



KIDSTUFF

Anglican Diocese of
Montreal
Committee for
Children's Ministry

PENTECOST 2004

Inside this issue:

Growing in Grace: Fruits of the Holy Spirit



These are ideal hand-outs for Pentecost Sunday to remind us of the great work God is doing in our lives every day (Galatians 5:22-23). Inscribed on cut-

outs of the traditional dove image of the Holy Spirit, these fruits are: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,

generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. A sheet of all nine fruits may be distributed to each student, or let them pick one or more of the doves spread face down on a table. Orders come with sermon notes on the Fruits of the Holy Spirit.

TO ORDER from Creative Church Resources; call 1-800-325-9414. The order code is **FR-F**, Cost: **\$12.95US** /1-3 sets, **\$11.95US**/4-7 sets, **\$10.95US**/8+ sets

Pentecost Teaching Aids to Order	1
New Resources	2
Pentecost and Summer Crafts	3, 4
Holy Spirit, Come—a Pentecostal Drama	5,6
Going Solo, BLP2004 update	7
Summer Camps—Inspiritus, Teen Missions, Crosstalk, Quebec Lodge	8,9
Missed the Kidstuff workshops? Read a review	10, 11
2004 Calendar	12

Flames of Discipleship: Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Here is an appealing way to help students reflect on the seven traditional gifts of the Holy Spirit as found at the beginning of Isaiah 11. Hand-sized "flames" depict the Spirit's gifts, imparted to us at baptism to help us live as followers of Christ. Each die-cut flame is imprinted with brief text describing one of the following: Wisdom, Reverence, Knowledge, Fortitude, Counsel, Understanding and Fear of the Lord (Awe). Each flame also has a short prayer. Distribute one per student, or let them pick one or

more of the flames spread face-down on the table. Orders come with sermon notes and commentary on each of the gifts and some applications to everyday life.



Seven punch-out flames (one for each gift) come on one sheet. Sold only in sets of 25 sheets (175 flames a set) **TO ORDER**: call 1-800-325-9414. The order code is **FL-M**, Cost: **\$12.95US** /1-3 sets, **\$11.95US**/4-7 sets, **\$10.95US**/8+ sets

Pentecost Balloons



Pentecost balloons provide a memorable illustration and take-home gift. In mixed lots of white on red and red on white, these balloons all have the same design that says, "Holy Spirit, Come." Helium certified, they have a flying time of approx 8 hours. **TO ORDER** from Creative Church Resources: call 1-800-325-9414. The order code is **PB-2**, Cost: **\$8US**/50, **\$15US**/50, **\$65US**/500, **\$110US**/1000. Order in multiples of 50.



PLEASE PASS ME ON:

- Sunday school teachers
- Minister
- Youth workers
- Interested parents

NEW RESOURCES



VIDEOS

The Kidstuff resource boxes now contain two new videos comprising the programme **Safeguarding God's Children** that you can borrow:

- ☺ For **Parents and Congregations** (29 minutes) is designed to give all adults who are concerned about children and youth a basic understanding of the dynamics of child sexual abuse, how to recognize signs that a child may have been abused, and what to do if you have concerns about a person's behaviour towards a child or youth or suspect that a child or youth has been molested.
- ☺ For **Ministries** (22 minutes) is designed for clergy, employees of churches and church organizations, and volunteers responsible for planning, implementing or supervising ministries, activities or programmes for children and youth. It shows what steps can be taken to prevent child sexual abuse in church and in other organizational settings.



GODPRINTS CURRICULUM

We also have updated materials from Cook Communications—The **Godprints** book "Hearts, Brains and Growing Pains" by Lois Keffer and Dean Stone presents a light-hearted, humorous look at how we can help children build a faith relationship with their loving Creator. Austin won't come out from under the table, Marcy has the wiggles, Hannah keeps bugging you for a treat. Frustration happens! No matter whether you're an experience teacher or a novice, it's great to know that it's not up to you to transform a life. Only God can do that. And we've created Godprints to be a place where those life-changing encounters with God can happen.

Kids will learn that God cares for them, watches over them, and changes things by His love and power.

Editorial Note:

KIDSTUFF is published quarterly by The Committee for Children's Ministry, Anglican Diocese of Montreal. Its purpose is to inform and encourage parents and teachers working in children's ministry in this Diocese.

KIDSTUFF is sent to all Children's Ministry Reps in the Anglican Diocese of Montreal, and anyone else who requests it. The newsletter is free of charge.

KIDSTUFF is printed at the Synod Office. It is edited by Valerie Taylor and Nancy Greene-Gregoire. We encourage you to send submissions of ideas and articles to:

KIDSTUFF

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Eastern Townships and South Shore reps needed! If you are involved with your Sunday school children and want to be part of this team, please I

A FIERY SIGN

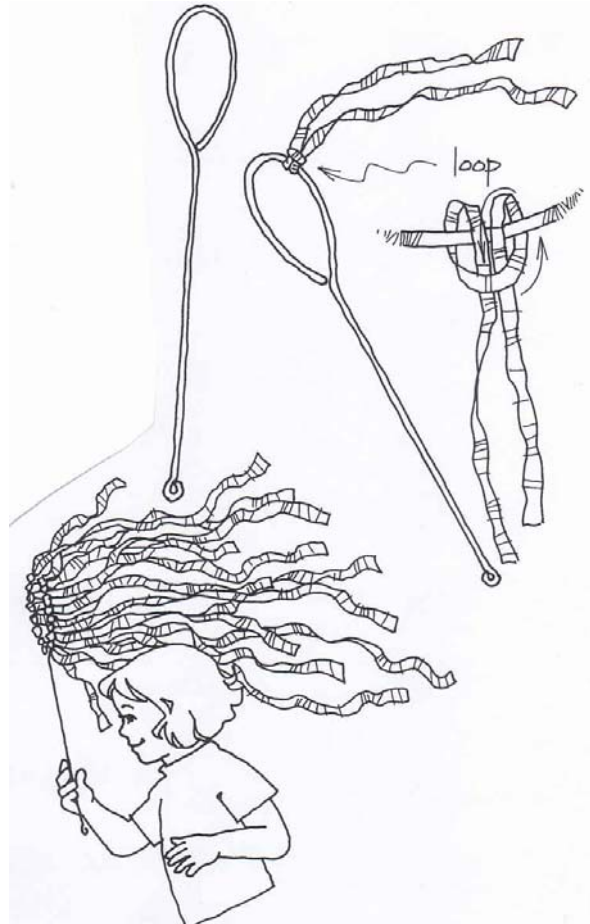
Tongues of fire appeared over the disciples' heads on the day of Pentecost, a sign of God's presence and power. Read about it in Acts 2.

Create the energy and brilliance of fire.

What you need:

- ☺ Wire from a clothes hanger
- ☺ Several lengths of yellow, orange and red crepe paper

Bend the wire as in the picture. Loop several lengths of crepe paper around the wand. Wave it through the air to create the look and sound of flames.



FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

voel _____ epace _____

etnpcaei _____ ojj _____

nsdhseik _____

sdngseoo _____

unslftaseinf _____

sntgnselee _____

flse lnocot _____



The fruits of the Spirit demonstrate that the Spirit lives within us all. Unscramble these words to find what they are.

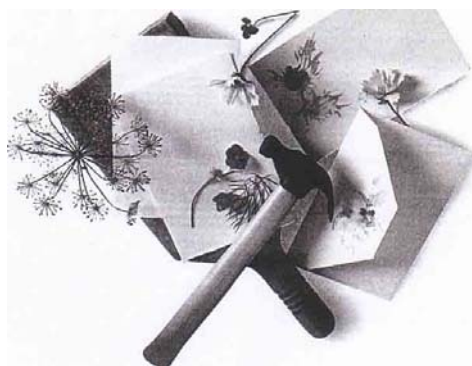
The answers are in

Galatians 5:22-23.

GREAT SUMMER CRAFT IDEAS !

Flower Pounding—Make Pillows, Cards,

Materials: paper bags, hammer,
unbleached muslin cloth, butter knife,
fresh leaves and flowers, paper.



Cover a smooth, hard surface with paper bags and spread out the fabric. Arrange a leaf and flower design on one half of the fabric, then fold the other half over the design. Using a hammer, pound on top of the leaves or flowers, being sure to go all the way to the edges. When the colour has bled through the fabric, open it up and scrape off the plant residue with the butter knife. You'll have a mirror image of the leaves and flowers. The fabric pieces make great pillow fronts or quilt squares, though they will fade after repeated washings (use cold water).

For an alternative to the mirror, image method, simply place the flowers on the fabric, cover with a sheet of waxed paper, and pound away. You can also use the same method to pound leaves and flowers onto paper to make floral stationery or gift tags.

Home Made PotPourri Throughout history, fragrant flowers and herbs have been mixed together to freshen the air and add a little spice to life. Here's how your kids can custom-mix a colourful blend of potpourri to use in their rooms or to give as a gift.

When a bouquet starts to fade, remove the petals and spread them out to dry.

Later, place them in a bowl or basket, For extra colour and texture, blend in natural objects, such as bark, pine needles, or sea shells. Or liven up the mixture by adding cinnamon sticks and citrus peels, dried rosemary or basil, or even a quick spray of your favourite perfume

Candle Supplies

Paraffin wax is available at almost all grocery stores. The other materials needed are available at most candle-making stores or from one of these mail-order sources. General Wax & Candle Company sells sheets of honeycomb beeswax, wax dyes, and wicking: call 1-800-WAX-STORE for a catalogue. Yankee Candle Company (1-800-243-1776) sells paraffin, wax dyes, and wicking. Or try any craft store in Montreal.

Sand Candles

If your kids bring home enough sand after a day at the beach to build another beach, here's a great use for it. You need

- Large heat-proof mixing bowl
- Sand, enough to fill the bowl
- Wicking
- Thin wood dowel or stick
- Coffee can of melted paraffin—melt it in a pot of hot water, AN ADULT MUST HELP! And never leave it unattended.
- Pliers

Fill the bowl 3/4 full with slightly damp sand and ask your child to dig a mold the size of his fist. Using your hands, bend one side of the empty coffee can rim to form a spout. Fill the can halfway with paraffin and melt; when the wax has melted, turn off the heat. Cut the wicking to 6-8 inches longer than your mold is deep. Rest the dowel across the bowl's top and tie one end of the wick around it. Press the other end into the bottom of the mold. Now, pour the wax (adult only) into the mold until it reaches about 1 inch from the top. When the candle is cool, remove it from the mold, brush off the excess sand, and trim the wick.

Holy Spirit Come ...A Pentecost Drama

Check on accompanying instruments. Lights down, bare stage. Lights at crossing, and the drama begins...

Enter **Liturgical Dancers**. Dance "Refiner's Fire" .

Dancers lead in **Disciples (Choir)** who group on platform, steps and in chancel. Following the dance, the dancers weave in and out of the disciples with fabric "fire" and then the dancers leave to Narthex (Narthex= the back of the church)

As dancers leave, **Reader #1** takes place at standing microphone and begins:

Reader #1: Acts 2:v1-4

"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."

As the **Reader** pauses, the **Believers** begin to speak in different languages. They continue miming during dialogue. Enter **people of Jerusalem** from Narthex.

Reader #1: Acts 2:v5-7

"Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one hears them speaking in his own language. Utterly amazed, they asked "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans?"

Person: "These people who are talking like this....."

Several other people speak, continuing v8-11

"Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language?. Parthia, Medes, and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphly, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

Reader #1: v12-13

"Amazed and perplexed they asked one another, "What does this mean?" Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine".

All **actors** freeze.

Modern Person #1 enters and speaks to congregation.

Modern Person #1: What kind of scripture reading is this? They all seem to be crazy. I suppose this kind of thing could have happened in ancient times but why are you acting it out today? I don't see how this weird stuff relates to my life.

Modern Person #2 comes forward from the congregation.

Modern Person #2: Actually that's not true, some of these works of the Spirit are happening in our times. That's why we're here to learn more about all of this. Why don't you come and sit down and we'll watch it together?

Music: "Holy Spirit Come" by the **Disciples**.

The **Disciples** become the **Choir**. They group seated on platform, steps and in chapel. While music plays, the **disciples** mime together on the platform, **people** of Jerusalem argue and point at the disciples, shake their heads, etc. **Peter** then comes forward to address them (and the congregation):

Peter: v 14-15

"Fellow Jews and all of you who are in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning!"

Reader #2: A reading from the prophet Joel

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the

Holy Spirit, Come (continued)

earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

Modern Person #1 to **Peter**: I didn't know that there were any messages about the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament.

Peter to **congregation** and **people**: — v22-24

"People of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

Reader #3: David said about him:

"I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope, because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence."

Music: "All Consuming Fire" - **Choir/Disciples**

Peter (again): King David was another great prophet. He spoke about the resurrection of Jesus when he said:

Reader #3: "He was not abandoned ..."

Peter: "God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear."

People of Jerusalem who are convinced, join disciples, but **a few** go back to Narthex shaking their

heads.

Modern Person #2: Well what do you think about Pentecost now? Are some of these readings helping to make things clearer to you?

Modern Person #1: I'm glad to see the work of the Spirit explained through Scripture. But I still don't see how it affects me. I'm baptized, I've even been confirmed. What else do I need?

Modern Person #3: I don't like all this stuff about gifts of the Spirit. We're not Pentecostals, we're Anglicans! This sort of talk makes me very uncomfortable.

Modern Person #2: The message of the scripture is meant for all Christians, and each person needs to open his or her mind and heart to accept.

Modern Person #1: Well what kind of gifts are they talking about? Is there a clear explanation?

Music: Hymn 472—**Choir** and **congregation**

As **reader** moves to the microphone, a **person** (clown, in a mask?) **with a large suitcase** enters from Narthex. He stops and opens the suitcase in the centre aisle and distributes wrapped "Gifts" to a variety of **people**. Inside each box is a symbol of that person's gift, for example, a mortarboard and book for "teacher". The **people** come up to the front as the reading continues, silently comparing the gifts and admiring each other's. **A couple of people** might not open their gifts right away.

Modern Persons #1 & 2 come forward as well and examine "Gifts". The **person with suitcase** gives the last gifts to **Modern Person #1** and to the **Rector**.

Modern Person #2: You see Paul tells us about all kinds of gifts. All are very special and all are different, but they all come from the Lord.

Blessing—Rector: It's what we do with our gifts that counts.

Final Music—Shine, Jesus, Shine (with the **congregation**)

In my experience, 12 year-old boys are the quietest creatures on the planet. It's strange how they turn from bubbling and blabbering 9- and 10-year olds to silent teenagers. Still, there are plenty of great ways to stay close to your son as he enters this new stage of life:

Get active. Boys are typically doers more than talkers. Think of a sport, game, or hobby that the two of you can do together, perhaps with another mother and son. Plan a regular "date" with your son and give him some input on what you can do together. How about skiing or sledding? Read a book together (The Lord of the Rings series is a great one for boys) and discuss it over pizza. Cook a meal, plant a garden, ride bikes—whatever gets the two of you used to being together as friends as well as mother and son.

Use technology. As strange as it sounds, some parents of teens keep in touch with them through e-mail or via instant messages (IMs). If you work outside the home, IM your son when you know he'll be online after school. Send him an e-mail to let him know you're excited to see him when you get home. Even if you're there when he gets the message, he'll know you've been thinking of him.

Check in every day. One way or another make the time to ask how his day went, share highlights about yours, and follow up on his activities and friends.

Create a hangout. The more you can be the host place for his friends, the more you'll know about his friends, his interests, and his life. Meet the girls in his life. Young teen girls are much more talkative than their male counterparts, so you'll get more insight into his life from his female buddies than you're likely to get from him.

Find him a mentor. Ask your son to help you think of a trusted Christian man with whom he has a natural connection who can act as a kind of "big Brother". Have this guy over for meals, invite him to your son's activities, and encourage the two of them to spend time together. Check in with your son periodically to make sure he continues to feel good

about this relationship. Not only will your son benefit from this friendship, but you'll have another adult who can offer a perspective on your child.

Single parenting is no picnic, but with a little extra effort on your part, you and your son can forge the special bond that will sustain both of you through the ups and downs of the teenage years and beyond.

BLP 2004— A visit from Mr McArdle

We are really greatfull (sic) that we has a chance to meet Mr. McArdle, from the Mohawk Tribe. We studied the subject during class , but we had never met someone from a First Nation before.

We love beavers so it was cool to be finally able to see one. Even if it was a stuffed one. In grade 3 we did research on them. Meeting one was so cool, because they are our favourite animals. We also loved the other animals he brought. It was also fun because we got to learn a little bit more on the animals that we didn't already know.

The stories that we heard are awesome. It was an amazing t day thanks to Mr. McArdle. We loved his clothes and the details on them. We are also glad we got a chance to meet him.

Thanks for the visit and please come again.
Debbie and David

Debbie and David are twelve year old twins who attend St, Matthew's Church in Hampstead. Albert McArdle joined us for Morning Service on March 28th and shared a number of stories about his Mohawk heritage. We used a First Nations Liturgy for the Eucharist available from the National Church, through Kidstuff. His visit helped us all to relate more fully to the subject of the Settlement Fund for Residential Schools, which was the focus of the BLP for 2004.

When your parish has finished collecting for the BLP 2004, please send in your cheque, and any pictures you may have, to the Diocesan Office.

Christian Creative Arts Camp * *Camp Chrétien des Beaux-Arts***

~ Music ~ Visual Arts ~ Dance ~ Theatre ~ Creative Writing ~

~ Swimming ~ Outings ~ Games ~ Bible ~

~ *Musique ~ Arts visuels ~ Danse ~ Théâtre ~ Composition ~*

~ *Natation ~ Sorties ~ Jeux ~ Bible ~*

Dates: July 5 to July 30 / du 5 juillet au 30 juillet

Monday to Friday, 9:00am to 4:30pm* | lundi a vendredi, 9h00 a 16 h30*

* extended care available | * *heures prolongées disponible*

8:00am-9:00am & 4:30pm-5:30pm | *8h00-9h00 et 16h30-17h30*

Église Madison Baptist Church (6297 Monkland & Madison)

Children 5 to 12 years / *les enfants de 5 a 12 ans*

Small groups & excellent staff / petits groups & moniteurs(trices) excellent(e)s

Cost / frais : *300\$ (before May 31 / avant le 31 mai) , *360\$ (after June 1 / apres le 1 juin)

(for four weeks / pour quatre semaines)

*** Bursaries available / Bourses disponibles**

Deposit of 50\$ for registration / dépôt de 50\$ pour l'inscription

Information / Renseignements : (514) 485-2321

... A message from a camper returning again this year!

I have been attending Inspiritus for quite a few years now. I am blissfully happy to have a chance to help out there this summer, because I hope that I can help others get to know Jesus, as the counselors have helped me and my friends to know Him. Many of the lessons I have learnt in my lifetime were learnt there, and it's a great place to meet really cool Christians and great role models.

I also think that Inspiritus is a great place for discovering and maturing in the fine arts. Over the years, I have had a chance to take part in many amazing plays there and have also become more talented in drawing thanks to Inspiritus. I am overjoyed to be able to help kids learn what I have learned at the camp, and help them to know Jesus. I really believe that God has blessed Inspiritus and He, more than me, is thrilled to help there.

Josiah Henderson

Josiah is twelve years old, he and his family attend St. Stephen's, Westmount.

2004 TEEN MISSION INTERNATIONAL TEAMS

Do you know a **TEEN** who is looking for **Mission Work** ?

check out "**2004 Teen Mission International Teams**" at

www.teenmissions.org

Teens are going to 34 countries as campers and missionaries.

Or contact Valerie Taylor.

CrossTalk Day Camps

Traveling team members spend 4 of their 6 weeks on a team of 2 to 4 people, visiting various parishes in Quebec, Ontario, Newfoundland and New Brunswick leading Day Camps for Children between the ages of 4 and 12. In each parish the team works with the Clergy, Coordinator and parish team to run the Day Camp. The Traveling team acts as leaders for both the children and parish. Before these 4 weeks, a week is spent in training. The 5 weeks of Day Camps fly by, filled with fun, travel, fellowship and best of all a sense of having accomplished amazing things for God! See <http://www.cam.org/~ctm/daycamps/daycamps.html>

	Parish Training June 26-July 1	Week 1 July 10-18	Week 2 July 18-25	Week 3 July 25-Aug 1	Week 4 Aug 1-8
TEAM 1: Montreal	St. Matthew's Hampstead	St. Stephen's Westmount	St. James Hudson	St. Joseph's Brossard	Christ Church Long Sault
TEAM 2: Montreal	Grace Church Sutton	All Saints Two Mountains		St. Georges, Ste. Anne's	St. Michael & All Angels Pierrefonds
TEAM3: Toronto Region	St. James Rosemere	St. John's Midhurst	St. Paul's on the Hill, Pickering	Trinity Church Barrie	St. Thomas Shanty Bay
TEAM4: Manitoba		St. Aiden's Winnipeg	St. Ignatious Winnipeg	St. Michael's Gimli	Winnipeg?
TEAM 5: Toronto City		Church of the Resurrection	St. Timothy's Agincourt		
TEAM 6:			Baie du Vin?		

Materials Only to: St. John the Divine, Squamish

QUEBEC LODGE SUMMER 2004

Quebec Lodge Camp



Quebec Lodge offers a full program for ages 6 to 15. The programs include swimming, canoeing, sailing, windsurfing, archery, barbeques, chapel, Bible time, campfires, wide games, crafts, nature hikes, talent shows, volleyball, soccer, baseball and basketball. Information on the various sessions can be found on the Web at www.quebeclodge.com. All the camps are available for English as a second language.

During the Senior Camps

which run for two weeks, options include Horseback Riding, watercraft specialty, crafts, woodworking, survival skills, sailing and brainercize.

Quebec Lodge also runs a Counselor-in-Training Program for those aged 16 or 17. Applications can be downloaded from our web site. Most staff at Quebec Lodge serve as volunteers. This year we will need cooks, dishwashers, sailing instructors, maintenance workers and counselors (who must be 18 or older).

To contact the camp office call 819-842-2286. or email:

quebeclodge@accglobal.net.

1st & 2nd SENIOR CAMP
(10-13, 12-15 yrs) cost
\$565* (12-15 yrs)

July 4 -July 17 July 25-Aug.
7

PIONEER CAMPS (12-15 yrs)
camp)

PIONEER CAMPS (12-15 yrs)
1st July 4-July 10 2nd July
18-July 24

3rd Aug 8-Aug 14 Cost \$300

1st & 2nd JUNIOR CAMP(6-11yrs)

July 18-24 / Aug.8-14 cost
\$300

*Option supplement costs are not included

*Cost for ESL as an option is not shown

Kidstuff continued its vital role in developing and enhancing children's ministry with another great workshop. 22 Christian educators were on hand Saturday February 21st to hear insights on effective Christian education ministry from Destiny Ministries' Brian Barr. With over 20 years of experience in youth and children's ministry and education, Rev. Barr combined practical advice alongside the latest stimulating curriculum resources from Group Publishing.

REAL Learning

Barr summarized Group's principles of authentic Christian education using the acrostic R.E.A.L. Learning is **Relational** as children learn best in interaction with others (i.e. in group work, partner work). It is also important for instructors to develop and build relationships with kids and thereby model the Christian lifestyle and values. "How can kids have a relationship with Christ if there is no relationship with you?", asked Barr, highlighting the need for good Christian role models. The E in REAL stands for **experiential**; everyone is involved in learning when it is hands-on. Kids also require their lessons to be **Applicable**, the third principle of REAL. Teachers need to make their lessons real by finding ways for students to **apply** the learning to their lives. This is in direct contrast to the one-size-fits-all lessons of yesteryear, where students passively learned facts and stories having no bearing on their everyday life. According to Rev. Barr, the North American church has been "preached into passivity" instead of being taught life-applicable truths of the Bible. The teachings of Christ often stay passively inside the church door and are not taken actively out into the world. Making the message applicable to people's lives makes the connection between hearing and doing.

Creating life applicable lessons requires an understanding of where students are at, so lessons must be **Learner**-based. Good lesson

planning is customized to the learner and must stem from the learners' own experience. Teachers should prepare as a student, casting themselves in the learners' role rather than as a teacher. In this way the teacher can better anticipate the needs of the learners and therefore plan a more effective class.

Teaching is a Job for Two People!

After outlining the elements of REAL learning, Rev. Barr gave several demonstrations of object lessons and games that imparted Biblical truths combined with play and learning about the Lord. He noted that in preparing and teaching lessons, instructors often forget that it is a job for 2 people, the teacher and the Holy Spirit working in tandem. No matter how great the resources or how cool the lesson plan, all good teaching starts with the prayer, asking God to fill us with the Spirit to teach effectively, then all the rest follows.

Volunteers - the Endangered Species!

Teaching is a challenge; however it is an even greater challenge to find volunteers to do so! Rev. Barr had many helpful suggestions towards capturing 'the most endangered species: volunteers.' Normally when recruiting volunteers the people being asked have no clue what is involved and this leads to a lackluster attitude towards children's ministry. Barr noted that while most churches have a mission statement for their ministry, church schools almost never do. The mission of the church school and youth group may overlap with the church's, but they are not the same thing and have some different goals involved. A church school or youth group mission statement is a great way to inspire volunteers and can also give people a better idea what is involved in a volunteer commitment. The mission statement should incorporate key ministry elements and goals along with a leadership profile that outlines expectations of leaders. Barr counsels against the

"warm body syndrome" of Christian education, the idea that anyone alive and willing will do. Children and youth ministry require people who have a heart for the young; children are precious and deserve the very best of the church. Christian education provides education, not babysitting, and thus requires more of its volunteers than a passive presence.

Five Easy Steps to Volunteer Recruitment

Barr outlined some easy steps to volunteer recruitment that keeps the focus the special nature of children's ministry:

1. When inviting someone to join the education team, ask them to pray about the opportunity to minister to children or youth.
2. Give a deadline of when you will get back to them, and make sure you keep it. This gives people time to pray and consider and no one is put on the spot.
3. Call and ask how God has been leading them and remember that God is your recruiter.
4. Explore what ministry appeals to them and if they say yes to volunteering help them serve where their strengths are.
5. The last step is to bless the person with a thank you letter if they say no. Barr notes that whenever someone spends time praying about your ministry that, is something to say thanks for. This also avoids what he termed the "hall dodger syndrome", where the people who said No avoid you in the hall.

This method of volunteer recruitment is very intentional and is indicative of an organized and clearly envisioned children's ministry. If Christian education happens without a purpose, what reason would there be for anyone to do it as a ministry? Barr encourages us to examine our programs and ask ourselves the crucial questions: What do we want for our children, parents, and volunteers? What do we believe about the relationship between

God and children? What do we believe about the relationship and responsibility of the church to the children?

Hopefully, we came away with a few answers to these questions, and the tools Rev. Barr gave us will help as we work out the rest! Many thanks to Rev. Barr for sharing his knowledge in such a practical and fun way, and also thanks to Valerie Taylor who organized another successful Kidstuff event!

For more information about Rev. Brian Barr contact him at destiny7@bellnet.ca. To learn about Group Publishing resources go to www.grouppublishing.com.



2004 CALENDAR—June—December



JUNE 2004

- ☺ June 3 6 pm Kidstuff Core Group Supper Meeting —3491 Hingston Ave.
- ☺ June 28 Crosstalk Ministries Day Camp Programme begins—see chart for a camp location near you.



JULY 2004

- ☺ Inspiritus Camps July 5-30 — see article



AUGUST 2004

- ☺ Aug 1st Deadline for Harvest newsletter content
- ☺ Aug 15-21—Crosstalk Junior Camp @ Cedar Lodge—call 514-484-1414 for more info



SEPTEMBER 2004

- ☺ Sept 2nd—7:30 pm Kidstuff Mtg—South Shore—location TBA



OCTOBER 2004

- ☺ Oct 7th 7:30 pm Kidstuff Core Group Meeting—3491 Hingston Ave.
- ☺ Oct 15-16 Diocesan Synod—Kidstuff display @ Christ Church Cathedral
- ☺ Oct 31st Saints Alive! @ St. Matthew's Church, Hampstead



NOVEMBER 2004

- ☺ Nov 4th 7:30 pm Kidstuff Meeting—West Island Region
- ☺ Nov 20th Santa Claus Parade—Outreach @ Christ Church Cathedral



FUTURE DATES TO REMEMBER

- ☺ Sat April 9th, 2005—Children's Ministry Workshop—Cook and Godprints—part of a series to be offered in April and May of 2005—Details in the Harvest newsletter