

# Children's Ministry Newsletter

## September 2007

### Questions?

Karlene Archambeault

Carole Lantz

(Nursery only)  
Beth Winne

**W**elcome to the 2007/2008 church school year. This fall (September 16 – November 25) we're covering David, Solomon, Elijah, & Jehoshaphat. Each month there will be extra items to enhance your lessons in the Resource Room

(next to the choir room) on the *Karlene's Korner* table. Please check this out & take what you need. (Since some of the names are unfamiliar, there's also a pronunciation guide with your lessons.

**Keeping control of your class....**Begin class by discussing what it means to be kind to one another.; encourage the class to remind other kids when they aren't being kind to you or the other students.....Give the rowdiest child a significant responsibility, let them know the class is depending on them..... When the whole class is out of control, stand quietly in the center of the class & raise your hand until everyone is quiet; the peer pressure will settle even the most out of control.

## Questions About Your September Lessons

(More than one answer may apply):

1. David was anointed King at ..... lesson 1  
a) Hebron    b) Hartford    c) Rome    d) Greece
2. Mephibosheth was ..... lesson 2  
a) a Star Wars character    b) the crippled son of Jonathan    c) an ancient plague  
d) a man David had killed
3. After David & Bathsheba got together ..... lesson 3  
a) Uriah was killed    b) Nathan spoke to David about his sins  
c) David asked God to "Create in me a clean heart"    d) all of the above
4. Abasalom .... lesson 4  
a) was David's son    b) conspired against David    c) is a mathematical equation  
d) is a liquor
5. Solomon ..... lesson 5  
a) was David & Bathsheba's son    b) asked God for wisdom    c) asked God for a long life  
d) asked God for wealth

### Answers:

1. a    2. b    3. d    4. a & b    5. a & b

## Church School at the First Congregational Church

37 Main St., Southington CT 06489  
CE Office: 860-628-6958 ext. 20

Email: [churchschool@firstchurchsouthington.org](mailto:churchschool@firstchurchsouthington.org)

Website: [firstchurchsouthington.org](http://firstchurchsouthington.org)

## A few reminders .....

### Teachers / Helpers

- ≈ Please plan your schedule so there are at least 2 teachers/helpers in the room each week.
- ≈ At the start of class, take attendance on the attendance sheet on the clip board. Write the student's first & last names & grade. If you need to evacuate the room, grab the clip board so you can make sure you have all the children.
- ≈ Wear your name tag each time you teach, and do name tags for the children each week.
- ≈ Teach at least the main point of the curriculum each week (please follow the dates on the lesson sheets)
- ≈ We have a master copy of all the lessons in the CE Office; if you need one just see us.
- ≈ There are offering envelopes in each classroom - please make sure each child has a box & take the time to collect their offering when you take attendance or have your worship time.
- ≈ At the end of class please turn off the air conditioner or close the window, clean up any mess (do not pour liquid in the trash cans), and blow out any lit candles.
- ≈ We are always available to help you in any way we can; last minute photocopying, find videos, offer suggestions for a last minute lesson, whatever!
- ≈ Please check your manila folder in the mailbox outside the class. This is where we communicate to you. It's amazing what you will miss if you don't check it regularly.

### Nursery Workers

- ≈ We need at least 2 nursery workers (one at least 18) in the room each week, if you can't come in please try to find a replacement or call Beth Winne (621-6159) for help.
- ≈ Remember to have the parents fill out the Nursery Security Label (first & last names). Use this as an opportunity to learn each child's name.
- ≈ Also have the parents sign in on the clipboard. If they wish to be contacted if needed, they can give us their cell phone number. Please stress that they need to put the phone on vibrate only. If you need to evacuate the nursery, bring the clip board with you so you can make sure you have all the children.
- ≈ The nursery does not have a written curriculum, but we are always teaching the children by showing them God's love.
- ≈ At the end of every service, please clean up any mess (do not pour liquid in the trash cans), take the trash to the dumpster outside of Memorial Hall if there are dirty diapers and wash any toys that have been chewed on. After the 11:15 am & 6:00 pm services turn off the air conditioner or close the window. At the end of the 6:00 pm service please follow the clean up directions on the cabinet door.
- ≈ We are always available to help you in any way we can; just let us know what you need.
- ≈ Please check your manila folder in the file on the counter. This is where we communicate to you. It's amazing what you will miss if you don't check it regularly.

And most of all – enjoy yourself!

---

## Feed My Sheep

- F**ellowship daily with God. Prayer & devotion are a blessing to you & your children
- E**nergize your kids with fun, art, & games
- E**ven-steven! Treat every child the same – even hard-to-love kids, they need you the most
- D**iscipline: kids feel safe with boundaries. Set age-appropriate rules & consequences.
- M**ake the most of your time. Let church be the best day in a child's week.
- Y**ell if you need help. We're here for you!
- S**tudy. Know your lesson well enough to teach it without using your teachers guide.
- H**ands-on activities work best with kids. Have them touch, feel, smell, hear, & see the lessons.
- E**arly to class is a must. Get there ready to greet your kids.
- E**ndure, even if you feel like the kids didn't get one thing out of your class that day. God will use you even when you feel discouraged.
- P**lan & prepare; you'll have fewer discipline problems, & the kids will have more fun learning about God.

## Reduce Stress

Try some of these hints to reduce your stress level:

- ≈ Walk the walk – literally! The best exercise is to walk with the Lord. People who walked an extra 4,000 – 5,000 steps each day lowered their blood pressure by an average of 11 points.
- ≈ Play hard! Any regular vigorous physical activity reduces your risk of cardiovascular disease, even if for only 10 – 15 minutes a day.
- ≈ Choose dark chocolate! (the best of the list) Cocoa contains flavonoids that thin the blood & keep it from clotting. Dove dark chocolate bars retain as many flavonoids as possible. Wow, go for it!
- ≈ Eat oatmeal cookies (another good one!) In a Connecticut study, people with high cholesterol who ate oat-ban cookies daily for 8 weeks dropped their levels of LDL cholesterol by more than 20%.
- ≈ Forgive people ... starting with yourself! Let those guilt feelings go ... you are forgiven in Christ! Pray for forgiveness from someone whom you have wronged. And then go to that person & ask for forgiveness. Life is "for giving"
- ≈ Smile & laugh a lot! Let people continue to wonder why you're so happy. And then tell them. Researchers at Harvard studied 1,300 people for 10 years. They found that those who had the most positive attitudes at the beginning were half as likely to have experienced heart problems as those with more negative attitudes. And they sure were more fun to be around!

## **Karlene's Korner**

**God Working Through Children.....** Maybe you thought that your main job here in church school was to teach the kids. Don't be surprised if you see God working through the children. We all have unique gifts & talents that can be used to serve in our church family. One of your jobs might be to recognize the children's gifts. Other children and even adults can be touched by God through words & actions of our children. In our Chapel services & in our classes, encourage the kids to share their talents: music, reading, leading discussions, praying, drama, or art. I'd be happy to incorporate any child's gifts into a chapel service. If you notice a special gift or would like to have your class lead worship, just let me know.

Have a great time teaching, Love, *Karlene*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Try this little survey with your class:**

**Get an idea of the interests & talents of the children.**

1. I'm more comfortable talking in a big crowd than a small group.
2. I don't like working alone.
3. I'd rather have activity & interaction than solitude.
4. I can imagine myself leading activities or games.
5. I can imagine myself leading songs or prayers.
6. I'd rather be on stage than behind the scenes.
7. I'm often chosen as a leader at school.
8. When I'm with friends, I'm more likely to make the plan than to follow it.
9. I like presenting ideas & projects to classmates at school
10. I feel at ease when I talk to adults.
11. I'm good at influencing my peers.
12. I feel great when people notice how well I \_\_\_\_\_.
13. My friends would say one of my best qualities is \_\_\_\_\_.
14. I get annoyed when I have to \_\_\_\_\_.
15. If I could volunteer, I'd like to \_\_\_\_\_.
16. My dream career is \_\_\_\_\_.
17. Special skills & training I'd like to get are \_\_\_\_\_.
18. Two of the happiest times in my life are \_\_\_\_\_.
19. If I could change one thing about myself it would be \_\_\_\_\_.
20. People would be surprised to know this about me: \_\_\_\_\_.
21. I'd like God to help me in this area: \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Teacher / Nursery Workshops**

We are offering many opportunities for Children's Ministry Training this year. We currently have 2 workshops scheduled:

November 7<sup>th</sup> & January 30<sup>th</sup> at  
7:00 pm

Come for fellowship & continuing  
education.

<b>Who's in the CE Office?</b>	
	<b>All Services</b>
<b>Sept 16</b>	<b>Karlene &amp; Carole</b>
<b>Sept 23</b>	<b>Karlene &amp; Carole</b>
<b>Sept 30</b> 10:00 am service only	<b>Karlene &amp; Carole</b>