



August 2010

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Help Kids Grow Their Friendships

Friends are vital to children's emotional and social development. Through friendships, kids learn to share, set boundaries, make decisions, and respect others. Having friends also makes children feel supported, which boosts their self-esteem.

With a new school year right around the corner, many children are thinking about reuniting with classmates and friends. But fears about bullies may also exist. No child is immune to mistreatment by peers. Here are some ways to help kids develop love, respect, and kindness toward one another while maintaining a healthy sense of self:



Love each other. Help children make the connection between how Jesus loves and cares for us and how he wants us to love and care for one another. Make the Golden Rule a top priority in your home ("Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you," Matthew 7:12).

Agree to disagree. Children need to hear and learn that it's okay to disagree with others because God made us all different. But it's never okay to hurt someone with our words or actions.

Everyone's important. Help children find the acceptance and recognition they seek by focusing on activities and behavior standards that are positive, fun, and rewarding. Guiding kids toward loving themselves is key to helping them love other people.

When Social Interaction Goes Awry

- A staggering 160,000 children miss school each day because they're afraid of attack, intimidation, or bullying. (NEA)
- 33% of special-needs kids have been targets of bullying. (aboutourkids.org)
- Children whose parents share ideas and talk often with them are 40% less likely to bully other kids, compared to children of parents who don't do those things regularly. (health.com)
- 56% of mothers say they've ended a friendship because they thought someone's child was a bad influence. (cafemom.com)

Mission Opportunity at The Nelson Center



We are doing a one day Vacation Bible School at the Nelson Center in Denton **Monday August 9th.** The Nelson Children's Center serves more than 100 severely emotionally disturbed children each year. Many of these children have been removed from their homes because of extreme physical, emotional and sexual abuse. The counselors will be with the children. We are responsible for putting on a great VBS program for a day. All volunteers must be 17 years or older. Youth age 14 -16 are allowed to help if accompanied by a parent or guardian. This is an awesome mission opportunity close to home. If you are able to help, contact Liz Edwards.

Make a Difference in a Child's Life



Join our Children's Ministries team. We have opportunities available Sunday mornings at both 10 and 11:15 for teachers and helpers. Curriculum and supplies are provided - all we need is you! Contact Liz for more information. liz@argyleumc.org



All 1st – 4th graders are invited to become a Mission Possible Agent. We meet the first Wednesday of each month in the school year from 6-7 pm in portable # 3. We are out to change the world, one mission at a time. Last year we touched over 1700 lives, from Argyle to Afghanistan through our monthly mission projects. There is a onetime registration fee of \$16, which includes a MPK t-shirt. Our first meeting of the 2010-11 school year is **Wednesday, September 1, 6-7pm.** For more information contact Beth Ward at 940-725-0291 or cbem@verizon.net. Come join us!



Ask God:

1. To help your children make positive, lasting friendships.
2. To give your children the confidence to speak up about bullying.
3. To show your family members how to befriend one another.

Parenting Insights

These developmental tips from *Children's Ministry Magazine* show how friendships grow along with children:

Ages 2 to 4

Young children depend on others to help them develop social skills. Use praise to reinforce good behavior, such as sharing. Help children refine their negotiation skills to resolve conflicts. Give them ideas of what to say.

Ages 5 to 8

Kids this age are learning to choose their friends. Their self-image is strongly related to others' opinions of them. To help a bully, emphasize respect and model how to handle conflict without anger.

Ages 9 to 12

Parental authority diminishes, and kids want to be with their friends more. Discuss the qualities of a good friend and the down side of cliques and gangs

Parenting Ed. Offered at AUMC
Rev. Andy Stoker to lead timely, relevant classes

We are excited to have Rev. Andy Stoker of the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church present a series of parenting classes at our church. Andy is not only an ordained elder in the UMC, but also holds a Ph.D. in Family Studies. Andy has an incredible gift of communication as well as a plethora of knowledge. Each class will be held in portable #3 on a Wednesday evening from 6- 7:30 pm and is offered free of charge.

September 8, 2010— State of American Families
Parenting in the 21st Century

October 13, 2010 - Spent
Overworked and Over Spent Parents

November 10, 2010 – Decades of Life
Intergenerational Families

February 9, 2011 – Boys in Guyland
Raising Boys in a Culture of Violence

March 9, 2011 – Girls in Girlworld
Raising Girls in a Culture of Indulgence

April 13, 2011 – A Child's Spiritual Development

Snack supper (\$5 per person) and child care are available by 72 hour advance reservation.

Learn more about children's experiences with friendship by asking these discussion starters:

What are the most important qualities in a friend, and why?

How good of a friend do you think you are? How might you be able to be a better friend to someone?

How do you handle conflicts with your friends? What role does forgiveness play in friendships?

When you're being bullied or see someone else being bullied, what's the best way to handle the situation?



"So commit yourselves wholeheartedly to these words of mine. Tie them to your hands and wear them on your forehead as reminders. Teach them to your children. Talk about them when you are at home and when you are **ON THE ROAD**, when you are going to bed and when you are getting up." **Deuteronomy 11:18-19, NLT**

OpenTheBook

"There is no greater love than to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command."

John 15:13-14

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Family Experience: Friends First

Discover the meaning of true friendship with these activities from Group's Hands-On Bible:

- **After You**—Challenge family members to put other people first for a whole day. Say: "See what it's like to open doors for others, let everyone go in front of you in line, let others be served first, let others choose what to watch or play, and so on."

At the end of the day, give each family member a piece of paper and a pencil. Say: "Draw a giant number one. Inside it, write what it was like to be last at things." Read aloud Mark 9:35b. Ask: "What happens when we put others first? Why do you think Jesus wants us to act that way?" Say: "Living like this may have felt a little weird, but that's what Jesus did for us!" Pray together, and have each person pray for someone else in the family.



- **Tied Together**—As a family, make friendship bracelets. (Easy instructions are available on the Internet.) During the craft time, talk about your friends and what you would or wouldn't do for them. Read Ruth 1:16 and discuss the friendship between Naomi and Ruth, her daughter-in-law. Ask: "How do you think Naomi felt about Ruth's loyalty?"

How can we be loyal to our friends and each other?"

Say: "Knots can remind us of bonds that can't be broken, like the bond between Ruth and Naomi. Give away your bracelet to thank a friend for always being there for you." Hang an extra bracelet on a doorknob at home as a reminder that family members are good friends, too.

Jesus, our ultimate Friend, sacrificed his life for us. We can follow his example by showing love and devotion to our friends and family members.

Teachable Moments

1. **Stick With Love**—Buy some stickers that have messages about friendship, and let children pass them out to friends. Read 2 John 5-6 and talk about what it means to love our friends.



2. **Everyone's Invited**—When children feel left out or are excluded from a party, talk about how life isn't always fair or equal. Read Luke 14:7-14 together and discuss ways to include people and not discriminate.
3. **Time to Reflect**—Let babies and toddlers see themselves and their playmates in mirrors. Say names aloud as children see the reflections so they can begin to attach names to other people.
4. **Keep in Touch**—During summer, help children send postcards to their friends. Even if postcards aren't from a trip, correspondence will teach kids about nurturing their special relationships.

It's time to Get in the Zone!



Kick-Off Pool Party August 18

Our 5th and 6th grade ministry is off to a great start with a pool party at Stuart & Elaine White's house, 8229 Steeplechase Circle on **Wednesday, August 18, 6:30- 8pm**. All new 5th & 6th graders and their parents are invited to attend. Hot dogs and drinks are provided; please bring a side or dessert to share.

This ministry includes Sunday school and weekday praise, missions, Bible study, snack supper, & fun. We meet Sunday mornings at 10 am & Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8pm in portable # 6. If you have a 5th or 6th grader be sure they come get in the ZONE!

Parents, we cannot do this ministry without you! Please contact Liz Edwards to sign up as a Zone 56 helper. 940-464-1333 or liz@argyleumc.org



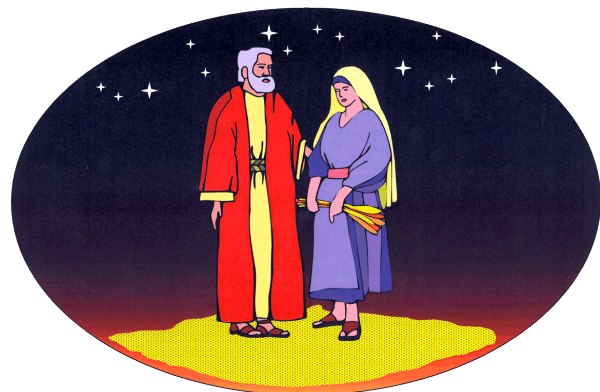
Bible Retreat 2010

All 3rd, 4th, & 5th graders are invited to spend an exciting weekend at Bridgeport Camp & Conference Center **Friday September 17 6:30 pm-Saturday, September 18, 4:30 pm**. Through music, games, photography, food, and nature we will study God's Word in the Old Testament, as well as have special activity times for low ropes, volleyball, basketball, Frisbee golf, archery, riding mountain bikes, crafts and more! The cost for the weekend is \$55 per person. Adults are needed also! Register online at bible-retreat2010.eventbrite.com Space is limited, so please register early.



Fall Sunday School Begins August 22

Abraham and Sarah: The Promise Travelers



We begin our new school year with a Sunday School rotation on Abraham and Sarah. By trusting in God's promises, Abraham shows children how they can lead a faithful and obedient life.

Through movie, computer, drama, cooking, and storytelling

classes, our children will learn to trust and to act on their faith. Life offers us many choices and these choices can be made by being faithful and trusting in God as Abraham and Sarah did. Throughout the month, the children will see that God is faithful and keeps promises.

	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
August 22	Movie-108	Story-107	Cooking-105	Computer-100	Drama-106
August 29	Drama-106	Movie-108	Story-107	Cooking-105	Computer-100
Sept. 5	Computer-100	Cooking-105	Movie-108	Drama-106	Story-107
Sept. 12	Story-107	Computer-100	Drama-106	Movie-108	Cooking-105
Sept. 19	Cooking-105	Drama-106	Computer-100	Story-107	Movie-108

Thank you

These very special people made it possible for our children to enjoy Sunday School during the summer months:

Lindsey Jenkins
Caroline Jenkins
Sandy Gilster
Kevin Gilster
Vicky Taylor
Beth Ward
Carey Ward
Karen Forrer
Stephanie Hall
Cheryl Lamon
Carley Hawk
Jeanette Scruggs

Susan Piel
Carey Piel
Mark Robison
Tina Gladys
Jennifer West
Mike Norwood
Alicia Norwood
Cyne Hindman
Kristi Nathan
Kelly Little
Nicole Hackett

"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me." -Matthew 18:5

Kingdom Kids Pre-School

Spaces still available for 2010-2011 School Year!



Open Monday-Thursday
9am-2pm

Later Gators till 2:45

Contact Kelli Stoops to enroll
Kelli@ArgyleUMC.org 940-464-1333

Enrollment Now Open!

All levels of:
Piano, Violin, Viola, Cello,
Guitar, Brass and Woodwind
Drums, Music Theory/History



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Mark your calendars for September 19, 2010! AUMC is offering a Christ centered archery program for school age children (K-12) called Centershot Ministries. We will meet every Sunday for 8 weeks from 5:00pm - 6:00pm.

Centershot is an outreach ministry that teaches the life-skill of archery while sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ at the same time.

Anyone Can Participate

No athletic ability level is required and participants can pick up basic concepts very quickly. Great for young and old as well as special needs.

Brings Families Together

Entire families can participate together. Archery especially makes a natural connection with men, making this a great opportunity for Dads to get more involved with the spiritual development of their children.

Great Outreach Opportunity

Centershot can help bring people from the community into church to learn about the remarkable love of Jesus.

For more information, please contact:

Brandon Hindman
(Home) 940-464-2038
(Mobile) 972-822-0740 or
Scot McClure
(Mobile) 940-465-0366



What's Playing at the Movies

Movie: *Nanny McPhee Returns* (August 20)
Genre: Family comedy/fantasy
Rating: PG (for rude humor, some language, and mild thematic elements)
Cast: Emma Thompson, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Ewan McGregor, Ralph Fiennes



Synopsis: During World War II, an overwhelmed British mom tries to run the family farm, work, and raise three ornery children while her husband is away at war. When two spoiled cousins join the household, launching another type of war, Mom calls on Nanny McPhee to work some magic.

Discussion Questions: What responsibilities do your parents have? How do you make those roles easier or more difficult? Read aloud Colossians 3:20. Why is it tough to always obey parents and authorities? Why does it please God when we obey? How can our family work together better as a unit?

What Music Is Releasing

Artist: Natalie Grant
Album: *Love Revolution*
Artist Info: Grant has won four Dove Awards in a row for female artist of the year. She also founded the Home Foundation, which helps female victims of human slavery and trafficking.



Summary: Grant's eighth album features her strong vocals and gripping, faith-inspired lyrics. About the first single, "Greatness of Our God," Grant says, "While my mind cannot begin to truly comprehend the greatness of God, neither can any of my doubts restrain his greatness. I'm so grateful that in these strange and scary times...God is in control."

Discussion Questions: What are some ways you know God is great? When and why do you doubt God? Read aloud Psalm 77:13-14. Would you ever want to be in control of our world—or of your life? How does it feel to know that God is in control of everything?

What Games Are Out

Title	Content	Rating & Platform
<i>Backyard Sports: Sandlot Sluggers</i>	Players team up with a diverse group of neighborhood kids to play this arcade-style game with exaggerated animations.	E; Xbox, Wii, Nintendo DS
<i>Puzzle Agent</i>	While helping Nelson Tethers solve brain teasers, players replenish his supply of chewing gum. Some off-color humor.	Not yet rated; WiiWare, iPhone, iPad
<i>Despicable Me</i>	Players become Gru, the criminal mastermind from the hit movie, by planning heists with wacky gadgets.	E10+; Wii, Nintendo DS, PSP, PS2

RATINGS: EC=Early Childhood, E=Everyone (ages 6+), E10+ (ages 10+), T=Teen (ages 13+)



Culture & Trends

What's happening right now that may affect your children and family:



- To prevent cliques and bullying, some schools, camps, and parents now discourage kids from having one best friend. (msnbc.com)
- Because of the recession, more day-care providers are offering flexible hours, reducing rates, and working out pay arrangements. (about.com)

Quick Stats

- Parents keep their kids sharp in summer with:
 - 68%—Daily learning activities
 - 36%—Reading program
 - 12%—Summer homework
 - 10%—Nothing ("We need a break.") (momconnection.com)
- 22% of 7- to 11-year-olds who play video games have significant finger and wrist pain. Experts recommend frequent breaks and stretches. (ASHT)

August 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10am SS 11:15am Zone56 Planning Mtg. No Children's Church Communion Sunday			Children's Council Meeting 6:30 pm			
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
10am SS 11:15 am CC	9am VBS at The Nelson Center (see pg 1 for more info!)		7pm MP Kids Planning Meeting			
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
10am SS 11:15 am CC			6:30 pm Zone 56 Pool Party at the White's. (see pg. 4 for more info!)			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Back in the Saddle Sunday 10am SS 11:15 am CC			5pm KM2 Children's Music Ministry 6:30 pm Zone 56 7pm CM Auction Planning Meeting			
29	30	31				
10am SS 11:15 am CC						

SS—Sunday School for children 3 year (as of December 31, 2010) to 6th grade

CC- Children's Church for children 4 years-2nd grade

KM2- Music Ministry for children 1st-4th grade

Zone 56—5th and 6th grade ministry

MP Kids—for children 1st-4th grade