

Nurturing Faith Leadership Team  
Monday June 15th 2015

Members Present: Jackie Ring, Steve Ring, Tim Berdahl, Erica Wittmers-Graves

Updates:

- Jasper and Family are doing well
- Katie's first day back is scheduled for July 8
- Welcome her back at Sunday July 12th

Sunday School:

- May 3rd FAMILY DAY AND VBS PREVIEW / SIGN UP
  - VBS team did a great job--
  - snow cones, games, crafts, and registration
  - more games than had time to do
- The attempt by NFLT to write THANK YOUS to Sunday School teachers was stopped by Sunday School teachers - they said not to. (they saw us writing to the confirmation mentors)

Confirmation:

- End of the Year party April 29th
  - Brianna Symens stepped up to lead the end of the year party activities
  - Thank Yous were sent to the mentors for their leadership and guidance.

Milestones:

- Sunday May 17th- 5th grade First Communion
  - Pottery Burn activity went well
    - as soon as the dates are on the calendar, call Pottery Burn to reserve date for them to come and lead the chalice painting.
    - order the style of chalice wanted. This year we ordered the exact number of letters we sent out. After the first week's count of attendees I confirmed the number.
    - Payment went as followed 14.95 for the chalice and she waived the class fee. Patti paid with the credit card.
    - REMIND Pottery Burn of the date we need the chalices back so they are fired and ready for pick-up the Friday before.
  - Bread Making: Kids wanted the recipe on the night we made it. Should maybe have some recipe cards for the kids to take.
  - Service: all but one participant made it to either the 8:45 or 11:00 service (that family had contacted the pastor that they would be gone that weekend) This year the service had many layers that took away from this milestone. It was also very long.

- After Communion, Pastor read the names of First Communion Students and had them stand where they were sitting to be recognized (nice addition).
  - DISCUSSION about how to make it an even more powerful event:
    - At the last class, discuss how the service will flow, including sitting with family- how the communion process will work..... etc.....
    - Invite sponsors to receive communion with the 5th grader
    - Have parents stand behind them - laying hands on during the event
    - Make connection to sponsor involvement - add this to the first assignment sheet to have a conversation about their communion experiences and invite them to your First Communion
    - Have students sign in when they pick up their challis and then get the list to the pastors. They then can read the names to make the experience more personal and powerful.
    - Jackie is going to work on getting an outline of a church service she knows that has a flow to it just for this event.
    - DURING the weeks of class take picture of events to show during part of the service:
      - bread making
      - class discussion
      - challis painting
      - pastors leading
      - Just pictures along the way to show the experience
      - TAKE A GROUP PICTURE on the last day of class
    - There was a length discussion on how to make this milestone have more meaning and a more power step in one's faith journey. Lots of ideas with possibilities for next time.
- Sunday May 31st- Graduation Milestone
  - There were only 5 pictures turned in.
  - Mary D. and Lori J help make phone calls and their children also help communicate with their peers.
  - Those that attended did communicate with each other about what they wanted to do.
  - Thought that there would be more involvement since this was an active group.
    - Possible ideas for next year.
      - Collect pictures earlier in the year-- around Jan/Feb
      - Send letter at that time with a SAVE THE DATE for the 1st Sunday after Memorial day.
      - ASK specific graduates to take part in the service-- what talents do they have to share.
        - readers
        - musicians
        - children's message

- etc

with the objective to have them involved and own this journey

- Church Camp Out
    - Many THANKS to Steve Kramar---
    - 70 participants (20 more than last year)
    - Biggest connection with new families
  - Vacation Bible School
    - 120 registered-- had to close the on-line registration
    - there are enough volunteers
    - Decorations have been lead by Sydney Fischer
    - Crew Leaders with have an informational Lunch Wednesday 17th 12-1
  - The NE MN Synod Journey
    - July 11-20
    - Brian Fisher, Kim Hoffmocker leading the way
      - Brunches have had a positive impact on fundraising
      - They are ready to go
    - They started their journey with an information blip in the services. Should there be something when they return, so the congregation and hear how our mission of reaching globally is happening?. Maybe even a Commissioning before they go?
  - VLM Camp
    - The church is sponsoring all campers
      - \$60 for a full week
      - \$40 for part of a week
  - CAMP TEAM???
  - support this team getting up and running
  - ideas that they always meet in March/April??
  - prior to work day to rally the needed volunteers
  - put together a letter writing campaign for all campers going.
- Prayer for new members of the team. We need more.
    - Jodi Staken????

Next Meeting:

July 14th

6:30 pm