

The Pitter Patter

Wesley Memorial's Through-the-Week School Newsletter

Volume 5 No. 5

April, 2010

SPRINGFEST IS COMING! SPRINGFEST IS COMING!
SUNDAY, MAY 2, 4-7 pm
A GRAND CARNIVAL CELEBRATION for children of all ages & families!

Where's the FUN on Springfest Day?

(1) **It's Outdoors on the church grounds!**

- **Real pony rides, carnival-style attractions** including the favorite Giant Slide and MoonWalk. Several "older-age" attractions like Dunking Booth & Speedball to appeal to elementary-age brothers & sisters.
- **Also outside: Simple games galore** for our younger children (like Duck Pond, Go Fish, Putt-Putt & Treasure Chest!) Balloons & Face Painting!

(2) **It's Inside the Dining Hall!**

- **Hot dog Supper** with lots of side dishes! \$4.00/ plate.
Served continually from 4:00-7:00.
- **Scholastic Book Fair** where every book is "*buy-one-get-one-free.*" (Perfect time to stock up on summer reading materials for your children.)

(3) **It's Inside the Fellowship Hall Gym!**

- **Silent Auction of Class Crafts!**
Each TTW class is creating a special craft piece for the Silent Auction! Every child in our school has a part in helping to make it. So, parents – be sure to locate your child's class treasure in the gym and then put in your bid!
- **Silent Auction of New Items**
We are now seeking donations of new furniture items, household goods, and services (such as a free car wash) for our General Store Auction. If you have something you might be able to donate, please let the Susans know, 884-4232. It will be gratefully accepted!
- **Silent Auction of Theme Baskets**
Parents will be donating items for the theme basket "assigned" to child's age level. Bid on any of the theme baskets and take home a "summer" of family fun!

(4) **It's Inside the Foyer!**

- **Biggest Bake Sale Ever!** Cakes, pies, breads; brownies, cookies, & other scrumptious treats. Eat now or take home! Church families, let us know if you can donate a baked-good.
- **Also "Fun Foods" & Snacks:** soft drinks, bottled waters, juice boxes, sno-cones, popcorn, cotton candy, fresh apples & bananas

(5) **It's In the Scout Room!**

- Gently-Used Treasure Finds – yardsale prices on good-condition household items, toys, baby equipment, tricycles, games, puzzles & more! (no clothes). We need more items!

Springfest is sponsored by our Early Childhood Team each May **to celebrate our love for children and their families.** Proceeds are used to support the TTW School Ministry. . . making possible new classroom learning tools, playground updates, and Scholarships for children.

**Surely We Can't Be Thinking About Our
End-Of-Year ALREADY?**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

Last Day for MWF children

THURSDAY, MAY 27

Last Day for T-Th and 5-day children

FRIDAY, MAY 28

School's Out! Teacher's Workday





Vacation Bible School

Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace

June 22-25, Tues. thru Fri., 9 am - 12 noon

Imagine what it was like to live and work in a bustling city along the Nile in ancient Egypt!

Children ages 3 yrs through 5th grade will be placed in Egyptian "Families" for VBS. Each day will begin with a musical gathering called the Celebration. Then Families will follow each day their travel itinerary (that's their daily schedule!) They'll be off to visit Joseph while he's in prison – then see him again in the week at the beautiful palace. Children will laugh & play at the Pyramid Playground and visit the livestock in the Animal Courtyard. In the noisy MarketPlace, children will craft a jeweled Cairo collar, design a hieroglyphic necklace and more surprises. Each day will close with Family Devotional Time, where children will be guided to connect their experiences "in Egypt" to their modern-day lives. Everyone will be looking for God-Sightings! EGYPT VBS will include an outreach project, too – blankets for children in Africa as coordinated through World Vision.

****NEEDED! ADULT VOLUNTEERS FOR VBS!****

Let the Susans know if you can help with this year's VBS. Then we'll prepare you at . . .

**"A NIGHT IN EGYPT!"
AN UNFORGETTABLE TRAINING EVENT
FOR ALL OUR VBS LEADERS
TUESDAY, JUNE 1, 6:30-8 PM,
DINING HALL**

It takes some preparation to help everyone understand Egyptian culture and what it was like to be one of the only God-followers in Egypt. At this Training Session, leaders will become familiar with their activities or scripts, and understand the historical background of their trade or role. We'll detail such specifics as time leaders should arrive on VBS day, and where they should gather. We'll pull together our Egyptian basket of supplies, try out a craft project, taste-test the snacks, experience the music, and select our costuming! Leaders will practice a "mini-run-thru" of the daily schedule by walking outside to campus location selected for the Marketplace & other centers. We'll review the Devotion lessons & learn how to best help the children attending VBS to verbalize their faith. Our goal is to have VBS leaders PREPARED, RELAXED, & READY TO MAKE CHILDREN FEEL SPECIAL on VBS WEEK!!

To My Through-The-Week School Family . . .

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude for your love and care during the recent death of my husband C.L. on March 22. C.L. had been very ill during this past year and living in a skilled care nursing facility. You have richly embraced me during this time with your on-going prayers, cards, phone calls and hugs in the hall. The Kindergarten 4's and 5's children made a beautiful red prayer shawl blanket that literally surrounded me in love as I draped it around my shoulders. I will treasure that blanket forever. Words cannot express just how much your thoughts of comfort – mixed with the joyful everyday laughter of the children – have been the perfect recipe to help me remember God's very special blessings in my life. Thank you.

Love,

Susan Sumpter

HAPPY SUMMERTIME TO TTW SCHOOL FAMILIES!

We will miss all of the children who will be "moving on" to BIG SCHOOL, but we will always love you and care about how you are doing. Please stop by anytime to show us how much you have grown!

Nursery Boys & Girls, we are glad we do not have to let you go quite yet because we are just not ready! We look forward to lots more "HAPPY DAYS" in 2010-11!

**The Through-The-Week School Teachers
Susan Sumpter and Susan Kelley**

**LET'S CELEBRATE OUR WONDERFUL
YEAR TOGETHER!
HERE'S WHAT WE ARE PLANNING . . .
"NURSERY DAY PARENT APPRECIATION
DINNER!"**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 29
6:00 pm in DINING HALL**

For: Parents of Beginners, Toddlers, Twos and Threes

Parents, we want you to relax and let the teachers serve YOU on this special night! No cost, but do make reservations to attend by calling the preschool office (884-4232), or returning form on the handout going home with the children. At the dinner, we will highlight the school year with a video program of all Nursery groups shown on the big screen. Then follow child's teacher has some closing surprises back upstairs in the classroom

KGT-FOURS – TUESDAY, MAY 18, 7:00 pm

Each class is preparing a **Children's Program of Songs & Drama** to present to their families (in individual rooms.) . Children's Program will be followed by a "Dessert Social." Families, we know you wouldn't want to miss your child's important night, so please save the date! And remember your camera!

- **Kgt-4, Sharon Owen & Shannon Whitehead's Class**
- **Kgt-4, Sandi Todd & Lenis Dau's Class**
- **Kgt-4, Helen Rice/Stephanie Kiser's Class**

- **Kgt-4, Rachel Wilson & Sarah Woollen's Class**
- **Kgt-4, Michele Kinley & Laurie Sorrell's Class**

**KGT-FIVES – TUESDAY, MAY 25, 6:00 pm,
Dining Hall**

We're having a **Covered-Dish Supper!** Families of each child will bring the dishes of food. Foods will be shared with everyone on our grand buffet table. Following supper, boys & girls will present a program of favorite **PUPPET SHOWS and SONGS** that are sure to delight! Special recognitions of children's growth. More details coming your way in May, but please mark your calendar NOW and save this date!

Both Fives groups together!

- **Kgt-5, Wendy Kitley & Hannah Dougherty's Class**
- **Kgt-5, Dawn Miller & Debbie York's Class**

Early Childhood Team

*Many thanks to **Randy Niebauer** for his outstanding service as Team Leader of the Early Childhood Committee this year. Blessings to **Katie Hutchens** as she steps into this leadership position. Our entire Early Childhood Team has worked diligently each month to assure the best quality Nursery and Kindergarten Programs for Wesley Memorial. Please give a pat on the back to Randy, Katie and "the Team":*

Tyler Covington, Sara Dyson, Christi Morgan, Whitney Heard, Margot Pritchett, Jamie Collins, Andrea Davidson, Allie Carter, Rebecca Nash. Kathryn Yarbrough serves as our non-member rep, and Debbie York as teacher rep & secretary.

OPENING DAYS OF SCHOOL THIS FALL

To help you plan your vacation dates, our TTW opening schedule will be as follows:

KINDERGARTEN FOURS & FIVES:

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24 - Kindergarten Parent Night, 7:00 pm

AUGUST 23-24 - Orientations of Kindergartners (teachers call to schedule)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25 - Opening Day for Kindergarten 4 & 5

NURSERY – Infants, Toddlers, Nursery 2-3, & Nursery 3-4:

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26 - Nursery Parent Night, 7:00 pm

AUGUST 23-27 WEEK - Orientations of Nursery children (teachers call to schedule)

MONDAY, AUGUST 30- FRIDAY, SEPT 3 - Opening Days for Nursery as enrolled

All families will receive letters in early June listing these dates again. Our mailing will also include 1st month of school (Aug-Sept) tuition billing and a Health Form. First tuition will be due July 20. Don't delay in scheduling your child's health assessment. Remember that NC State Law **REQUIRES** health form to be in school office **BEFORE** child may attend a first day of class. No grace-periods!

Early Intervention for Speech

Michelle Patterson, Speech-Language Pathologist (and mom to Miller) is giving of her time and expertise to the TTW School during May. Free hearing and speech screenings will be given to specific children as referred by their teachers, or from concerns raised by parents. Permission forms are sent home for the screenings. Parents receive written reports of results, as well as handouts of community resources for families needing follow-ups. We are most grateful to Michelle for helping us with early intervention of children with speech differences. This is Michelle's 7th year to provide this service to us. *Thank you, Michelle!*

Time to Register for TTW School's Summer Enrichment Program!

Every Tues, Weds, Thurs in July for 4 weeks! Enroll child for just one week ... or for all four. Summer fun for Infants, Toddlers, Twos, Threes, Fours and Fives! \$50 per child/per week. Enroll in the preschool office, or call the Susans at 884-4232.

Week 1 July 6, 7, 8

"Cowboys & Cowgirls" (Wild West!)

Week 2 July 13, 14, 15

"Backyard Barbeque" (Camping Fun!)

Week 3 July 20, 21, 22

"Let's Go Cruisin'" (Waterplay/ Pretend Ship Cruise!)

Week 4 July 27, 28, 29

"Fun On the Farm" (Live Petting Zoo!)

The Way Station Afterschool Program at Wesley Memorial becomes "FUN IN THE SON" all-day program as soon as school is out.

Time to Register! This experience is for children completing Kgt 4's (youngest age eligible) through completing 5th grade. Hours: 7:30 am-6:00 pm. Parents may enroll child for entire summer, or just for select weeks. \$100 per child/per week. FUN IN THE SON activities include arts & crafts, educational fieldtrips, computer lab, outreach projects, swimming day, movie day, bike day and outdoor games! The boys and girls have a TERRIFIC time! Staff includes: Pamela Hill, Director, Michele Kinley, Asst Director, and Merri Mabe, Joy Hughes, Jana Brotherton.

"The Pitter Patter" is available for viewing on-line at www.wesleymemorial.org. Go to "Newsletters", then "Through-the-Week"

Praise to our Boys & Girls for their Lenten Offering - \$300!

Through their prayers and gifts, our children have continued to remember the people of Haiti who lost so much in the devastating earthquake. Their Lenten Offering was raised by doing extra chores at home and placing the coins in classroom "Wishing Wells." **We are so proud of you, children!** Special thanks to **Hannah Joy Edwards** for raising her donation by setting up a lemonade stand.

Blood Drive and Bake Sale Benefit for Kate Thornton was a big success!

Thanks to all our TTW families who contributed baked goods, and to everyone who came out to buy them on Sat, April 10! Monies raised have been sent to *The Kate Thornton Medical Fund*. In addition, 18 meals were purchased for the Thornton family, and 72 persons donated blood. **Applause!!**

The biggest blessing of all is that little Kate has been accepted as a candidate for a stem-cell transplant. Her older brother Jarod was found to be her perfect match & will be the donor. Kate and her mom Susan have moved to patient apartment housing near Duke, for prep work. Kate's surgery is scheduled for May 11. Please continue to keep the Thornton family in your prayers all summer – following the surgery, Kate must remain at Duke to be monitored until late August. Cheer cards and your child's drawings may be sent to Kate through her home address: 112 Lanford Drive, Thomasville, NC 27360.

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will....

1 Thessalonians 5:15-18

