

# Christian Education Meeting

March 1, 2010 at 7:00PM

## Attendees:

Visitor: Rexanne Greuter

2010	2011	2012
<input type="checkbox"/> Josh Boyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Becky Fox
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Betty Darrow	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jackie Steckler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Kuhl
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Darrow	<input type="checkbox"/> Alicia Upschulte	<input type="checkbox"/> Su Langenburg
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deidre Miller	<input type="checkbox"/> Susan Wilson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Matt Smith
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ivan Greuter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Donoho	<input type="checkbox"/> Adina Butler

A quorum was established and Dave Smith opened with prayer.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved as presented.

## Old Business

- A VBS report was given by Rexanne Greuter: She and John Kuhl attended VBS training and brought materials for demonstration. The program for summertime Sunday School will be "Hero Headquarters" and includes pre-school materials. The title for VBS this summer will be "High Seas Expedition". Those students who have just finished 6<sup>th</sup> grade will attend opening and closing gatherings but will break out from the rest of the groups to age appropriate activities led by Ryan Donoho who will begin integrating them into youth group level. Pre-schoolers will also break out to separate activities. There will be a VBS University presented at Cherry Hills Baptist Church in Springfield on April 17<sup>th</sup> from 9am until noon. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Rexanne or Adina.

## Committee Reports

- Adult Ministry (Betty) – 6 Lenten Bible Study groups are meeting with 50 people signed up.
- AWANA (Scott) – A written report was submitted to the committee for consideration of changes to improve the program.
- Children (John) – Camp promotions will begin next month with camp promotion Sunday being April 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Family Life(Su) – not present
- Leadership (Ivan) –Training for SS Teachers will be on April 30<sup>th</sup> & May 1<sup>st</sup>; lunch will be provided at no cost to CBC members and \$25 for training and lunch to others. This training is not just for teachers of children's SS but for teachers of adult classes as well.
- Nursery (Deidre) – There has been some concern that some older children have been attending nursery as some of the policy and rules signs have been taken down. A pamphlet is being developed with guidelines for parents with nursery aged children.
- Social Concerns (Matt) – Children in Poverty Task Force will meet this month.  
Ruby Payne's Bridges Out of Poverty Training will be presented Tuesday April 13, 2010 from 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at Madison Park Christian Church 4700 Broadway Quincy, IL. Lunch is on your own. Matt & Dave plan to attend.  
Rev. Lisa Harris, National Coordinator for the Children in Poverty Initiative of National Ministries ABCUSA will present a workshop on this growing ministry at Great Rivers Region Mission Conference 23-24 April 2010. Hosted by Cherry Hills Baptist Church 2125 Woodside Rd – Springfield IL. Contact Pastor Ivan for a registration form.
- Sports (Josh) – Softball registration coming up this month.
- Sunday School (Becky) – Looking for a replacement for the Beginners leader.
- Youth (Ryan) – See written report. Also, 1 or 2 more female chaperones are needed for the Young Christians Weekend trip. Anyone able to help should contact Ryan.

## New Business

- Matt Smith moved that Cindy Brown be approved to work with church children and youth, 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried.
- The church school secretaries will be contacted to order SS materials as Elizabeth Arrowsmith was doing this.

Having no further business, Matt Smith closed the meeting with prayer.

Submitted by:  
Dave Smith  
Secretary

## **AWANA Observations, Issues, and Concerns**

Respectfully submitted by Scott A. Darrow (Board of Christian Education/AWANA Chairman)

### ***AWANA Children (our mission)***

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- *Victims*
- *Violators*
- *Poor self-esteem*
- *Manipulative* (learned behavior)
- *Poor social skills*
- *Entitled* (society owes them something)
- *Physically aggressive*
- *Little or no respect for authority figures* (especially establishment types)
- *Poor reading and writing skills*
- *Poor impulse control*
- *May have a poor understanding of "consequences"* (cause and effect)
- *Little or no mentoring in successful behavior from family and friends*
- *Sexually active* (per Matt Smith, added 3/2/2010)

### ***Goals***

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- *Missional (what does that mean to CBC?)*
  - Serving the children
    - Salvation Message
    - Sensitivity to the AWANA child's immediate spiritual needs
    - Repentance & Baptism
  - Basic instruction in Christian living principles
    - Pre-baptism AWANA children
    - Post-baptism AWANA children
  - Mentoring
    - Adults acting as templates for Christian behavior
  - Serving their families
  - Serving their community (which is our church community)
  - Serving CBC

### ***Discipline & Motivation***

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- *Strike System*
  - Application
    - Cell phones, other distractions
    - Inappropriate clothing
    - Post AWANA Meeting bus ride
    - 2 Week Ban
    - School Year Ban
- *Reward System (prizes)*
  - Application

## **AWANA Observations, Issues, and Concerns**

Respectfully submitted by Scott A. Darrow (Board of Christian Education/AWANA Chairman)

### **Volunteers**

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- *Recruitment*
  - Inside CBC
    - Van Drivers
    - Van & Bus monitors
    - Choppers supervision
    - Game Time leaders
      - Cubbies & Sparks
      - T n' T
    - Council Time leaders
  - Outside CBC
    - Book Time Leaders
  
- *Retention*
  - What burns adults out?
    - Disrespect from children
    - Disobedience from children
    - Too much pressure to force "good" behavior through negative reinforcement
    - Book Time groups too large
    - Book Time groups to disparate in ability and motivation

### **Children**

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- *Recruitment*
  - Inside CBC
  - Outside CBC
  
- *Retention (Why they do not come back?)*
  - Adult leaders too harsh?
  - Activity structure inhibits their misbehavior
  - Incremental rewards not close enough together
  - No real interest – attending to please someone else
  - Banned for a period of time due to strike out

### **Opportunities For Improvement (can we do a better job?)**

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- *Bus Stop*
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- *Bus Ride to CBC*
  - Child safety seating (mini-bus vs. school bus)
  - Influence of older children on younger children
  - Interactions between older children on the bus
  - Youth group & AWANA (overlap in ages due to various causes)
  
- *Ingress to Choppers*
  -
  
- *Choppers*
  - Serving Line
  - Food Selection
  - Beverage Selection

**AWANA**  
**Observations, Issues, and Concerns**

Respectfully submitted by Scott A. Darrow (Board of Christian Education/AWANA Chairman)

- Desert Selection
- Seating
- Adult supervision during meal

**Opportunities For Improvement (continued)**

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- *Procession to AWANA*
  - Staggered line-up (some children lining up too soon - others straggling)
  - How to keep children at tables until 6 pm?
  - Monitoring of behavior at landings
- *Game Time*
  - Poor sportsmanship
  - Inappropriate aggressiveness
  - Cheating
  - Groups too large
  - Age differences too disparate between 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders and 6<sup>th</sup> Graders
  - Cliques (based on schools, neighborhoods, and families)
  - Lack of attention prevents games from starting on time
- *Council Time*
  - Lack of attention – over-stimulated by Game Time?
  - Seating arrangements – space between children to aid in concentration and prevent talking and touching?
  - Chair seating in council meeting area?
  - Assigned seating?
- *Book Work Time*
  - Self-Study versus Group Study
  - Group Study – 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Grade?
  - Individual Study – 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Grade?
  - AWANA curricula or something else?
  - Optimal group size
    - Based on age & grade?
    - Based on academic skills & motivation?
    - Based on maturity and behavior?
  - 2 completed units reward – too little or too much?
  - Consider a 3 Tier Organization (per Ivan Greuter, added 3/2/2010)
    - Tier 1 – top performers (capable of self-study)
    - Tier 2 – core attendance group
    - Tier 3 – occasional participants
- *Dismissal*
  - Monitoring of behavior at landings
  - Behavior in bus staging areas (pews outside of chapel)
- *Egress to Bus*
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- *Bus Ride from CBC*
  - Child safety seating (mini-bus vs. school bus)
  - Influence of older children on younger children
  - Interactions between older children on the bus
  - Youth Group & AWANA (overlap in ages due to various causes)

## **Youth Minister's Report February 2010**

### **Sunday School**

- † High school and junior high Sunday School are combined

### **Youth Group**

- † We still do things together as one large group, but now split into two groups by learning style for our teaching time. I write the lessons for both groups, and teach both groups on a rotating schedule. Volunteer leaders teach the group I'm not teaching that week.
  - One group has a discussion based lesson
  - The other group uses an interactive and creative lesson
- † Our creative learning style group has been learning about The Bible and how to study the Bible
- † Our discussion based learning style group has been walking through Daniel 1-6
- † We have also started taking at least one Wednesday a month to focus on worship, prayer, and testimonies.
- † We had a special service on Ash Wednesday with everyone all together.

### **Highlights From My Month**

- † We had the Valentine Banquet on February 13, 2010
- † Low key Super Bowl Party for those interested on February 7, 2010
- † We had a parents meeting on February 12, 2010 at 6:30pm in the parlor
- † We went sledding at the Miller's with the youth on February 24, 2010
- † I created a devotional booklet for the students to use for devotions throughout the week that goes along with what we're talking about on Wednesday nights.
- † Krista and I attended the showing of Fireproof on February 20, 2010
- † Met in Springfield with John Grisham about ordination
- † Met in Springfield with Josh Sabo and John Grisham to evaluate Skwim 2009, and start planning for Skwim 2010
- † Connecting with students inside and outside of church setting
- † Planning for the upcoming year

### **Looking Ahead**

- † We will have another night of worship and prayer in March, 2010
- † We have 19 students signed up for Young Christians Weekend, which is on March 26-28, 2010
- † We are working with other youth ministries to bring the movie "To Save a Life" to Quincy
- † The next Gathering with other Quincy youth groups will be April 11, 2010
- † I'm preaching on April 25, 2010
- † We're going to take a float trip in the summer, most likely in June, 2010
- † We will be helping out with VBS in late June
- † We will be taking some youth leaders to Qwest at Green Lake in the summer
- † Looking at the possibility of an Xtreme Team week of service in Quincy during the summer
- † Working on planning other activities, events, and service opportunities

## Director of Children's Ministry report Advisory Council – February 17, 2010

### Awana Report

- Below is our attendance records for the last month:

Date	Cubbies	Sparks	T&T	Nursery	Adults	TOTAL
Jan. 20, 2010	7	12	29	1	25	74
Jan. 27, 2010	7	19	38	1	23	88
Feb. 3, 2010	8	17	42	3	30	100
Feb. 10, 2010	7	12	31	1	25	76

- Our average Awana attendance (children and leaders) for the last 4 weeks is 84.
- **There will be no Awana on Wednesday, March 10** so that leaders can attend the special discussion being led by executive minister Dwight Stinnett.
- **There will be no Awana on Wednesday, March 31** because this is Holy Week.

### Children in Poverty task force

- I will be working on meeting with the task force sometime in the next month to discuss actions we need to take regarding the Penny Project as well as other steps we need to take in the near future.

### Penny Project

- We are still collecting pennies for the Penny Project. As of now, there is no set deadline for when the pennies will stop being collected as well as there is no set goal of pennies that we want to collect. Just keep those pennies coming until further notice!

### Children's Church

- The schedule has been working out well so far.
- I led children's church for the 8:30 a.m. service on Sunday, February 7 according to the schedule and also for the 8:30 a.m. service on Sunday, February 14 to fill in for another teacher.

### Sunday School

- I have taught the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday school class on the following Sundays – January 24, February 7 and 14.
- On Sunday, January 31, in my absence, the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders joined the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday school class.
- I am currently working on finding a substitute for Sunday, March 7 as I will be at school.

### Seminary News

- I have four weeks left in the winter quarter so things are really starting to get crazy with assignments, projects, and presentations, but classes are going really well.
- I have my second class session to attend for my online class on Saturday, March 6 in Elgin so I will not be here on Sunday, March 7.

### Vacation Bible School news

- Both Rexanne Greuter and Karen Boyd have agreed to be directors again this year. Rexanne will be for the school-age children (K-6<sup>th</sup>) and Karen will be for preschool.
- John Kuhl and Rexanne Greuter attended the VBS workshop sponsored by the Mustard Seed at the Quincy Mall on Tuesday, February 16.
- They have narrowed down the VBS curriculum theme to two themes – a superhero theme (Standard Publishing) and a pirate/nautical theme (Group Publishing). I will be meeting with the two of them next Thursday (Feb. 25) to discuss the two curriculums and decide which one will be for VBS. The one that is not chosen for VBS will be used during the summer for summer Sunday school.
- Both starter kits have already been purchased for these curriculums.

### **Upcoming Dates:**

- Friday, March 12 – I am taking a personal day and will not be in the office.
- Area II meeting – Sunday, March 14 at Central Baptist (Springfield, IL)
- March 25-26 – I will be on vacation and will not be in the office.
- Ruby Payne's *Bridges out of Poverty* training sponsored by AOK network – Tuesday, April 13, 2010 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. – I am currently working on getting my assignments from my professor so that I can attend this very important training opportunity.
- VBS training party at Cherry Hills – Saturday, April 17 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Camp Director meeting at Lake Springfield Baptist Camp – Thursday, April 29 – 6 p.m.
- Sunday School teacher training – Friday, April 30 and Saturday, May 1
- Director for Lake Springfield Baptist Camp (2<sup>nd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) – Wednesday, June 23 to Saturday, June 26
- Vacation Bible School – Sunday, June 27 to Thursday, July 1 (times to be determined)