

Minutes from Christian Ed. Committee/Sunday School Teachers meeting August 14, 2017

PRESENT: Autumm Brazel (Chr.), Michelle Rubel, Kelly Tate, Jean Murray, Amy Gustafson, Mandy Reese, Deb Spanier (Supt.) and Brenda Harrold.

ABSENT: Connie Dallenbach, Amanda Tendal, Katie Olson, Pastor Ed Frank and Angela Christenson.

OPENING PRAYER: Autumm opened the meeting with prayer.

WELCOME: Autumm welcomed new Christian Ed. Committee members Amy Gustafson and Brenda Harrold.

Items on the agenda were the following:

Class lists- The class lists were reviewed and updated. The Cherubs-Preschool class will now be joined with the Kindergarten & 1st grade class as Angela Christenson is no longer teaching and the Cherubs-Preschool class will only have one child in it. Kelly Tate has happily agreed to take Cherubs-1st grade class and will teach in the current Cherubs-Preschool room. We will be inviting some of the newer kids that have been attending our church this summer.

Curriculum- Cherubs-6th grade teachers liked the Deep Blue series curriculum from Cokesbury that they used the previous years and agreed to continue using it for the 2017-2018 year. Autumm & Michelle prepare their own curriculum for the Jr. High and High School classes. Michelle will be using the youth version of the "Experiencing God" series with her high school class.

Supplies- Mandy Reese recently attended a garage sale in which the generous seller donated some glue sticks, etc. for her Sunday School class! Teachers expressed needing some crayons, more glue sticks and regular markers. Autumm will purchase the items before Sunday School begins.

Substitute Teachers- Autumm stated that it is the teachers responsibility to find a replacement if they know they are going to be gone on a certain Sunday.

Snacks/Drinks- Teachers liked the way that providing snacks for their classes has been going so they agreed to continue purchasing snacks for their individual classrooms while Deb Spanier purchases the juice boxes. Autumm reminded the teachers that if they would like reimbursed for their snack purchases to bring their receipts into her and she will get them reimbursed.

Sanctuary Gathering @ 9:10 a.m. - It was decided that all classes will continue to meet in the church sanctuary each Sunday morning @ 9:10 a.m. for announcements. There was some discussion on perhaps having an announcement made or having some of the high schoolers perform a short skit or something on good behavior for the first gathering.

Confirmation- Looking over the 7th & 8th grade students there would only be 2 students for confirmation this year, however, no decision was made on whether there would be a 2018 Confirmation Class or not as this is Pastor Ed's area and he was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting. Autumm will talk to Pastor Ed tomorrow at work and see what he wants to do about Confirmation.

Blessing of the Backpacks- School begins August 23rd so in order to bless backpacks before school starts the event would need to be held this coming Sunday, August 20th. Autumm will discuss this with Pastor Ed tomorrow.

Sunday School Kick-Off- Autumm reported for Connie that Connie is in charge of Sunday School kick off this year and she is planning on a Cowboy Theme. Connie is looking for volunteers to make Rice Krispy treats and to make them thick to look like hay bales. Amy, Jean & Brenda all volunteered to make Rice Krispy treats.

Lifeline Program- There was discussion making a letter for each Adult Life Line this year so to make sure that their Youth Life Line gets a letter or card at least once a month to make sure they are communicating with the youth. Discussion was also held on the Youth Life Lines to make sure that they are leaving letters/cards & thank you's to their Adult Life Lines as well.

Third Grade Bibles- Sunday, October 15th was chosen for the date to present our Third Graders their own Bible. Autumm will double check with Pastor Ed to make sure that this date works for him.

Children's Christmas Program- The Children's Christmas Program will be held on Sunday, Dec. 10, 2017 during the worship hour. Autumm is in charge of the program this year. It will be a play entitled *Just a Little Christmas*. There will be narrators, the children will wear costumes and there will be traditional songs for the children to sing. Autumm stated that she appreciated Connie always being so creative and her ideas are refreshing (videos, etc.), however, for this year she'd like the kids to do just a good ole fashioned play. Autumm would also like to incorporate a dowel rod routine with the help of Michelle Rubel who always comes up with something wonderful. Autumm had already chosen a song that she would like the dowel rod routine performed to "Mary, Did You Know?" by Pentatonix.

Festival of Trees- Connie Dallenbach is in charge of the tree this year. Discussion was held on decorating the Sunday School tree on a Sunday in either late October or early November so that we are more organized about it this year. Autumm will talk to Connie to see what works best for her.

Christmas Break- The dates for Christmas Break were set for December 24, 2017 & December 31, 2017 for no Sunday School. Autumm will make up reminders for the teachers to send home with their students.

Sunday School Attendance Awards- Discussion was held on Sunday School Awards this past year and how it did not go well from the pins/bars being on backorder from Cokesbury to letters being sent out too soon. It was decided that we will wait to send out letters to the families of the children receiving awards as if we have a student or students that have missed 3 Sundays which is all you can miss and then send the family a letter and then after that the child misses another Sunday or more that child did not earn an award. We will be waiting until as late as possible to send out letters. Also, some discussion was held on having teachers communicate with the divorced families' parents and/or students about when they are at their other parents home out of town as we need mark them differently in the attendance books.

Vacation Bible School- Some discussion was held on Vacation Bible School having a low attendance this year. There was suggestion of whether to possibly hold it later on in the year, etc. Ultimately, the decision is up to the Vacation Bible School/Kids Club Committee.

Date set for the next Christian Ed./Sunday School teachers meeting is Monday, January 8, 2018 @ 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned.

Autumm Brazel
Christian Ed. Chr. & Secretary