

The Chimes

April 2011

How to Share With Your Kids



By: Rev. Kay Lancaster
Associate Pastor

EASTER IS ONE OF THE core celebrations of the Christian faith. However, we often find it difficult to discuss Easter with children because of its association with death.

Talking to a child about death is never easy. Even as adults, it's hard for us to understand why a man who was good, caring, and loving would be mocked, tortured, and executed. It can seem nearly impossible to explain this to a child.

Children often have questions about the injustice of Jesus' death. It's important to help children understand it was not God who put Jesus to death; it was people who did not understand Jesus' teachings or actions.

When speaking of Easter, it is helpful to discuss the teachings of Jesus. Read what he had to say about loving your enemy,

trusting your neighbor, dealing with anger, and caring for strangers. Talk together about why people might have been offended or afraid of this.

Jesus' death, however, is only one aspect of the Easter story. The resurrection can be just as difficult to discuss. Can you explain the resurrection? Maybe, maybe not. Reread the accounts for yourself so you can better explain them to your children (Matthew 28, Luke 24, John 20).

Also, remember the importance of faith in the Easter story. Let your children know that though you believe, you may not fully understand the events of the Easter story and that you also have questions.

Create opportunities to discuss the Easter story with your children. Use a Lenten calendar to mark special activities of serving others, have a daily family devotional, and discuss

the symbols of Easter as you decorate your home. Talk about the significance of the egg as a symbol of life as you dye Easter eggs.

Participate fully in the worship life of the church by being a part of the events planned throughout Lent. Pass on the excitement of the season to your children - Jesus Lives!



Summer Family Fun Days

Kicking off the Summer at
Hawaiian Falls

By: Holly Hattendorf
Assistant Director, Children's Ministry

LIFE IS HECTIC THESE DAYS. BETWEEN WORK, home, children's activities and school, there's not much time left to spend quality time together. This summer, FUMC of Arlington has planned activities we hope will give families an opportunity to slow down and relax together.

We are kicking off the summer with an event at Hawaiian Falls on Sunday, June 12. We will meet under a pavilion at the water park, immediately after church, for an afternoon of fun!

There will be something for everyone: exciting attractions, a relaxing "lazy river", wave pool, and a three-story interactive playground for the youngsters. If you haven't been to Hawaiian Falls before, this is something you won't want to miss!

Join us again on Friday, July 8, for an ice cream social and movie night in our Great Hall. We will start with a create-your-own ice cream dish to help us cool off, followed by a new release movie. Bring your pillows and blankets and enjoy a relaxing evening together. Don't forget to invite your friends to this *free* event for the whole family.

We'll finish the summer on Friday, August 19 with our *Back to School Family Pizza and Game Night* in the Great Hall. Avoid the back to school chaos and enjoy one last night together before school starts!

We have a few other event ideas up our sleeves! Keep a look out in future "Chimes" for more details as summer approaches!



Cokesbury Book Fair

Sunday, April 10 from 9:00 AM - noon

Kallie Menard, one of our church's fifth graders, is helping to improve our children's library by hosting a Cokesbury Book Fair at our church on April 10.

Purchase books to give as Easter gifts or to donate to the children's library! Look for the Book Fair outside the Children's Library.

Summer 2011

Music Week • VBS • Family Days • Field Trips • Friends • Cooking Camp

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR again! Spring break has come and gone and summer will soon be upon us. It's time to plan vacations and schedule summer activities. There are so many options, it can be difficult to choose!

As you are planning, don't forget to include FUMC of Arlington's summer camps on your list. Throughout the year, and again this summer, we commit to offering programs that provide children a place where they know they are loved as well as a place to show their love of God and others. This incorporation of God and the Bible is what makes

FUMC of Arlington's camps unique.

From *Chefs in Training* to *Music Week*, we are offering a wide variety of camps this year. We encourage everyone to register online at www.arlingtonmethodist.org/camps. However, we will have a limited number of paper forms in the church office.

To help streamline the registration process, we have separated the medical release from the registration form. If you have already received a medical release, please complete and return it to the church office, along with payment,

to ensure your child is fully registered. Forms can also be downloaded from the children's summer camps page (www.arlingtonmethodist.org/camps). Release forms will be kept on file for one year.

As always, we are looking for volunteers who have a passion for working with kids. If you feel called to help, please let us know.

We look forward to seeing you this summer! If you have any questions about summer camps, please contact Holly Hattendorf at hhattendorf@arlingtonmethodist.org.

Summer Events

Terrific Tuesdays

June 7- July 5 | 10:30 AM - 2 PM | 4 - 7 grade | \$10

Mission Possible Kids

June 15 - Aug. 10 | Wed. 6:30 - 8 PM | K - 6 | \$20

Cookalicious Camp

June 13 - 17 | 10 AM - 12 PM, | K - 2 grade | \$15

Chefs In Training

June 15 -17 | 10 AM - 12 PM | 3 - 6 grade | \$20

Art Adventures Camp

June 20 - 24 | 10 AM - 12 PM | K - 2 grade | \$15

Music Week

July 11-15 | 9:30 AM - 12 PM | 1 - 7 grade | \$20
\$25 after July 1

VBS

August 1-5 | 9 AM - 12 PM | age 3 - 6 grade | \$15
\$25 after July 1

Special Needs VBS

July 31 - Aug. 2 | 6 PM - 7:30 PM | all ages | \$15

Back to School Blast

Aug. 15-19 | 7:45 AM - 4 PM | K - 6 grade | \$75

Register at:
www.arlingtonmethodist.org/camps

Music Week and Terrific Tuesdays

Learning about God through music and performance

By: Cindy Salter
Director, Children's Music

ON ANY TUESDAY MORNING DURING the summer at FUMC of Arlington, you are likely to hear young voices singing lyrics like these:

“And so we say a simple prayer, that when the day is through, O loving God, we see your face and find our place...in you.”

These powerful words are from a past *Music Week* production of “Malice in the Palace, The Story of Esther.”

With summer just around the corner, the Children's Music Ministry has already begun planning *Music Week* and *Terrific Tuesdays*, both leading up to the big summer musical, starring children entering 1st through 7th grades. This long-standing summer tradition, a legacy begun by Gerry Gray, involves kids not only from the church, but also the surrounding community.

In *Terrific Tuesdays*, a prequel to *Music Week* for children in 4th - 7th grades, work begins on the summer musical in the morning followed by a fun activity, such as a play at Theatre Arlington, a pool party, or lunch at a local eatery, in the afternoon. *Terrific Tuesdays* culminates with a lock-in at the church where children polish their parts in the show and celebrate their hard work.

All this leads up to *Music Week*, a mid-July event where all the children, with the help of countless volunteers, enjoy time together and learn the summer musical. *Music Week* finishes with a performance, complete with costumes, sets and professional musicians, performed in the Great Hall.

Children participating in this ministry look forward to it year after year. “I asked my Mom if we are doing *Music Week* this summer,” says 5th grader Kallie Menard. “I'm really excited about it. It's amazing how everybody puts it together and makes it so wonderful.”

Fond memories of *Music Week* linger with many past participants. “*Music Week* was a lot of fun and gave me something meaningful to do during the summer,” recalls Steven Henkel, a member of the Testament Choir.

Megan Hale, now a member of the Chancel Choir, says:

“We always had so much fun learning our parts, going on field trips with the *Terrific Tuesday* group, and making friends on the playground while enjoying Otter Pops in the Texas heat. As we graduated from *Music Week*, [we] started coming back as youth helpers. I think we had such a good experience...that we want to help create that same experience for new generations of kids. Many of the *Music Week* graduates have pursued music as a career, and *Music Week* is where it all began.”

Music is a gift that children carry for a lifetime. Learning about God's enduring love and infinite strength while preparing and performing a musical production is a unique experience the Children's Music Ministry is proud to offer.

For more information on dates and registration, please visit www.arlingtonmethodist.org/camps.





Bridging the Spring Break Hunger Gap

FUMC of Arlington, with Tarrant Area Food Bank, offers students backpacks of food for spring break

By: Amy Nelson
Communications Coordinator

SPRING BREAK WAS last month and, for children depending on school meals, this week was an uncertain time. Over 85% of students at Wimbish Elementary qualify for free and reduced (price) meals and, for many, it is their main source of food. The Friday before spring break, 39 children at Wimbish Elementary received food from First United Methodist Church of Arlington to help them make it through the week.

According to the “Share our Strength Report,” 86% of K-8 public school teachers nationwide say they frequently see children coming to school hungry. Nearly half of all students (over 157,000) in Tarrant County alone qualified for free and reduced (price) meals in 2008-09, according to the

Tarrant Area Food Bank (TAFB). Michelle Clark, missions and outreach coordinator, was alerted to this need and reached out to TAFB to find out how to help. FUMC of Arlington joined TAFB’s Backpack for Kids program, which provides backpacks and food for distribution to local schools.

FUMC of Arlington purchases non-perishable items from TAFB and volunteers meet weekly to pack backpacks for delivery each Friday morning. “It has definitely made a huge impact on the kids,” says Gerri Contreras, Wimbish’s family service representative. “Kids look forward to coming on Fridays.”

The program has been so successful, Wimbish reached out to Clark to help students through spring break. On March 11, Clark and several

volunteers delivered food for 39 students, ensuring they would have enough for the week. “The kids rave about the program and the parents love it,” says FUMC of Arlington volunteer Kelley Arrendondo.

FUMC of Arlington provides backpacks with food items weekly for students who are recommended for the program by teachers and counselors. A larger group of children are extended items over long school breaks.

If you are interested in learning more or getting involved in this program, please contact Michelle Clark at mclark@arlingtonmethodist.org or 817-274-2571.

Watch a video of the day at:
vimeo.com/21082246



FUMC of Arlington Wins All Star Game

FUMC of Arlington Defeats St. Andrews UMC in Arlington's MBA All Star Game

By: Curtis Linscott

In the first ever Methodist Basketball Association of Arlington All Star Game, FUMC of Arlington narrowly defeated St. Andrews UMC 41-38. Rev. Mosser says he looks forward to proudly displaying the MBA All Star Championship Trophy.

Mark Pierce and Danny Knapp, both named game MVP, led the way for the FUMC of Arlington team, which was coached by Greg McQuitty. Colin Ellis led the team in rebounds with seven.

Other FUMC of Arlington players included Tim Ellis, Brian Herms, Steve Hill, Conner Jennings, Tim Matthews, Ry Mosser, Paul Reuland and Trey Spence.

Adrian Birdwell led St. Andrews with 13 points, with his teammates Demetrius Crowder and Michael Myers chipping in with eight and seven points, respectively. Other St. Andrews players included Theron Blanchard, Colby Henderson, Clifton Howard, James Laxson and Charles Robinson.

In the annual three-on-three league, Team Air Raid won the coveted 2011 championship, defeating New Horizons in a hard-fought championship game. Team Air Raid included Brian and Derek Herms, Brandon and Doug Hadley and Cannen and Keith Cunningham.

Team New Horizons, which had an amazing run of consecutive wins getting to the championship, consisted of Peter Case, Clint Fail, Tim Matthews, Brion O'Donnell, Mark Pierce and Trey Spence.

Team Slomo, with Danny Knapp, Rob Berry, Barry Thompson, Steve Hill and Ray Ray came in third. Team Slomo narrowly missed qualifying for the championship game when New Horizons' Brion O'Donnell scored a last second three-pointer in the semi-final. Last year's three-on-three champs, Team Seekers, finished fifth.

This year's All FUMC of Arlington Team included league MVP

Cannen Cunningham, David Arthurs, Rob Berry, Keith Cunningham, Colin Ellis, Brandon Hadley, Matt Hebb, Danny Knapp, Ryan Liston, Greg McQuitty, Brion O'Donnell, Mark Pierce, Paul Reuland and Barry Thompson. The top St. Andrews Team, the Anointed Ballers, finished fourth. The All St. Andrews Team has not officially been named as of yet.

The 2011 Three Point Shoot-Out contest was won by Danny Knapp, with Brent McQuitty finishing second and Brian Herms finishing third.

Thanks to everyone who participated in another great year of basketball. A special thanks to Steve Gray and Ken Hetherington for helping the league run smoothly once again.

We hope to see everyone again next winter!

OWLS Meeting

The OWLS (Older Wiser Laughing Souls) will meet on Tuesday, April 12, at 11:30 AM in the Great Hall. We begin our meetings with a covered dish luncheon and respectfully ask that you bring food to serve 10-12 people.

Get ready to laugh when several energetic ladies, members of the Theatre Arlington Guild, share their talent with us. Their program will be "Nonsense 2: The Second Coming." The show follows the Sisters as they present a show to thank everyone who supported them in their freshman outing. Chaos erupts, however, when two Franciscans come to claim Sister Mary Amnesia - who has won the Publishers Clearing House Sweepstakes - as one of their own, and the nuns learn a talent scout is in the audience to see them strut their stuff.

A brief reminder of our OWLS mission project: we are still collecting children's books for the USO. Also, donations are always accepted to purchase

supplies for the infant care packages we assemble and donate to the Women's Shelter.

Realizing that programs are not a mission, but that we all want quality programming for our meetings, donations for that are welcome. Designate checks to FUMC of Arlington with OWLS on the memo line when making donations. Remember these donations are tax deductible if given with a check.



April Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1 First Fridays	2
3 Historical Family Honoring	4	5 UMW Meeting	6	7	8 "Spirit in Motion" Concert	9 AUM Annual Fundraiser
10 Cokesbury Book Fair/ Annual Interfaith Worship Service	11	12 OWLS Meeting	13	14	15	16
17 Palm Sunday Picnic and Easter Egg Hunt	18	19 Holy Week	20	21 Maundy Thursday Worship Service	22 Good Friday	23
24 Easter/ Sunrise Easter Service	25 Church Office Closed	26	27	28 Longing to Belong Beings	29	30

For more information on these events visit www.arlingtonmethodist.org

Prayers For Those In The Service

If you have a family member in the military, please put his or her name and where he or she is stationed on a prayer card and place it in the

prayer box in the church office. The intercessory prayer ministers pray for the safety of our service members.

First Prayers

We pray for those who have experienced an illness:

Cheryl Bouffard, Daylon Bruce, Linda Bynum, Lil Couch, Cindy Fincher, Royce Mitchell, Ken Swanson, Shirley Tompkins, Hope Vastine, Betty Williams, JB Woiton

We pray for those who have experienced a loss. Condolences to...

- Sally Coffman and family on the death of her mother, Nell Best, on 3/7
- Clete McAlister on the death of his mother,

"Devote yourselves to prayer, being watchful and thankful" Colossians 4:2

Norma McAlister, on 3/15

- Nadine Kline on the death of her husband, Jim, on 3/15
- The family and friends of Polly Murray who died on 3/15
- Emily Fairbanks and family on the death of her father on 3/17
- Tom Hall on the death of his uncle in Indiana on 3/17
- Anne Pittman on the death of her sister, Lou Ward, in San Antonio on 3/18
- The family and friends of Beth Gunn who died on 3/20