

Children's Ministry Informational Meeting
May 16, 2010

I. Transition Plan

- a. Kitty's last day is May 28, 2010.
- b. Todd will be taking over her responsibilities immediately.
- c. Most of our programs will continue running normally. I am still evaluating the full effect this transition will have on our programs, and I am happy to discuss any changes that may be necessary with you.

II. Todd's Children's Ministry Priorities (in no particular order):

- a. Loving our children!!!
- b. Making our children mature disciples of Jesus Christ (by the Holy Spirit).
- c. Children's ministry is intentional ministry to children, not childcare for our adult ministries.
- d. Integrating our children more fully into the life of the church.
- e. Training our children to worship with the church body (e.g. Children's Church, Children's worship bulletin, etc.).
- f. Pastoring our children by teaching, praying for, and supporting them and their parents.
- g. Equipping parents to train and disciple their own children (e.g. Catechism).
- h. Training and supporting children's ministry volunteers.
- i. Evangelizing children and their parents who are outside God's People (e.g. VBS).
- j. Educating our children to see their place in God's "Big Story" (e.g. Sunday School).

III. Children's Ministry Committee

- a. Todd Gwennap - chair
- b. Stephanie Marshall
- c. Carol Mouser
- d. Laura Clark
- e. Julia Covington
- f. Vicki Germann
- g. Elaine Goosmann
- h. Wendi Goodson

IV. Summer Children's Ministry Calendar

May	30	Regular Sunday School
June	13	Combined Sunday School Begins
July	26-29	Vacation Bible School
Aug	22	Promotion Sunday

V. Announcements

- a. Stephanie will be contacting Sunday School teachers about combining classes for this summer.
- b. Starting August 22, Robert and Kelly Waller will be leading music with our K-5 (and possibly younger ones) during the Sunday School opening. K-5 Sunday School will start at 9:15 with group music and prayer, and then kids will go into their classes.
- c. We are still taking volunteers for VBS and for Sunday School (two-year-olds through 5th grade). Also looking for someone to lead music with K-5 during SS opening over the summer. Contact Stephanie Marshall.
- d. VBS volunteers meeting cancelled for May 19th. Your team leader will be contacting you shortly.

VI. Volunteer Needs (contact Stephanie Marshall)

- a. Vacation Bible School
- b. Sunday School (2010-2011 School Year)

VII. Some Changes

- a. Children's Church/Children's Bulletin - We want to be very intentional about helping you to train your children for worship. I hope to make Children's Church and the Children's Bulletin even more helpful resources for this purpose. I am happy to share my thoughts and hear your ideas for how we can do this.
- b. Terrific Tuesdays - With the suddenness of this transition, I am still working through the feasibility of Terrific Tuesdays with Jean-Marie VunCannon. If we have them, the children's program will likely look somewhat different than it has in past years.
- c. Catechism - As your pastor, I and the children's ministry staff are fully committed to instructing our covenant children in the catechism. As of right now, it looks like we will be taking a temporary break from Mid-Week in the Fall. We are still working to find the most effective means of teaching the catechism.
- d. Sunday Evenings - This summer, we will have a Sunday evening program. Beginning June 13, we will have an informal time of singing, prayer, teaching, and fellowship in the sanctuary. We will not have nursery or children's programs during this time, but want to encourage parents and children to come and spend time together *as a family*. It will be okay if your kids are making noise! Bring the crying babies!

VIII. Contact Information

- a. Rev. Todd Gwennap - tgwennap@ardenpresbyterian.org - (828) 231-5001
- b. Stephanie Marshall - pinkemmacade@mchsi.com - (828) 505-2722
- c. Carol Mouser - cmouser@ardenpres.org - (828) 274-3287

Please call, email, or visit me with any questions or concerns!!!!