

THE NETWORK

NURTURING EDUCATORS, TRAINING WORKERS, AND ORGANIZING RESOURCES FOR THE KINGDOM

Summer, 2002
Volume 2, Issue 1

"LIVING FOR JESUS"

is the theme for Children's Yearly Meeting held during Iowa Yearly Meeting July 31-Aug. 3

K-6th Grade children may join us at
McGrew Arts Center
William Penn University, Oskaloosa

Bible learning, fun crafts, music, games & snacks!
Afternoons will include swimming
and other fun activities!

\$40 per child for 4 days if registered by July 15.

(Lunch provided Thursday, Friday & Saturday.)

After July 15, \$50 per child.

\$100 for 3 or more in a family for 4 days.

After July 15, \$125 for 3 in a family.

One Day Fee: \$15 if registered by July 15.

\$20 after July 15 or drop off.

Schedule: Wed. 1:00-5:00; Thurs. 9:30-3:45
Fri. 9:30-5:00; Sat. 9:30-2:00

Director: Gayle Mortimer Music: Spencer Thury
(If your child plays a musical instrument, please bring it along!)

Register using the form in the July/August Iowa Friend
or contact your pastor.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP FORUM AT IOWA YEARLY MEETING

Several churches will be sharing in a forum about their experiences with children's worship or kid's church at our Iowa Yearly Meeting Sessions. This would be a wonderful time for anyone who is considering beginning this ministry to have their questions answered. Watch for your Iowa Friend insert for the scheduled time, or contact Margaret Good, 641-486-5977 You may also contact her if you'd like to participate in the forum and share for your church at IAYM.

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SUPPORT



Faraway Prayers - Suggestions for praying for our mission workers: http://www.childrensministry.com/Ideas_for_lessons/service_ideas/faraway.asp

Youth Ideas & Games: <http://www.youthspecialties.com/central/view.php3?ideas>

IT ALL STARTED WITH...

A Sunday School teacher, Mr. Kimball, in 1858, led a Boston shoe clerk to give his life to Christ.

The clerk, Dwight L. Moody, became an evangelist. In England in 1879, he awakened evangelistic zeal in the heart of Frederick B. Meyer, a pastor of a small church.

Frederick B. Meyer, preaching on an American campus, brought to Christ a student named J. Wilbur Chapman.

Chapman, engaged in YMCA work, employed a former baseball player, Billy Sunday, to do evangelistic work.

Billy Sunday held a revival in Charlotte, N.C. A group of local men were so enthusiastic afterward, that they planned another evangelistic campaign, bringing Mordecai Hamm to town to preach.

During Hamm's revival, a young man named Billy Graham heard the Gospel and yielded his life to Christ. Only eternity will reveal the tremendous impact of that one Sunday School teacher who invested his life in others.

Will **you** invest your life in others?



A LOCAL SS TEACHER'S SUGGESTION

Do you want to teach your class the books of the Bible? Here's a new method that my SS class enjoyed. I started out by letting them play some games that I printed out from my computer. Then I used the website <http://www.19burton.freereserve.co.uk/>. It gave a detailed step by step instructions on learning the books of the NT. My class of 8-12 year olds was able to learn it even quicker than I anticipated. Most could recite within 3 weeks!

Other sites for word search games are www.clorisa.com. & <http://www.biblestudygames.com>. I've found many helpful websites on the Internet. It puts a new spin on teaching. I hope you find it encouraging as I have.

Donnella Bulin, Valton Friends Church

NOTE: If you have SS or Bible School curriculum you're not using & would like to pass along to someone else, bring it to IAYM. We'll have a table available for free materials to be displayed & shared.

**AFFIRMATION IDEAS FOR
VOLUNTEERS**

While Sunday School often declines during the summer everyone is not going away every weekend. There may be more visitors to SS because of friends and relatives. Too often we become defeated by our own attitudes. We expect a summer slump. Change that this year!

Spice up your SS by inviting special guests to speak or present the lesson in a unique form such as drama, magic, puppets or music. Utilize one class to teach a younger class. Make use of films or videos. Invite a mission worker to speak or show their slides.

Plan a special social activity once a month, such as a picnic, game day, field day, potluck, or video night. Promote it well remembering to include those who are unchurched in the community.

Use the summer to create a strong sense of family among your members, an awareness of building together in the Lord's Kingdom. PRAY, PLAN and PROMOTE! It's worth ALL the effort. Add spark to your summer SS and prepare for success!

EMAIL DISCUSSION GROUP

We are starting an email loop June 10 for the purpose of and discussing Christian Education encouraging CE workers. A topic will be shared at the beginning of each week for everyone's input. If other questions or concerns come up during the week, we'll open them for comments as well. As with all new programs, we will try to be flexible and see how it unfolds. If you wish to be included in the sharing, send your email address to Margaret Good.

KID'S DAY CELEBRATION

Once a year have a Sunday dedicated to the kids of your church. Sing children songs and have children help with the service. Award prizes in different categories such as perfect attendance, brought most visitors, etc. Draw door prizes given by local merchants. Have a coloring contest and a cooking contest. Award 1st, 2nd & 3rd, in each age group. Decorate with balloons and streamers. Have a hot dog cookout for lunch. The adults will love it as much as the kids. A great family day. Invite grandparents!

Order T-shirts so kids are all dressed the same. Or purchase white T-shirts and let the kids paint their own designs. Create a quilt with children making their own block including their interests and age. Add your own creative ideas and make it a special day.

For less than \$2, you can make volunteers feel special! What's something we all have to do at one time or another even though we'd rather not? Grocery shopping! What's something we all should do at one time or another but often forget? Affirmation! Why not blend the two activities? The next time you're at the store, buy something for your teachers, youth leaders, VBS workers, office staff, custodian, etc. Then use a ribbon to attach a note to each item and let people know how wonderful you think they are.

Zest Soap - You add zest to our program!

Whoppers candies - Thanks for your whopper ideas!

Baby Ruth Candy Bar - You're a real slugger! Keep on batting for our children.

Mounds Candy Bar - You're making a mound of difference!

Snickers Candy Bar - We don't hear any snickers from your class when you teach the Bible.

Potato Chips (variety pack) - You're a chip off the block. You're so much like our Father!

Salt - You make children thirst for God!

Slice Soft Drink - You're an important slice of our pie! We wouldn't be whole without you!

Gatorade Drink - You quench kids' thirst for God!

Seasoning Packets - You add spice to our program!

Candles - You share Jesus' light with so many!

Bugles Snack - Thanks for proclaiming God's Word!

Animal Crackers - This place would be a zoo without you!

Cracker Jack Popcorn - You're the prize in our program!

Heart Shaped Soap - I appreciate your heart for kids!

Rubber Bands - Thanks for being flexible!

Energizer Battery - Thanks! You keep on going & going!

Band-Aid Strips - Thanks for coming to our aid!

Light Bulbs - You've got great ideas!

Recipe Cards - You've got the ingredients of a great teacher!

Flashlight - Jesus shines through you!

Funnel - God's love funnels through you to others!

Ball - Kids in your class are having a ball!

Joy Dishwashing Liquid - You bring joy to others!

BarNone Candy Bar - Bar none, you're the best!

PayDay Candy Bar - What a payday you'll have in heaven.

LifeSavers Candies - You're a real life saver!

100 Grand Candy Bar - You're worth so much more to our church!

Glue or tape - Thanks for sticking with us!

Matches - Your creative teaching is red hot!

Equal Sweetener - When it comes to reaching kids, you have no equal!

Sugar substitute - There's no substitute for you!

Peanuts - We're nuts about you! Thanks for bringing kids out of their shell!

Party Mix - Thanks for joining our party! You add a new flavor that we hope never to be without!

Small Mirror - Thanks for being a reflection of God's love to others!