

The Parent Connection

a quarterly newsletter for SAFMC parents



Happy New Year, Families!

Welcome 2012! What are your family's goals for 2012? These things don't just happen. They take some thought and planning. Gather your family around a bowl of popcorn and talk about how your family will be a "Jesus with skin on" world-changer this year. Once the ideas are out there, set plans on how you will begin. For example, "We are inviting [insert name] from the basketball team over for a sledding and hot cocoa party on [insert date]." Remember to be intentional. Good thoughts and ideas will only stay good thoughts and ideas unless you put them into ACTION!

What a great year this will be!

Blessings,
Wendy Grant, Director of Children's Ministries
517.750.2400, ext 137 | wendy.grant@springarborfm.org

Family Missional Moment

In the summer Missional Moment, you chose a family to pray for and to bless. In the fall, you looked for and acted on ways to build that relationship stronger. If this hasn't happened yet, do Steps 1 & 2 in January and February, then choose March for company!

If you've been working on the Family Missional Moments, then dive right in! What creative way can you think of to invite your chosen family over? (Snowman building contest? Invite them over to make a fleece blanket that all the kids can take to another neighbor? Ask them to help you plan a neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt?) When you plan and work together, it builds a stronger relationship!

Be creative. Have fun as a family reaching out where you live, work, and play!

BRING A FRIEND!

SWIM-A-RAMA

1ST & 2ND GRADERS

FEBRUARY 18, 9-11:30AM
JA UNIVERSITY FIELDHOUSE

SWIM FUN & GAMES!
TOM NYE THE SCIENCE GUY!
PIZZA & POP!

Tickets: \$6 per child | \$10 at door
Available starting February 1 at the church office or on Wednesday nights before and after Kids' Club.
If purchased at the door, parents must go inside to fill out a release form.

Our Missional Living Mandate:

A lot gets accomplished in a day of preschool. Papers are colored. Songs are sung. Imaginations are explored. However, our staff two main goals: the first, to get the children ready for Kindergarten. But more important is our mission to share Christ. This not only happens in our classrooms daily but also in every interaction we have with the families of our students. With over 90 students enrolled, the impact to our community is great. Did you know that only approximately one quarter of our families attend SAFMC? Over the past few years, we have focused on creating events that will help our church families connect to our community families in meaningful ways. From our Fall Harvest Festival to collecting gas cards for our students with major medical needs, we strive to be intentional in extending friendship and support to all of "our" families. As a result, lives have been changed! When you get a chance, thank a preschool family or staff member for making Spring Arbor Cherubs Preschool a place where people experience the love of Christ!

Spring Arbor
Cherubs
Preschool
"where Love and Learning go hand in hand"

Lisa Shaw
Director

Weather Cancellation Policy

If Western School District calls off its evening activities, so will the church.
If Western does not have any evening activities scheduled, the church staff will make the decision. Notices will be posted on Home.fm, WFLR radio, on the church website (www.springarborfm.org), and on our Facebook page. Junior Basketball players will be notified by their coaches.
Western Schools Cancellations & Delays: 517.841.8888



Sunday School

Sundays, 10:15AM

JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

January 29, February 5, 12, 19, 26

Children in the Grade 4 Sunday School class will automatically attend during the Sunday School hour.

If your 5th or 6th grader is not yet a Junior Member but would like to be, he/she is welcome to join us in Room 213 for these classes.

Topics include:

- How do I know I am a Christian?
- Some history and information about the Free Methodist denomination
- How do I share Jesus with other?

Contact Wendy Grant for more information
(517.750.2400, ext 137 or wendy.grant@springarborfm.org)

GRADES 1 & 2

January

Theme: God helped Jesus grow and learn
Verse: Jesus grew and became strong. Luke 2:40

February

Theme: Jesus did good things
Verse: Jesus went around doing good. Acts 10:38

Special thanks to Kathy Riggelman for helping our 2nd graders remember the real meaning of Christmas. She did all the preparing, organizing, and leading them in making their special nativity scenes. She also recruited extra helpers! We are so thankful for her and this precious reminder of the Reason for the Season!

Grades 1-4

A fun, rotational curriculum for your kids to experience learning God's Word and principles in fun hands-on environments...art, cooking, science, activity, and games will all focus around a theme.

Theme: "Who is my Neighbor?"

Lil' Kids' Club (Pre-K, Young 5s, Kindergarten)

A great learning time for your Preschooler-Kindergartner to learn new songs, Bible stories, scripture verses, hand bell playing, and more.

Themes: January—3 Hebrew Children; February—Jonah; March—Easter

Family Missional Activity Night

On these nights, the children in all of the 4 regular Wednesday night programs Will be given suggestions for Family Missional opportunities and asked to spend their regular service time "reaching out" in their own neighborhoods. They will also be asked to bring in a few sentences or a picture describing the "action" their family took and share it with their group the following Wednesday. **Next Family Missional Activity night: January 11**

Kids' Club

Wednesdays,
6:30-7:30PM

Kids' Choir

Grades 1-6, Sundays, 6-7PM, Room 210

Rehearsals: Sundays, January 8, 15, 22, 29

Performances: Sunday, February 5, 9AM & 11:15AM services

Explorer Retreat, Grades 5 & 6 Somerset Beach Campground \$79, February 3-5, 2012

Register with Somerset Beach Campground directly. Be sure to check the box marked "I'm coming with a church youth group!" Spaces are limited. SBC's brochure is available at www.somersetbeach.org

There are a few scholarships available. Contact Lissa.

Lissa Strodbeck
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517.750.2400, ext 136 (work); 517.936.3876 (cell)



Kids' Worship

Sundays, 9AM & 11:15AM

JANUARY



Matthew 5:14
You are the
light of the world.
A city on a hill
cannot be hidden.

FEBRUARY



1 John 4:11
Dear friends,
since God so loved us,
we also ought to love
one another.

MARCH



Ephesians 6: 10-11
Finally, be strong in the Lord
and in his mighty power.
Put on the full armor of God
so that you can take
your stand against
the devil's schemes.

It is so important to "hide the Word of God in our hearts." Each month, your child will bring home from Kids' Worship a Memory Verse card for you to work on together. When your child has memorized the verse, please sign the bottom of the card and have your child return the card to Kids' Worship to receive a prize.