

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH



THE NET



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF CtK'S CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 3 • MAY/JUNE 2008

MARK 1:16-18

MAKE A TRUE KINGDOM IMPACT

Well it is definitely hard to believe that this is the end of the 2007-2008 school year, and very soon I will be celebrating one full year of ministry with you all! How amazing!

I'm certain you would agree with me that God has been truly faithful to us this year and that we are certainly on the move! There are incredible things happening in the Children's Ministry here at Christ the King, and from where I stand, our potential for making a difference for God's Kingdom is infinite! That very thought gives me chills and makes my passion for this ministry even stronger!

However, I've said it before and for as long as you know me I will continue to say it, we could *not* do *any* of the incredible things we do if it weren't for an amazingly talented and dedicated staff of volunteers! These people who give of themselves week-in and week-out are truly the hands and feet of Christ at this church. *They* are the ones who make ministry happen here, *they* are the ones who teach you

children about the love of Jesus Christ, *they* are the ones who show your children the love of Jesus Christ, and *they* are the ones who make true Kingdom impact. Any volunteer can make a difference, but the difference our volunteers make is an eternal one!

Every year our ministry grows, and more and more volunteers are needed. This

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year we've added more than 10 additional volunteer needs alone! That's a big hole to fill! But I am confident that if you ask any current Children's Ministry volunteer, they'll tell you

that the reward they receive for their commitment is unparalleled anywhere! And the best part is that when you volunteer, you *never* do it alone. Our volunteer team is 50 people-strong, and over the last nine months, we have grown closer together as a team and as a family in Christ. This happens because we have structured each volunteer position strategically so that you will always have support from all sides—no one ever serves alone!

This majority of this edition of *The Net* is dedicated to our Volunteers—those who are making Christ real to your children. Read through the following pages all-the-while asking God to reveal to you how He can use you in this ministry. You don't *have* to be a classroom teacher unless you feel called in that way. There are literally *hundreds* of ways you can be a part of this incredible team using the gifts and talents God has knit into you!

When you're ready to make a commitment to this ministry, and to God's Kingdom, our team welcomes you with open arms, and we can't wait

to partner with you to share and show the love of Christ to the children of CtK. Simply fill out the enclosed form and mail or bring it back to the church office! Then someone from the Children's Ministry team will contact you with further information!

God bless you as you read and pray, and hopefully soon we'll be able to say, "Welcome to the team!"

Serving together in Christ,

Marissa Letscher
Coordinator of
Children's Ministry

DATES TO ADD TO YOUR CALENDARS!

- **Wednesday, May 7th**
Friends' Night, 6:25-7pm
- **Sunday, May 11th**
Mother's Day!
Last Day of Sunday School/
KidZone!
Last day to register for VBS
- **Wednesday, May 14th**
Last Friends' Night, 6:25-7pm
- **Sunday, May 18th**
Volunteer Appreciation Banquet, 12-2pm

VBS 2008- AVALANCHE RANCH

Wah-hoo! Avalanche Ranch is a wild ride through God's word! Get ready for an exciting celebration of God's love filled with amazing Bible adventures, unforgettable songs, memory-making crafts, and life-changing missions.

VBS is **June 9-13th** from **9:30am—12:30pm**. Registration continues until May 11th. The cost is \$25/per

student, \$50 maximum/family.

Once you have registered, be sure to watch your mailbox for a letter welcoming you to VBS 2008 and providing you will all the instructions you will need for the week!

We still need volunteers, so if you've got the time, we've got the fun!

See you cowpokes there!



MORE DATES TO ADD TO YOUR CALENDARS!

- **Sunday, June 1st**
VBS Leader/Volunteer Orientation, 12-2pm
- **Thursday, June 5th**
VBS Leader/Volunteer Orientation, 6-8pm
- **Sunday, June 8th @ 9:30am**
VBS Staff dedication in worship
- **June 9-13th: VBS 2008**
Wahoo! Avalanche Ranch!
- **Friday, June 13th**
Ice Cream Social
- **Sunday, June 15th**
VBS participants sing for worship @ 9:30am

2008-2009 Volunteer Opportunities

Leadership Positions

- Children's Ministry Team member—attends all scheduled meetings of the Children's Ministry Team, assists the Coordinator of Children's Ministry in vision-casting, planning and implementing the programs of the Children's Ministry.
- KidZone Teacher—Leads or co-leads a single-age group of students every Sunday. Is required to attend Teacher Training sessions quarterly.
- KidZone Song Leader—Leads KidZone students with singing during Large Group (9:30-9:50am).
- KidZone Tech—Runs audio/video for Large Group (9:30-9:50am).
- KidZone Drama—Leads/performs short skits or does storytelling for Large Group (9:30-9:50am).
- KidZone Large Group Host—Serves as the emcee for Large Group (9:30-9:50am).
- Preschool Sunday School Teacher—Leads or co-leads a single-age group of students every Sunday. Is required to attend Teacher Training sessions quarterly.
- Grade-level Coordinator—Works with the Coordinator of Children's Ministry to schedule non-Sunday school social events and service projects in order to foster friendships between the children.

"Behind-the-Scenes" Positions

- KidZone or Preschool Sunday School Classroom Helper—Serves as an "extra set of hands" by helping the teacher in a classroom.
- Nursery Helper—Assists the Nursery Attendant during any weekend service.
- KidZone or Preschool Coach—Prepares the materials and supplies for the teachers at a given grade level.
- Hallway Host/Hostess—Assist with attendance check-in, help monitor hallways during class time.
- Check-in Desk Volunteer (KidZone and Preschool) - Assist with attendance check-in.
- Classroom Grandparent—have fun reading to our preschoolers, and perhaps helping with a craft or two!
- Special Events Helper—Sign up to help with one or more of our special events (Trunk-or-Treat, Advent Kick-Off, Easter Egg Hunt, VBS).
- KidZone Set-up Crew—Help set-up the KidZone auditorium, classrooms and registration desk on Sunday mornings.
- Family Night Volunteer—Assist with games, crafts and a short lesson for students K-5th during Wednesday evening program.

Celebrate Milestone Volunteers!

"No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God."

Luke 9:62

5 Years

Valerie Dirksen
Judy Madson
Susan Fitzgerald

10 Years

Cheri Skop
Sondra Einig
Andrea Antonowich
Danny Migliorisi

When you see any of these incredible people, please thank them for their faithful dedication and servant hearts. If I have missed anyone, please let me know immediately!



BACKYARD CAMPING

Your family doesn't need to travel a long distance to camp overnight—simply set up a tent in your backyard and enjoy an evening sleeping outside. Haul your sleeping bags, portable grill, and cookout grub such as hot dogs, beans, and s'mores to a backyard camping spot. During the evening, explore these different roles with your kids before climbing into your sleeping bags.

- **The Astronomer**—Gaze at the night sky and search for constellations. Read Psalm 147:4 and discuss the wonder of God's nighttime creation. Remind your kids that, like the stars, God knows them by name.
- **The Singer**—Before going to sleep, sing some of your family's favorite songs together. Say a bed-time prayer together before bed.
- **The Storyteller**—Gather around your backyard fire and let each person share a favorite family memory.



SUNSET HIKE

Take advantage of the longest day of the year, June 21 (the summer solstice), by taking your family on a sunset hike (or walk at the park!).

As evening approaches, find an established hiking (or walking) trail to explore with your kids. Bring a backpack packed with a flashlight, snacks, drinks, and a Bible. Find a spot to stop and watch

the sunset and enjoy a snack. Read aloud Psalm 65:5-8 and talk with your kids about all of the wonderful things they enjoy each day in God's creation. After the sun dips into the horizon, use a flashlight to guide you back to the trail-head.

MOMS: STILL THE BEST

59% of preteens name Mom as their top role model, 73% would call Mom first if they were in trouble, and 72% say Mom is the person they truly trust most.

Source: Harris Interactive

Children's Ministry Magazine
May/June 2007, pg. 30

A FAMILY GARDEN

May is the perfect time to plant a family garden to tend over the summer. Let your kids pick out their favorite vegetables and flowers to plant. (Kids will be more excited to care for the plants if they like to eat the food they produce.) Encourage your kids to help with planning, watering, weeding, and picking. And if you don't have a yard for your garden, consider planting a flower

box or container garden indoors or on a patio.

After planting, read aloud 1 Corinthians 3:7 and remind your kids that just as they'll care for their garden, God cares for them.



KID QUOTE:

When 3-year-old Trenton's teacher asked why he was lying on top of the family portrait he'd drawn, he sighed, "Now my daddy's holding me."

Janette Lange
Largo, Florida

From Group's Children's Ministry magazine, May/June 2007, pg. 84.

FOR PARENTS ONLY!

CHRIST THE KING LUTHERAN CHURCH

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.CTKLUTHERAN.ORG

Christ the King is a place of...

Grow in Faith

Reach Out to Others

Actively Worship

Connect in Small Groups

Encourage Discipleship through Serving

Summer Fun Activities!

Hooray! Summer will soon be here, and it's time to start planning for some good summer fun!

We have planned a few outings for the summer; they are listed below. You can sign up for any event on the Children's Ministry page on the website (www.ctklutheran.org/children). Participation in these events will require a Children's Ministry Event Permission form, available for download on our website.

We will also need chaperones and drivers for these events. If you are available to help out with any event, please either e-mail or call Marissa directly at the church office, or sign-up to help on the website! Simply follow the "Volunteer" link under the event of your choice.

Watch the website and your e-mail inboxes for details on all of these events! As of the printing of this newsletter only dates are certain.

Events for Everyone (preK-5th):

Sat. July 12th: Parent's Night Out: 5-9pm. (Permission Slip due Thurs., July 3rd).

Thurs. July 17th: Water Fun at West Gwinnett Aquatic Center, 2-4pm. (Permission Slip due Thurs. July 10th)

Thurs. July 24th, Picnic Day at Brook Run Park (4770 N. Peachtree Road, Atlanta, 30338), 11am-2pm. (Permission Slip due Thurs. July 17th)

Tues. July 29th: Six Flags White Water, watch the website and your e-mail inbox for more details as they become available!

Event for Preschoolers only:

Thurs. July 10th: Holy Cow! Farm, 10am-12noon, 1005 Little River Way, Alpharetta, 30004, <http://holycowfarm.com>. (Permission Slip due Thurs. July 3rd)

Event for K-5th Grade only:

Tues. July 15th: AtlantaRocks!, 2-4pm. For more information about AtlantaRocks!, go to: www.atlantarocks.com

Atlanta Rocks!
Perimeter location:
4411 Bankers Circle, Suite A,
Doraville, GA 30360