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Contact me!

- Ideas, suggestions, comments, new emails? Let me know: lizzt@rogers.com

Alluring April

We wanted to make our presence know on Palm Sunday... and boy did we ever! Twenty-nine children and youth were present in church on Palm Sunday, the majority processing in waving branches and making a joyful noise to the Lord.

Easter Sunday we began a study of Moses

by watching the movie Price of Egypt. Twenty-seven children and youth were at Chalmers on Easter, divided between watching the movie, doing crafts or remaining in the service. Between Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday, forty-four students attended Chalmers (twelve



were present both weeks). The last two weeks of April, we learned about Moses through crafts, a scavenger hunt, and a multimedia presentation. The kids absorbed an incredible amount and were able to answer some pretty impressive questions on the scavenger hunt!



From the Editor

The changes in Sunday School have been an issue of concern for many recently, not just at Chalmers but throughout the presbytery and I'm sure across the denomination. In April, 21 people involved in Sunday School from across the London Presbytery (including 5 from Chalmers) met with

Anne Yee-Hibbs, Area Education Consultant. We had an interesting time and have come up with some new ways to work together and encourage the young people in our churches. It was also interesting to discuss our issues with others going through the same thing. Sometimes we become so isolated in

our own churches that we need to meet with others to get a broader picture. While most churches were complaining about declining enrollment, one larger church said that their enrollment was increasing. When asked what kind of numbers they were seeing in Sunday School on a regular morning, they esti-

mated about 10 children. At Chalmers, the average attendance in March was 18 children and in April it was 21 children. In the past two months, we have had 57 different young people involved. As always, life depends on your perspective!

What's in a Name?

There has been some discussion lately about whether or not the term "Sunday School" is outdated. Do children like to go to "School" on a Sunday? Does this term really describe what we do on a Sunday morning? Does it include everyone from the youngest class to the seniors? After extensive discussion, the question was raised, "Do the youth care what it's called?"

So youth, we have two questions:

1. Do you like the name "Sunday School"?
2. If not, what would you prefer?

Here are some suggestions:

- Sunday Morning Youth (SMY)
- Junior Worship
- Faith Foundations
- Sunday Bible Experience (SBE)
- Sunday Youth Spirit (SYS)
- Sunday Youth Gathering (SYG)

For the month of May, these suggestions (including "Sunday School") will be posted along with any other suggestions I receive. Each Sunday, all those in attendance will get to add a sticker to the name they like best. Each child will get a vote each time they are at church (thus giving those who attend most often the biggest vote). At the end of May we will tally up all the votes and announce the winning name.

April's 4 Star Students

April 2009 only has four Sundays and there were four students who were here every week. There were an additional six children who were at Sunday School three out of four Sundays which is still impressive. It's great to see everyone!



Congratulations to:

Josiah Duffin

Naomi Duffin

Jacqueline Nathaniel

Joycelina Nathaniel

The Marvelous Month of May

Have you ever wondered what your dreams really mean? Have you ever wished you could get rid of your brother or sister (nicely of course)? Ever wondered what it would be like to rule over a whole country? Starting in May we will be looking at someone who fits all these questions. Don't know who it is? Well, you might be surprised by this story.



The first Sunday of May will be a very special Sunday with the youth leading the service. Joanne would like the Sunday School to come at 10:00 to get ready. Everyone will enjoy this exciting service about God's Creation.

Don't forget that the second Sunday of May is Mothers' Day. Start thinking now about what you can do for the special mother-figure in your life. Make a card, rake some leaves, wash the windows, do the dishes. There's lots of things to do and they don't need to cost a dime.

Mothers' Day is a family Sunday so there will only be a children's program for the youngest chil-

dren. They'll get to do a special craft.

The week after Mothers' Day is the Victoria Day weekend, but don't forget about Sunday School. We'll be starting a unit on a very interesting person—so interesting there's a Broadway musical about him (hint hint). We'll start the unit by having movie & popcorn Sunday. Each week following, we'll have a different activity (you'll even get to eat dirt if you're brave enough!) but there will also be one activity that builds each week. The more often you're there, the better it will be!

That's in the Bible!?

- ...you shall nurse and be carried on her arm, and dandled on her knees. As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you. Isaiah 66:12-13

Junior Praise Band

Youth! I know most of you play an instrument of some sort. I would like to get a group of interested youth together to help with the music at Sunday School. Any instrument can join (well, maybe not kazoo's) and you don't even have to be good! The Bible says to make a joyful noise so let's! My plan is to find out whose interested now, get together a couple of times over the summer to learn 4 or 5 songs. Each month, those who are there Sunday morning get to play but if you can't make it that's not a problem. Once a month I'd like people to stay for half an hour after church (while your family enjoys coffee hour) to learn one more song. If you're just learning an instrument (like guitar, piano, flute, I know who you are!) this is the perfect opportunity to get a little practice

and a captive audience. The more people who play, the less mistakes we'll hear so bring a friend!



I caught Jessie fiddling on the piano. Watch out! I'll catch you too!

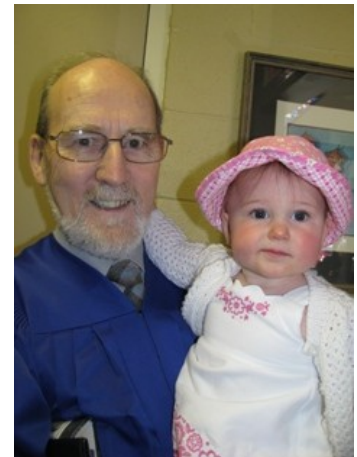
Photos of the Month

If you haven't signed a permission form allowing me to photograph your child, please do so. I'd love to be able to include everyone in the random snaps.

If there's anyone else out there who would enjoy helping out on the occasional Sunday by taking photos, I would love your assistance. I always have my camera with me, but I'm not a keen photographer.



Hailee making her beanbag frog (one of the plagues on Egypt) with a little help from Judy.



Baby Isla and her papa at Easter.



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**CHALMERS
PRESBYTERIAN**

Growing in Grace.

We're on the Web!
Chalmerslondon.com



A Threeppeat!

Congratulations to our youth volleyball team on winning the Presbytery Volleyball Tournament for the third year in a row.

