

North Heights Children's Ministries

Bounce. Leap. Hop. Jump. Climb. Fly. Soar to Great Heights with God!

Winter 2010–2011

Dear Families,

by Vicki Heagerty, Children's Ministries Arden Hills & Roseville

Statistics show that approximately 20 percent of families attend church or Sunday School regularly. Those of you who attend regularly are in the minority.

So, thank you for taking the initiative in bringing your children to Sunday School, Kingdom Kids, VBS, and the numerous other activities we provide. Again, we are honored that you chose to share the awesome responsibility of helping your child learn and grow in faith with us.

As a brief reminder, some of the ways you can continue to partner with us in teaching your children foundational faith lessons are to

- review the "Talk it Up" cards from Sunday morning with your child.
- read the "Treehouse" Bible passages before (or after, if you cannot get to it before) with your child.
- attend the "Together in Faith" series with your child. You can see the upcoming sessions in our calendar on this page.

If there are ways we can support you further as you raise your children in the faith, please let us know!



TOGETHER IN FAITH by Mindy Bak

A special one-hour class for you and your child, grandchild, godchild, niece, nephew, or that special child in your life. Instead of Sunday School, you and others with children in this age group attend a two- or three-week class (once during this year) for a time of sharing faith together.

UPCOMING CLASSES:

3-Year-Olds & Their Adults: "Praying Together"

Sundays, April 3 & 10, 9 a.m., Arden Hills Great Hall
Sundays, May 1 & 8, 11 a.m., Roseville Gym

3-year-olds, who have no problem believing in what is not seen, will increase their ability to talk with God during two sessions of "Praying Together."

Kindergarteners & Their Adults: "The Lord's Prayer"

Sundays, January 16 & 23, 9 a.m., Arden Hills Great Hall
Sundays, January 30 & February 6, 11 a.m., Roseville Gym
Kindergartners, who are mostly pre-literate (everything they know they've memorized), will learn "The Lord's Prayer" while memorization is still child's play.

2nd Graders & Their Adults: "That's Not Fair"

Sundays, February 27 & March 6, 9 a.m., Arden Hills Great Hall
2nd Graders, who hold the scales of justice and continually refrain, "that's not fair," will take a look at God's understanding of fairness (in the life of Joseph and Jesus) during two sessions of "That's Not Fair."

5th & 6th Graders & Their Adults: "The Real Deal"

Sundays, January 30 and February 6 & 13, 9 a.m., Arden Hills Great Hall
5th & 6th Graders, who are looking for heroes and considering who they'll grow up to be, learn how prayer, the Bible, and community made all the difference for Martin Luther during three sessions of "The Real Deal."



Calendar

November

- 24 & 28 No Kingdom Kids or Sunday School (Thanksgiving)
- 28 Feed My Starving Children Collection in services

December

- 19 Children's Christmas Program, Roseville
- 22 & 29 No Kingdom Kids (Christmas/New Year's)
- 26 No Sunday School (Christmas)

January

- 2 No Sunday School (New Year's)
- 16 & 23 Together in Faith classes for Kindergarteners: "The Lord's Prayer," Arden Hills
- 21–22 Kingdom Kids Overnight & Almost Overnight
- 23 The FUNDamentals of "Helping Kids Hear God's Voice," Arden Hills
- 30 & Feb. 6 Together in Faith classes for Kindergarteners: "The Lord's Prayer," Roseville

February

- All month "I Love to Read My Bible" Month
- 5 Twin Cities Inflammation Conference for All Children's Volunteers
- 6 & 13 Together in Faith classes for 5th & 6th Graders: "The Real Deal," Arden Hills
- 6 Super Verse Sunday
- 16 Kingdom Kids Sailboat Regatta (Worshippers)
- 23 Kingdom Kids Sailboat Regatta (Treasure Seekers)
- 27 & Mar. 6 Together in Faith classes for 2nd Graders: "That's Not Fair," Arden Hills

Continued on next page.



TREEHOUSE NEWS

PRESCHOOL-KINDERGARTEN



by Linda Coombe, Arden Hills Children's Ministries

We have an overflowing abundance every Sunday morning. Peeking in on a Sunday, you will find an abundance of children jumping into God's story, an abundance of worship and praise to God, and an abundance of activities leading kids to a deeper relationship with Jesus. Kids are hiding an abundance of God's Word in their hearts as they learn Psalm 100. We are excited about the opportunities for parents to follow along at home since this age group learns best by repetition. Be sure to use the take home cards (sent home approximately once per month) to recite the verses and to read the stories that we are focusing on each week. Also, your child's take home paper is more than a lovely piece of artwork to hang on the refrigerator. On the reverse side of each picture you will find great ideas to use all week long to reinforce the lessons from Sunday. We are honored to partner with you in the spiritual training of your children. We look forward to God's continued, amazing work this year in the lives of your children!



Calendar

Continued from pg. 1 of Children's insert

March

- 5 Kingdom Kids Pinewood Derby
- 9 No Kingdom Kids (Ash Wednesday)

April

- 1-3 Camp Cross-Fire Upper Elementary Camp at Gospel Hills
- 3 & 10 Together in Faith classes for 3-year-olds: "Praying Together," Arden Hills
- 17 Palm Sunday Event in Sunday School
- 20 No Kingdom Kids (Holy Week)
- 24 No Sunday School (Easter)

May

- 1 & 8 Together in Faith classes for 3-year-olds: "Praying Together," Roseville
- 4 Kingdom Kids Closing Ceremony
- 14 The Jason Wilkman Bible Bee
- 22 Last Day of 2010-11 Sunday School Year

June

- 20-24 Vacation Bible School, Arden Hills

ELEMENTARY



by Ed Jenkins, Karen Plath, Kevin Whitby, and Kris Goldade, "Treehouse" Staff

Benny the Dog, Becky the Bird, an Elvis Impersonator, a time machine, pirates digging for Bible treasures . . . where would you find all these things? The "Treehouse!" Sunday mornings are a buzz at the "Treehouse." The past few months, students have experienced a variety of characters, activities, worship, and Bible teachings. Things are off to a great start and just keep getting better.

In preparation for Sunday mornings, volunteers and staff have committed a time of prayer or otherwise known as DEAP—Drop Everything And Pray. During this time, we pray for the students, teachers, families and the message for that day.

You may have noticed the "Talk It Up" card your child brings home Sunday mornings. The purpose of these cards is to assist you in engaging your children in conversation about what they experienced at the "Treehouse." By looking forward, you can spend some time preparing your child for the week to come.

Another way to prepare each week is to review the memory verses. The first Sunday in February, February 6, is Super Verse Sunday. On this day, students have the opportunity to recite the verses they have learned. It's a great morning filled with games, scripture, and prizes.

Christmas is fast approaching and your child can witness "Journey to the Manger," a living Bible story experience, on December 12, at Roseville and Arden Hills at the Treehouse. You don't want to miss this day. If you would like to be a part of this special day, contact Kevin Whitby (Roseville) or Ed Jenkins (Arden Hills) as soon as possible.

On December 19, at the Roseville campus, the children will be performing "The Greatest Gift" in the Fellowship Hall at the 9:30 and 11 a.m. services. At Arden Hills, the children will see "The Treehouse Christmas Special" at the 9 and 11 a.m. services.

We would like to send a special thank you to all of our volunteers! You play a very important role on Sunday mornings.

Our "Treehouse" worship and drama teams work very hard rehearsing the large group Bible teaching to make God's word meaningful and exciting. Our small group leaders and team leaders work hard to build relationships with students, share God's Word, and show students how to live out their relationship with Jesus Christ.

If you would like information about being a part of this rewarding ministry, please contact:

Arden Hills: Cindy.Alstad@NHLC.org or 651-797-7861,
Roseville: Beth.Nordin@NHLC.org or 651-797-7911.

KINGDOM KIDS NEWS

Wednesdays at Kingdom Kids you will find kids that are . . . **W**onderful . . . **W**ild about Jesus . . . and just a little bit **W**acky! We have seen Wacky hair, Wacky costumes and listed below are the upcoming Wacky Wednesdays. Kids are having a great time as they learn in an exciting, fun way to build their identity in Jesus Christ. Don't hang out at home on Wednesdays! Come join us to see what all the excitement is about. Here are some of the upcoming highlights this winter:

- Dec. 1Wacky Wednesday: Red & Green Night
- Dec. 22No Kingdom Kids-Christmas Break
- Dec. 29No Kingdom Kids-Christmas Break
- Jan. 12.....Wacky Wednesday:
Summer in January
- Jan. 21-22Almost Overnight/Overnight
- Feb. 9Wacky Wednesday: Team Spirit
- Feb. 16Worshipper Regatta
(PARENT NIGHT)
- Feb. 23Treasure Seeker Regatta
(PARENT NIGHT)
- March 5 (Sat.)..Pinewood Derby
- March 9No Kingdom Kids—Ash Wednesday
- March 16Wacky Wednesday: Hat/Caps
- March 23Bring a Friend Night
- April 13Wacky Wednesday: Mismatched Clothes



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ROSEVILLE SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

by Beth Nordin, Roseville Children's Ministries

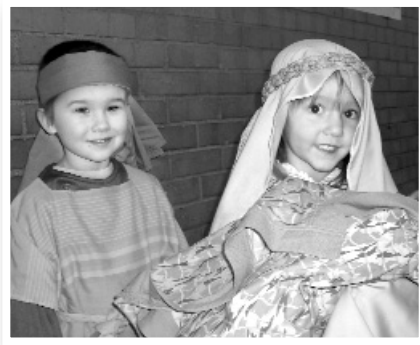
The Roseville Sunday School students will present their Christmas program, "The Greatest Gift of All!" on Sunday, December 19, at both the 9:30 and 11 a.m. services in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us as the children share through song, script, and scripture about the greatest gift of Christmas. The program will include songs sung by our youngest two- and three-year-olds all the way up to our 5th graders. We would love to have the congregation be a part of our program as well, so we have included several traditional Christmas carols so that everyone can sing along. Watch as the children unwrap each "Gift of Christmas," discovering how each "gift" has an important part in the Christmas story, saving, of course, the best for last.

Following the Christmas program at each hour, we invite you to celebrate Jesus' birthday, with cake, punch, and fellowship in the Community Center Dining Room.

Sunday School families, please keep these dates in mind:

- Special Parts practice – Saturday, December 11, 1–3 p.m., Roseville Fellowship Hall
- All Sunday School rehearsal – Saturday, December 18, 9:30 a.m.–noon, Roseville Fellowship Hall. Preschool & Kindergarten from 9:30–10:30 ONLY.
- Christmas Program – Sunday, December 19, both 9:30 and 11 a.m. services, Roseville Fellowship Hall (two- and three-year-olds need only be at the hour they regularly attend Sunday School)

Questions? Contact Beth.Nordin@NHLC.org or 651-797-7911.



Sunday, December 19
9:30 & 11 a.m. Services
Roseville Fellowship Hall

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

by Cindy Alstad, Arden Hills Children's Ministries

This is the time of year when we would rather stay at home than be out in the cold. But how much fun would it be to have nothing to get you out of the house? Having ministry opportunities with kids really fills your life with excitement and blessings. You have seen volunteers leading kids in the halls, reading the Bible to groups of kids at short tables, making a craft that teaches kids about God, running around in the gym, wearing crazy costumes or hair, or lifting hands that praise the Lord during fun and energetic worship times. Whatever it takes to share the love of God, help children grow in their understanding of him, and give kids a desire to be more Christ-like, these volunteers are all over it!

People volunteer to minister to kids because they love kids, they are blessed to make a difference in their lives, and they feel God calling them to reach kids for Christ. Read some of the comments from this year's volunteers. Deb says, "I volunteer in Children's Ministries because adults often underestimate children's capacity for worship and their faith. I love seeing how much more they are capable of and how much they love Jesus."

Now teaching third grade, Carly and her husband, Jesse, have been volunteering with the same group of kids they have had the previous years and when she was asked why, she wrote, "Because the children teach me the meaning of God's love." Seeing kids worship and hearing their prayers brings joy to your hearts as you begin to see how the kids respond to the Lord. One of our volunteers knew that it was more than just a desire for her to volunteer, she says, "The Lord is stretching me to dedicate my time and talents to him." A willing heart will be rewarded in ways that may not be known until eternity. What a blessing it is to serve the Lord through children!

Children at North Heights are blessed with volunteers young and old. Often our veteran volunteers are willing to mentor our younger students (as young as 6th grade), and these kids grow up to be great teachers themselves. Read what Amelia, grade 7, has to say, "I volunteer in Children's because I love children and I want to help them learn about God. I want them to have a fantastic experience like I did."

Jesus is God's gift to the world and working with kids opens that gift to them. We so much appreciate every volunteer. From birth through 5th grade, we have volunteers who are ministering to kids as Team Leaders and Teacher Leader Coordinators, Small Group Leaders and Table Shepherds, Worship and Drama Teams, meeting the needs of kids who need extra TLC, Life Skill and Character Quality Leaders, Craft and Recreation Leaders, or serving at our registration table and with special events or projects. We thank you for giving your time, energy, and talent to our children. You make the difference!



I Love to Read My Bible Month

We are excited about God's Word in Sunday School! During the month of February, we have a Bible reading challenge event. Students will set a goal for the number of chapters of the Bible that they will read collectively. Last year the students SMASHED their own goal by almost double! We are confident that this year students will once again rejoice together as they read through God's Word at home and reach their goal and beyond.



Thank you!

Our Sunday School students put together more than 150 shoeboxes for children around the world who will receive them through Operation Christmas Child! A **BIG** thank you to all who donated shoeboxes and supplies.

LITTLE EARTH SUNDAY SCHOOL



Our Little Earth Sunday School Ministry continues in this community in the Philips neighborhood of South Minneapolis as it has since the mid '90s.

Would you like to be a part of this ministry? We are always in need of volunteers. **Coming Sunday afternoon, December 12, we expect over 100 children and adults from this community to**

join us for our annual "Christmas Craft Day."

If you can help (families are welcome to volunteer together, too), contact Children@NHLC.org or call 651-797-7822.

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"TREEHOUSE" KIDS AT FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Forty-three volunteers from our third- through fifth-grade students, along with some parents and siblings, enjoyed a day of packing food at the Coon Rapids site for Feed My Starving Children (FMSC). It was a lot of fun and it made a big difference to some hungry children. All totalled, there were 90 volunteers from North Heights and other groups who packed enough food to feed 60 kids for one year! Way to go kids and many thanks to all who volunteered!



SUPER VERSE SUNDAY

Sunday, February 6
Arden Hills and Roseville campuses

"Treehouse" Sunday School children will have the opportunity to participate in their own "Super Bowl." Following worship and Treehouse Bible adventures, there will be classroom parties, sports activities, and games which will center around the memory verses that the students have been working on from September through January. We encourage students and volunteer staff to come dressed in their favorite sport attire. Go Team Treehouse!

TRUE SPORTS

True Sports Continues in its Third Year at North Heights

by Dave Buller



1. Baseball: For those interested in baseball clinics that will be held Saturdays at 4 p.m. throughout the winter, contact Erik Lovdahl at erik@lpabaseball.com.

2. Basketball: North Heights True Sports took first place in the Spring Lake Park tournament on November 6. The team will be back in action on December 4, December 18, and January 29. Contact David Buller at 651-631-5348 or dwbuller@nwc.edu for more information.

3. Teaching of 10 Bible Principles

Bible Principle: Respect, I Peter 2:17

In the title TRUE SPORTS, the "R" stands for Respect, or value 2 of the 10 taught.

What comes out of the mouth is a reflection of the heart. To show respect, you must speak and act with honor toward others. That means you do not argue with an umpire or an opposing player. Disrespect causes players to lose their concentration, leading not only to lost games, but also to injury—and more importantly, loss of character. Champions always show respect for the other team. Whether they win or lose, they tip their hats to the opposing players, respecting them for the effort they put into the game. Champions are humble in victory, giving credit to their teammates and not bragging on their own achievements. Champions are gracious in defeat, recognizing that the opposing team played well and deserved to win the game. They do not blame others but take full responsibility for not getting the job done. They hold no bad feelings toward a team that defeated them. "Make it your ambition to lead a quiet life, to mind your own business and to work with your hands, just as we told you, so that your daily life may win the respect of outsiders and so that you will not be dependent on anybody" (I Timothy 4:11).

REDEMPTION CARDS

Join us for fun and fellowship as we play "Redemption," a collectible card game based on themes and characters from the Bible. Kids of all ages enjoy the tournaments and game nights. New? We'll get you started with a starter deck and someone to teach you how to play. Experienced player? There'll be plenty of good competition. Questions? Contact Bill at 651-779-6690 or bfvoigt9@msn.com.



Redemption Game Nights
 (6:30-8:30 p.m.)

Arden Hills:

Fridays, January 14, February 11, & May 13

Roseville

Fridays, January 28, March 25, April 29, & May 27

Redemption Tournaments (10 a.m.)

Arden Hills: Saturday, January 8 & February 26

Roseville: Saturday, December 4 & April 2

The Lighthouse Players Present *A Glimmer of Hope*

A play based on a real life story of a family with three children living during the Great Depression in 1933.

Friday, February 4
 7 p.m.

Arden Hills Youth Center

Families are welcome to come for the play and snacks.

Free will donations



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