attend from 9:15 –
11:05 that day!***

***Choirs will be singing/ringing
at 2 or 3 services that day as
well – directors will advise as
to times!***

***Please encourage your child to
volunteer as an usher,
communion server, liturgist,
pianist or greeter!***

***Submit artwork for the ART
SHOW by Jan. 20th!***

Sunday School Offering

Each week we collect an offering in Sunday School in order to help defray the costs of curriculum and supplies for our 13 children's, 2 youth, and 3 adult classes. Thank you for your generosity which helps our Sunday School program be as self-supporting as possible.

Sunday School Lessons

Children in our Fish, Doves, and Kindergarten classes at 9:15 are using the Godly Play hands-on stories to learn the stories of Boy Jesus in the Temple, Jesus' Baptism, Jesus in the Wilderness, and the parable of the Mustard Seed.

Children in the 1st-5th grades at 9:15, and the Bright Lights at 10:45 are using the Exploring Faith curriculum to learn the stories of the Wise Men, and the parables of the Good Samaritan, the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the Mustard Seed.

Children in the Creative Bible Time classes (K-5th) at the 10:45 will use stories, crafts, drama, and music/games to learn the stories of the Wise Men, Boy Jesus in the Temple, Jesus' Baptism, and Jesus' Disciples.

Please have all children 3rd grade and older bring their Bibles to Sunday School each week. **If your 3rd grade or older child does not have his/her own Bible, please let Linda Ruggles know that we might get them a special Bible as a gift from their church family!**

Cherub Choir

All Kindergartners and 1st graders are welcome to be members of our Cherub Choir! They add so much to each service in which they sing! Cherub Choir is held from 10:20 – 10:40 a.m. each Sunday. The 9:15 Kindergarten and 1st grade classes both come to ROOM L06 downstairs for Cherub Choir at 10:15 each Sunday. We are hopeful that parents of these children will enjoy a cup of coffee, pick up younger children, and then come to pick up the Cherub Choir children at 10:35 a.m. Children who attend the 10:45 Creative Bible Time are invited and encouraged to come at 10:20 to Cherub Choir in Room L06. Sunday School teachers and the Cherub Choir directors, Lisa Bohn and Rachel Wikowsky, will escort all children who have not been picked up by 10:40 to their Creative Bible Time classes.

New Year – New Classes!

Consider joining a new class in 2008! These classes are beginning this month. Childcare available by RSVP!

When All Else Fails, Read the Instructions -

Beginning Tuesday, January 8th, 7-8:30 p.m.

Invitation to the Old Testament – watch for exact start date and time!

Parenting with Love and Logic –beginning Sun., January 13th, 6-8 p.m. A great parenting class –

register with Mary Bayer at 303-400-0800 or at

www.beabetterparent.org

FAMILY POTLUCK AND BINGO NIGHT!

Saturday, January 26th, 6-8 p.m.

Families of all ages invited to bring a dish for a fun and delicious night of food and fellowship! Our November Bingo night was so much fun, we've decided to make this a regular event!

Nursery available during Bingo for the littlest ones – call for reservations,
303-690-9816 x220.

Sponsored by the Family Ministry Team

COME ON BACK!!

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING!

Join your church family for a special WWF time that's especially geared for families with children. We'll have dinner provided (turn in reservations on Sunday before - \$2 suggested donation), worship, praise music, a really fun upbeat service – all around the table!! Each Wednesday evening at 5:45!

Dates for your Calendar

Jan. 16th – Summer in Winter Beach Party – Kids Night Out, 6:45 – 8:00 p.m.

Jan. 20th – ARTWORK DUE for the Children's Art Show

Jan. 26th – Family Potluck and Bingo Night, 6 p.m.

Feb. 3rd – CHILDREN'S SABBATH – all children here 9:15 – 11:05 a.m. please to be in parades!

Feb. 5th – Mardi Gras Pancake Supper, 5-7 pm

Feb. 6th – Ash Wednesday services – 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Feb. 6th – Ash Wednesday Prayer Labyrinth – 4-8 p.m.

Feb. 10th – Lenten Prayer Sampler, 1-4 p.m. SHUMC

Feb. 13th – Kids Night Out "Love is All Around Us", 6:45

Adult Sunday School Offerings

It's never too late to join an Adult Sunday School class – we offer programming for children that allows parents to attend both worship and a Sunday morning class. Classes are never closed.

NEW CLASS! Troublesome Bible Passages – 9:15 a.m., Room L06. Have you been looking for a new Bible study class? This group is using a curriculum that will help us look at Bible passages that are difficult to understand, but are important to Christian growth and discipleship. Please join us!

Open Door Bible Study – 9:15 a.m., Room 218. This class is for those with all levels of Bible expertise from lots to none! Currently studying the book of Luke in a study called "God's Call to a Christian Community". Everyone welcome!

Contemporary Issues – 9:15 a.m., Room L07. Join us for discussions of current issues and how we react as Christians. Currently studying "What About Religion and Science?" Everyone welcome to join us!