

# FAMILY MINISTRY

Volume 1, Issue 3

Spring/Summer 2010

## SOUTH RIDGE CHURCH

### *SUMMER IS SUPER AT SRC*

Hello families! We hope you are looking forward to summer and time spent together as much as we are.

We wanted to give you a preview of what you and your child can expect this summer in the Family Ministry at South Ridge Church.

#### **June and July**

In June and July, children in the 3-5 year-old class, Kindergarten/First Grade class and those in the 2nd-4th grade class will be studying Superheroes of the Bible.

This 8-week series will teach your child about the superpowers of confidence, forgiveness, courage, self-control and compassion. Every week, a TRUE HERO will be revealed from the Bible: Daniel, Esau, Esther, Gideon and David. But Jesus is THE ULTIMATE HERO of this series. We want kids to know that they can turn to the Bible as a source of POWER and that by trusting God, they can be superheroes too!

Each week you can join Billy, our superhero in training, as he is zapped into a comic book to learn valuable lessons from Guts Girl, Captain Compassion, Kid Confidence, The Forgivenator and Super Cool. Full of risky experiences and humorous situations, your child won't want to miss a single week!

#### **August**

In August, our third year of J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) Camp will begin! Crafts, games, tents, a campfire and an exciting story will take place each Sunday.

We'll be teaching Dare, the story of Amy Carmichael. Join us as we learn about Amy, missionary to faraway, mysterious India. Disguises, helping the poor and rescuing over 1,000 children from a horrible life are just some of the exciting things that happened to Amy as she served the people of India.

Come and find out more about this woman who loved God and the children of India for over 50 years!



Vision Statement: To support and encourage the parents and families of South Ridge Church in the spiritual development of their children.

South Ridge Church Family Ministry

**B-5**



### **Registration Reminder for Parents of Preschoolers**

It is important for our leaders upstairs to be able to communicate quickly and effectively with parents in case of a medical emergency, behavior problem, an upset child or bathroom accident. We are now requiring parents of preschoolers to take a laminated number when checking in their child. Please write this number next to your child's name in the space provided when you sign them in. If you are needed upstairs, the number you chose will be displayed on the screen in the adult sanctuary. Please return your number to our leaders when you pick up your child.



## Nursery Transitions

### Nursery Coordinators

At South Ridge, we have committed and dedicated volunteers who provide care for children 6 weeks to 2 years of age. In addition, we have nursery coordinators at each service who are on hand to address any issues or questions as they arise. Our coordinators are a critical part of making sure our nurseries run smoothly each Sunday.

Since September 2009, **Ame Church** has acted as our **9:15am service nursery coordinator**. Ame has been an integral part of our nursery leadership and has been a true servant to the Lord in various ways. As her youngest child moves out of our nursery and Ame looks ahead to new opportunities at South Ridge, we are so grateful for her wonderful service.

We are excited to announce that **Diann Fowler** will be beginning her service with us as the new **9:15am coordinator** on May 2. Diann is married and has 2 children, Zach who is 22 and Cassie who is 18. She is very active in Young Life and is also part of Moms In Touch, a group who pray for their own children and for East Fairmont High School. She loves children of all ages and loves God and would love to see all of His children love and follow Him.

**Linda Swain** has been our **11am nursery coordinator** since September 2009. She does an excellent job and sincerely loves the South Ridge children and working with their parents. Linda previously lived in Michigan and was a 4-H leader for 10 years. After moving to West Virginia she went back to school and became a NR-CMA and worked in the operating room at Ruby. She is now semi-retired and works at the Shop-n-Save Deli and loves her coworkers. She found South Ridge after having shoulder surgery and she has been an absolute blessing to us ever since.

Remaining  
2010 move-up  
dates from our  
Walking Nurs-  
ery to our 2  
year-old class

- May 2nd
- September 5th

### Nursery Manager

**Cara Noonan** has been our **Nursery Manager** since our church began nearly five years ago. Cara was a part of the SRC plant team and has been the nursery manager/coordinator almost since the beginning. She also is currently on the SRC women's newsletter team. Cara has four children, Joshua 7, Olivia 5, Sierra 3 and Isaiah 1. She is a physical therapist who works part-time at Rosewood Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Grafton.

Under Cara's leadership, our nurseries have grown into what you may know it to be today. For her leadership, dedication and diligent service, we are so very thankful. As Cara prepares to go on to pursue other interests at South Ridge, we are pleased to welcome **Krista Dawson** as the **new Nursery Manager**.

Krista will officially begin her duties on September 1 while using the summer to begin "learning the ropes". Krista and her husband, Jeremy, attended Chestnut Ridge and then moved to Fairmont about 4 years ago. They have been regular attendees at South Ridge ever since. Jeremy and Krista have 2 children, Leah who is 3 and Josiah who is 1. She spends her time as a part-time occupational therapist at UHC and the rest at home with her wonderful family. Krista loves children and is looking forward to her new role here at SRC.

Cara Noonan, Nursery Manager

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304-842-1884

## Two-Year-Old Class Summer Info

Beginning in June as we did last summer, our 2-year-old class will continue on with their current curriculum, *My First Look*. When you drop your child off, please bring them directly to our class area. We'll engage your toddler in a fun activity or craft that directly relates to that day's Bible story. Then it's off to worship and they will then return to their class for our Bible story. After the Bible story, your 2-year-old will then do crafts or games relevant to the Bible story followed by snack time or free play.

Because we do often have snack, we encourage you to bring a filled sippy cup that is labeled for your child. We also ask you to let us know of any food allergies your child may have.

As a reminder, each month you will receive a take home sheet that details what the month's memory verse is, the Bible story each Sunday and ways to deepen your child's understanding of the Bible story at home.

Danelle Conaway will be leading both the 9:15 and 11am class for the summer.



### The Things Kids Say At SRC

By Miss Michele and Miss Lisa

When we were telling the Bible story in December about the long journey Mary and Joseph made to Bethlehem, one of the children raised his hand. He said, "Why did they walk all that way-flying would be so much faster?"

When I asked what city that Mary and Joseph traveled to so we could review the story, one of the children said, "I know! New York City!"

## Preschool Class: 3-5 year-olds

### The Great Outdoors

Engaging in dramatic play outdoors is important for social development and can also help preschoolers grow in their faith. Take advantage of warmer weather with these ideas to get preschoolers outdoors.

- Cooperative Play– A picnic table can become a boat to go fishing with Jesus or a large jungle gym can serve as the walls of Jericho as preschoolers march around it.
- Games-Place plastic animals around the playground and have preschoolers go on a safari to find the animals for Noah's ark.
- Stories-Even Bible lessons can move outdoors when the weather is nice. Set up a tent that becomes the belly of the whale in a lesson about Jonah. Or huddle under the bars of a jungle gym to see what it could've been like for Paul when he was in jail.



(Taken from Children's Ministry, May/June 2009, p 25)

## Kindergarteners through 4th grade



Family Sunday is on May 9th! Children K thru preteens will be in the sanctuary with their parents. There will be songs and fun skits with a special message. Patience will be our virtue in May. Save the date!

### Summer Evenings

Warm summer evenings are just around the corner and are perfect for spending time as a family under the stars. Set up a tent or spread a blanket in your back yard and use it for these family activities:

- **Family Devotions**-After dinner, head outside to get away from household routines, and spend time learning about God and praying together.
- **Movie Night**-Use an extension cord to set up a portable DVD player and have a family night outdoors with plenty of pillows and popcorn.
- **Outdoor Theater**-Using dress up clothes or stuffed animals, turn your tent entrance into a child's theater for an evening. Let kids perform a play that they create, or have them re-enact the Bible lesson they learned at church over the weekend.

(Taken from Children's Ministry magazine, July/August 2009)

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### Did You Know?

(taken from Children's Ministry magazine, May/June 2010)

"Exposure to violent video games increases the likelihood of aggressive behavior in both short-term and long-term contexts. Such exposure also increases aggressive thinking and aggressive affect, and decreases prosocial behavior."

-Craig Anderson



Researcher George Barna found that children are most likely to believe in Jesus as their Savior and form a lifelong relationship with him between the ages of 5 and 13. According to Barna's findings, people are up to eight times more likely to become a Christian before age 13 than they are after age 13.



Please take time and appreciate your child's small group leader and our storytellers. May 30th marks the end of their 9-month service. Thank them for a job well-done!

## Don't Overreact to Teenagers

Are you planning to have teenagers? If you're going to let your children live past twelve years old, you better get used to the idea. Adolescent changes often startle parents. They feel threatened by the new thinking and behavior. In fact, it's hard to not feel threatened knowing that a teen may attack or explode at the slightest irritation.

Teen actions and questions are often perceived as forms of rebellion and parents have a hard time knowing whether this is a phase to be ignored or the beginning of a problem that needs urgent action.

It's important to know where to draw the line. Independent thinking is healthy but disrespect is not. Choosing one's own values is necessary but can't be an excuse for dis-

honor. Parents who don't realize the difference, miss valuable teaching opportunities.

Teens may appear hard but they're still very sensitive. When parents dish out criticism the same way teens do, teens get hurt. Their understanding of themselves is much more fragile than their actions lead you to believe. Teens are at a prime time for life-altering experiences. An offhand comment may make a lasting impression so be careful what you say and how you say it.

Tie privilege and responsibility together. A young person shouldn't be able to experience the benefits of family life without also abiding by the principles that make it work. "I feel uncomfortable taking you to the mall right

now because of the way you asked me to leave your room a few minutes ago. First, let's deal with the way you're treating me and then we can talk about the privilege of going to the mall."



*This parenting tip is taken from the book, Say Goodbye to Whining, Complaining, and Bad Attitudes, In You and Your Kids by Dr Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller, RN,BSN.*



## Movie Info For Parents

(taken from Children's Ministry magazine, May/June 2010)

### THE LAST AIRBENDER

#### The Scoop:

This adventure-fantasy film is based on the popular Nickelodeon animated TV series *Avatar: The Last Airbender* and will be the first of three films in a series. The movie depicts a world where the elements of water, earth, fire, and air can be controlled by people known as

"benders." And the Fire Nation is waging a war to control the other benders. The only hope for stopping the war rests on a young boy named Aang, the last known Airbender and avatar of the physical embodiment of the world. Aang has the ability to control all four elements and begins a journey

of restoring the balance in their world.

#### Our Take:

Nickelodeon already has a large preteen following for the *Avatar* animated series, so kids will be drawn to the movie based on this connection and the well-publicized special effects. Viewers should be aware that this film's heavy emphasis on New Age philosophies and mystical elements could be scary and confusing to young children.

## Preteen Class (PTC<sup>2</sup>) Grades 5-8



During the months of June and July, the preteens will not be meeting on Sundays. Instead, we are encouraging our preteens to serve at South Ridge. We are opening up various service opportunities to our preteens such as assisting with greeting, ushering, Family Ministry, parking, etc. These are all supervised service positions.

There was no greater example of serving others than Christ himself. We want to instill in our preteens not only the importance of serving others, but also teach them how important service is to making South Ridge happen each week. In James 2:18-19, James talks of the importance of serving others as an example of our faith. Service is like a light to the world showing how God works in the life of a believer. Consider serving as a family this summer at South Ridge as a way to connect with your preteen while serving the Lord.



If your preteen is interested in serving, please contact Danelle Conaway, Family Ministry Director at 304-657-8899 or danellenc@yahoo.com. The preteens will resume their regular class on August 1.

### Preteen Leaders

Susan Scarbro	sscarbro@ma.rr.com	304-366-1502
Crystal Messenger	cmessenger@ma.rr.com	304-366-2549
Jim Noonan	noonanweb@gmail.com	304-842-1884



## High School Youth Group

Amplified Youth small group will not be meeting on a weekly basis from June through August. We will be having an event each month. Join us in June for an overnight event and summer celebration...watch the bulletin for details.

### Josh and Jennifer Wilson, Youth Leaders

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