

Parent Power-Up

Pie Pan vs. a Piece of the Pie...



Like all of you, I am a parent and I talk to lots of parents! The most common response I hear parents say when asked how they are is "busy". I relate to that with three kids in three schools, both my work and my husband's work, the ways we serve the community, our family that lives over 12 hours away, and the list could go on. I understand busy, but do not strive for it. I thought I understood busy when I heard a sermon almost 10 years ago that changed my perspective on how I managed time, sought "balance" or prioritized my life. My friend, Mark, shared with me some thoughts about pie. Most of us when taught about time are taught to look at life or our time in slices- this is my work slice, my family slice, my recreation slice, and often this is my God slice. We look and think this looks pretty even or I am giving God at least 10 % and maybe more. But my friend reminded me that God doesn't want just a slice no matter the size, God wants to be the Pie Pan! God wants to shape and form us, hold us and keep us together even when it feels like we are falling apart and most of all, God wants to touch EVERY piece of our lives. I was reminded about this lesson as I was planning for Children's Ministry and how many people in our community send kids to VBS, Sunday School, etc... in order to fill that God slice. The truth is we cannot plan enough programs to fill a God slice. What we can do is teach people about being in relationship with God and with each other, to communicate both with God and with each other- through prayer & conversation, to help others, to listen and learn through tools like reason, tradition, experience, and Scripture. My goal in Children's Ministry is to help families in both mission fields- in and out of the church to remember that God is the "pie pan" holding us, forming us, and is touching each piece of our lives. How would the world change if we changed our responses from "busy" to "touched by God" or "filled by the Spirit" if God were really our pie pan?



Sharing God's Love & Grace,
Cheri

cheri@thejourneymc.org

Loving, teaching, learning, sharing-morning til night, at home & on the go
Deuteronomy 6: 4-9

Have
you
been to
Praise



& Play

Jump into
the fun and
bring your
friends
each
Sunday
morning
starting at
9:15am!

This month
we will
learn about
the Letters
from Paul:
*Romans
through
Philemon.*

Congrats to Jonah!



Jonah will be enjoying
a movie at EVO
from our April
Praise & Play drawing.



THE JOURNEY
united methodist church
www.thejourneymc.org
ADVENTURE CREW NEWS

May 2015



FUN FOR
ALL AGES!

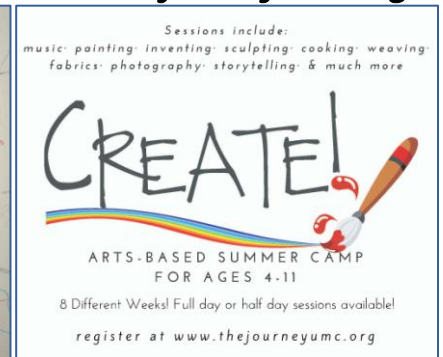
Each month, on the first Friday evening, we host different, fun opportunities for families. The next one will be:
**Friday May 1st from 6:30-8pm
Family Game Night.**

This month everyone is invited to bring their favorite board game, card game, group game, etc.... There have been rumors of an UNO Tournament ☺. Children 5th grade & under need to be accompanied by an adult.
ALL AGES ARE INVITED!!

June 5th will be Kids Night Out!

read this:

**There is still time to register for our SUMMER FUN!
Register Online TODAY at www.thejourneymc.org!**



parent spot!



yes!

**i am proud to initial that my
child has worked on his/her GPS!**



That's Not What I "Mint"

Imagine squeezing out all of a tube of toothpaste and then trying to put back into the tube. Can you do that? You can't put that toothpaste back into the tube once it is squeezed out. Did you know that very same thing is true of the words we speak and the thoughts we think? Have you ever said or thought something that is not nice or good and then can't take it back. We all know that God hears every word we say and God knows every thought we have in our mind. It is very important for us to be careful about the things we think and say.

Write this month's memory verse on the bathroom mirror with a dry erase marker so you can read it while you brush your teeth or wash your hands throughout the day.



Meal:

Recipe for a Joyful, Faith-filled Family

Work together as a family to write a recipe for what makes a joyful, faith-filled family.

Here's an example:

- * 4 cups of love * 3 cups of kindness
- * 1 cup of faith * 4 cups of understanding
- * 5 Tbsp. of hope * 1 barrel of laughter
- * pinch of forgiveness and thoughtfulness (as needed- no substitutions)

Stir daily with prayer and Scripture reading. Bake with sunshine till hearts are warm. Serve daily for a lifetime.



Roadway:

HA!

Play the "ha" game. The first person starts out saying "ha." The next person says "ha ha." Play continues with each person adding one more "ha" than the last. (The game often ends with laughter.) Saying ha isn't laughter, but saying ha enough times often leads to the real thing. In the same way, serving others isn't always naturally fun, but when done with the right attitude, it is often rewarding and leads to real joy. Whether we are helping someone who needs help or doing chores at home, we can do these things with a servant's heart, modeling how Jesus served us ([Philippians 2:4-7](#)). Talk about the difference between serving with a good attitude and a bad attitude.



Journey Off the Map Prayer Calendar

Use the attached Journey Off the Map Prayer Calendar to pray specifically for VBS each day during the month of May. Don't forget to register your family online and to pray for & invite your friends.

Stump the Grown-Up!



Ask an adult to help you answer this question:

When we take communion, one loaf is broken and shared. Fill in the blank in this sentence:

Because there is one loaf we who are many are one _____, because we all share one loaf. (hint: 1Corinthians 10:17)

Scripture Starters:

May 3rd:

Our Story- Elevator Story
2 Corinthians 5:11-21

May 10th:

Family Stories- Mother's Day
Deuteronomy 6:4-9



May 17th:

Family Stories- Changing the Stories
1 Corinthians 15:50-58

May 24th:

Family Stories- Remembering the Stories
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Pentecost Sunday

May 31st:

Family Stories- Feasting on our Stories
1 Corinthians 10: 14-17

MEMORY VERSE:

"LORD, MAY THESE WORDS OF MY MOUTH PLEASE YOU. AND MAY THESE THOUGHTS OF MY HEART PLEASE YOU ALSO. YOU ARE MY ROCK AND MY REDEEMER."

PSALM 19:14

NEW INTERNATIONAL READERS VERSION (NIRV)

JOURNEY OFF THE MAP™ PRAYER CALENDAR

<p>1. Ask God to provide the budget and supplies needed to excel in doing His will. <i>2 Corinthians 8:11</i></p>	<p>2. Pray for God to prepare the hearts of the community to respond well and for new prospects to be discovered.</p>	<p>3. Ask God to prepare workers for each class and to fill any open positions with the people He has called. <i>Luke 10:2</i></p>	<p>4. Pray that kids will learn to listen for God's direction and follow it. <i>Isaiah 30:21*</i></p>	<p>5. Pray for the VBS director and all workers involved with the preparation and planning aspects.</p>	<p>6. Ask God to help kids know they can have a relationship with Him by trusting Jesus as their Savior. <i>John 14:6*</i></p>	<p>7. Pray that kids and workers will seek Jesus with all their hearts before, during, and after VBS. <i>Jeremiah 29:13</i></p>
<p>8. Pray for a shield of protection around your church's VBS. Let no root of bitterness spring up to cause trouble. <i>Hebrews 12:15</i></p>	<p>9. Ask God to help the children who attend VBS to increase in wisdom concerning His Word. <i>Luke 2:52</i></p>	<p>10. Pray for the Bible Study leaders to effectively communicate Bible truths to the children they teach.</p>	<p>11. Pray that kids will choose to obey God no matter what. <i>John 14:15*</i></p>	<p>12. Ask for stamina and strength for those who are leading recreation during the week.</p>	<p>13. Ask God to help everyone involved in VBS to do everything with love. <i>1 Corinthians 16:13-14</i></p>	<p>14. Pray for the missions teachers. Ask that God will use them to spread enthusiasm for missions.</p>
<p>15. Ask God for creativity and patience for those working in the crafts rotation.</p>	<p>16. Ask God to help the kids know that His plan is for them to have a relationship with Jesus. <i>Jeremiah 29:11</i></p>	<p>17. Thank God for His gift of eternal life and for the children who will accept that gift at VBS. <i>Romans 6:23</i></p>	<p>18. Pray that kids will trust that God's way is the best way regardless of their circumstances. <i>Proverbs 3:5-6*</i></p>	<p>19. Pray for the leaders who are preparing snacks each day. Ask for a special blessing on all the snacks prepared and the workers.</p>	<p>20. Thank God for the strength He provides to deal with the schedule and needs that may arise during VBS. <i>Deuteronomy 33:25</i></p>	<p>21. Pray for those who lead music and the Worship Rally. Ask God to give them energy that will excite kids to learn through music and drama.</p>
<p>22. Pray that God will strengthen all the children and workers to follow the plan He has for them. <i>Philippians 4:13</i></p>	<p>23. Ask God to keep discouragement from interfering with His plan for your VBS. <i>2 Corinthians 4:16-18</i></p>	<p>24. Ask God to help the church humble themselves before Him as they prepare for VBS. <i>James 4:10</i></p>	<p>25. Thank God for telling us what is good and for the ability to trust Him in all things. <i>Micah 6:8</i></p>	<p>26. Pray that the VBS Celebration provides a witnessing opportunity for parents and the community.</p>	<p>27. Ask God to help your church remember His plans are the ones that will prevail. <i>Proverbs 19:21</i></p>	<p>28. Ask God to bless the follow-up efforts to contact every prospect and invite them to join other church activities.</p>
<p>29. Pray for those making follow-up visits to clearly share the gospel.</p>	<p>30. Thank God in advance for the blessings and opportunities He will provide through VBS.</p>	<p>31. Ask God to continue to develop the knowledge He has given us through His power. <i>2 Peter 1:3</i></p>	<p>Note: Scripture references marked with an asterisk come directly from the passages children will study during VBS.</p>			