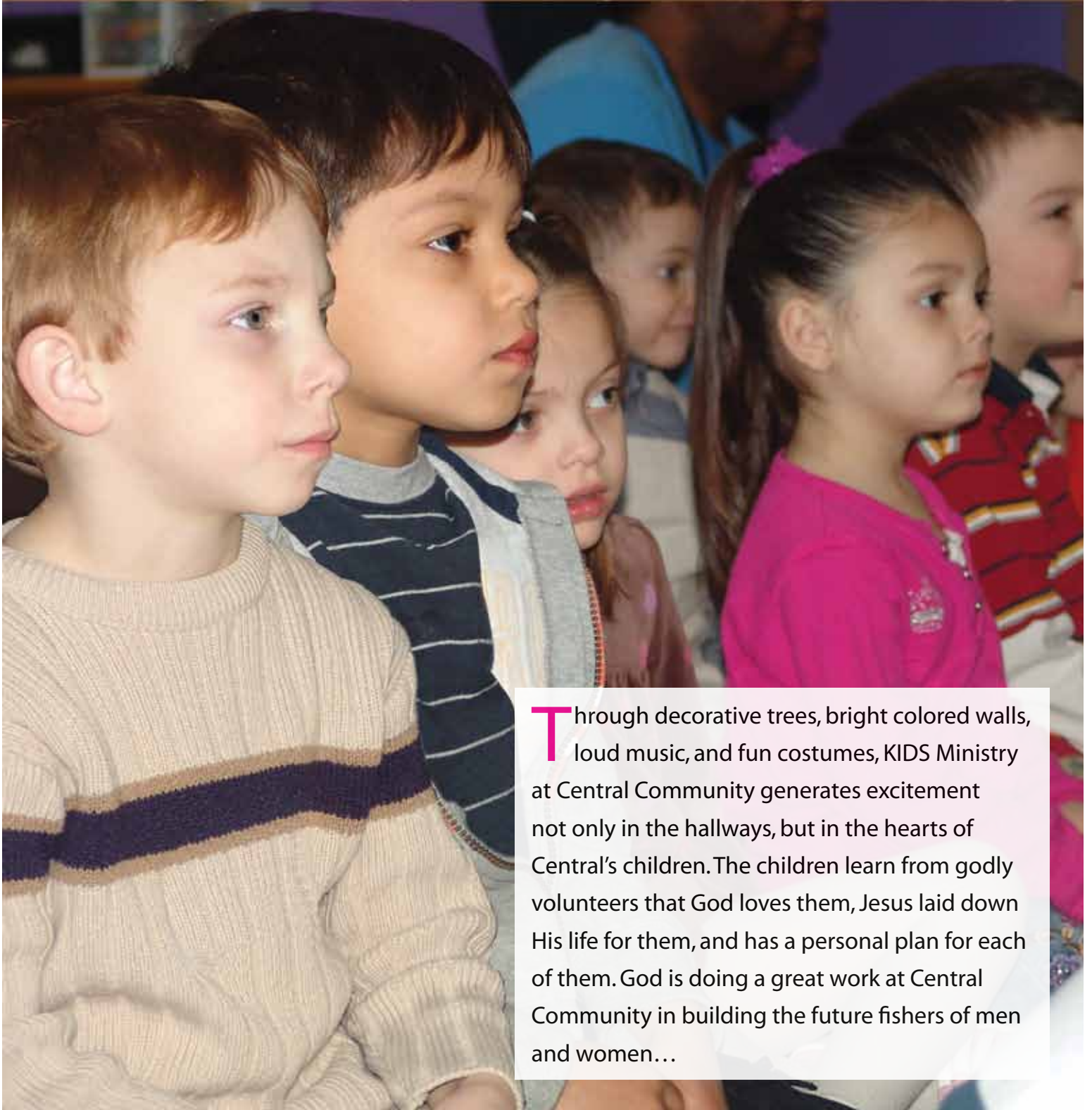


INSIDE *central*

JULY 2009

Communicating our Mission and Vision through the Ministries of Central Community Church



Through decorative trees, bright colored walls, loud music, and fun costumes, KIDS Ministry at Central Community generates excitement not only in the hallways, but in the hearts of Central's children. The children learn from godly volunteers that God loves them, Jesus laid down His life for them, and has a personal plan for each of them. God is doing a great work at Central Community in building the future fishers of men and women...



Pastor Search

An initial search for a KIDS Ministry Director or Pastor began after the resignation of former KIDS Ministry Director, Brenda Moffitt. After further consideration, the leadership decided to limit the search to a Pastor. Executive Pastor Greg Smith maintains that a pastor could “not only move the Ministry forward with the great help we already have on staff with Debbie, Sherry, Erica, Anne, and others, but also be willing to take on additional opportunities more aligned with a ‘family pastor’ as well as help with the ongoing pastoral responsibilities all staff pastors share.”

The position was reopened and Central waits for God to lead the right godly leader to our team!

KIDS are an adventure in progress...

In the colorful Central Community nursery and early childhood classrooms, kids come and hear Bible stories, play games, sing songs, create crafts, watch puppets, play instruments, and learn to love God in the mix. If you ask the kids what they like best about Sunday mornings, you'll get answers such as "stories!" "cupcakes!" and "coloring!" But when asked what they learn about, you can hear a resounding "GOD AND JESUS!" Why? "Cause He died for us!" said a 2nd grader, "I really like Jesus!"

Central Community's KIDS Ministry is led by committed leaders, both staff and volunteers. As Central Community leadership seeks a KIDS Ministry Pastor, KIDS Coordinators, Debbie Henry and Sherry Smith, enable nearly one hundred volunteers to teach as many as 310 children each Sunday. This is a large operation, with a direct focus: "reaching children wherever they are and teaching them about the love of Jesus Christ," said Sherry.

Teaching kids the eternal truth of Christ's love goes hand in hand with their natural development. As they learn about colors and shapes, they are also learning that the same God who created them also created the whole world. When they are starting to understand good behavior, they also are taught how Jesus wants them to love others and obey their parents. As they enter into school, they learn that Jesus loves them and is their forever friend.

“So when they are faced with new people and uncomfortable situations, they have the foundation of Jesus Christ to fall back on. Sometimes people underestimate the power of Christ in a child's life.”

– Anne Auld, Early Childhood Coordinator

Some church attenders think a children's program acts as a baby-sitting service for parents in church. But with God – it's always much more! Just as adults feel refreshed after being at worship and learning God's truths, children long for that restoration as well.

Auld adds, "God created these beautiful children and He has put in their hearts a desire to know Him."

Like adults, some kids are hurting and struggling with situations of life. Some kids walk through Central's door feeling lonely; some are going through their parent's divorce. There are children without dads, children who have lost a loved one, children whose parents fight in front of them on their way to church. There are children with real issues at home and at



school who need to feel the presence of God to mend their fears and hurts. Central's KIDS Ministry allows God to work through dedicated volunteers to be His loving hands to offer just the healing they need – and only God can offer!

KIDS Ministry should not only be a focus of parents, but of everyone! Being a fully devoted follower of Christ means living with the passions He held dear. One great love of Jesus was children! (And He didn't have any of His own!)

We read in the Bible where some parents brought their children to Jesus so He could touch them and bless them, but the disciples scolded the parents for bothering Him. Jesus adamantly responded saying, "Let the children come to me. Do not stop them." He laughed with them. He looked in their eyes and talked to them. He loved them – and still does," said Smith.

As children are distracted by the busyness of the world (entertainment, electronics, sports, school, etc.), distractions that can hinder a child coming to church. KIDS Ministry is building the faithful foundation for kids to function as adults in the world as future doctors, husbands, caretakers, teachers, pastors, waitresses and missionaries.

“Children will learn about Christ and become fully devoted followers of Him when we, the church body, show them, and teach them what following Christ looks like!”

– Sherry Smith

Remember, our mission is changing lives, turning uncommitted people into fully devoted followers of Christ. KIDS Ministry seeks committed followers to carry this eternal mission forward – by loving and serving children. To be a part of this incredible mission, contact Sherry Smith at 943-1800 or sherry.smith@centralcommunity.org.

(Continued on back)

July Events:

Monday, July 20-July 24

- VBS/VBX Week, 8:30 AM-12:00 Noon

Friday, July 31

- Missions Garage Sale, Sneak Preview, 5:00 PM

August Events:

Saturday, August 1

- Missions Garage Sale, 7:00 AM

Sunday, August 2

- Youth Sunday
- Compassion Sunday, 2:30 PM

Sunday, August 9

- 3 Year Olds thru 4th Grade sing in both worship services in Auditorium

Sunday, August 16

- Promotion Sunday for Pre-K thru High School (Parents, if your child is not promoting, please call KIDS Ministry at 943-1800)

Sunday, August 23

- Celebrate Ministry, 6:00 PM, Atrium



*The Mission of
Central Community Church
is Changing Lives,
turning uncommitted people into
fully devoted followers of Christ.*

6100 W. Maple St., Wichita, KS 67209

Sunday –
Classes, 8:30, 9:30, 11:00 AM
Classic Worship, 9:30 AM
Contemporary Worship, 11:00 AM
REAL (Young Adults 18-25), 5:00 PM

Wednesday –
Wednesday Night Classes, 7:00 PM

Church Office – (316) 943-1800
Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM-5:00 PM
Online at www.CentralCommunity.org

CENTRAL COMMUNITY CHURCH OF GOD, INC.
6100 Maple Street
Wichita, Kansas 67209-2131

Special Friends

Anne Auld, Early Childhood Coordinator, is letting her passion for special needs children guide her in creating a new ministry area in the KIDS department. Special Friends will pair up a volunteer one-on-one with a special needs child to help them through Sunday morning activities. This one-on-one interaction will help them better participate in classroom activities.

Auld recognizes that kids with special needs require different approaches. "Maybe sitting through a Bible story is too much for them, but singing a song about Jesus loving them begins to create that foundation in their life."



Security

Central Community leadership is focused on the security of their children. Security badges ensure the adult who drops off a child is the same one who picks him up. A two-adult policy ensures that every child is surrounded by a team of leaders who want the best for her. And soon, a revamped communication infrastructure and reserved KIDS Ministry wing on the second floor will help KIDS Ministry continue to be good stewards of these precious children each Sunday morning and Wednesday night.

“Parents are in desperate need of an hour when they can be in God’s Word refueling their souls in preparation for being with their child 24/7. We want their children to be refueled too – in God’s Word and by His Holy Spirit.” – Anne Auld

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