# THE REPORTER . APRIL 2024

Volume 21 Issue 4





### Reasons to Attend Sunday School

- 1. You Get to See Your Friends!
- 2. You Get to Praise Jesus!
- 3. You Get to Learn About the Bible!
- 4. Sleep is way overrated!

\*\*April/May Classes begin April 7th\*\* Preschool Class . Taught by Ashley Carnes & Eldonna Neeley

**1st-3rd Graders** . Taught by Teresa Hester **4th-6th Graders** . Taught by Chari Rhoads **7-12th Graders** . Taught by Karyn Rogers

#### Jonah: A Whale of a Lesson on Obedience (Greg Davidson)

Take a close look at the life of Jonah and be challenged to seek and obey God in all your future decisions.

#### Purple Fish: A Heart for Sharing Jesus (Debbie Johnson)

The ancient merchants of Tyre sailed the high seas in search of a rare shellfish, valued for its rich, purple dye. Like the search for the purple fish, Jesus goes to remarkable lengths in seeking after lost, broken, hurting, oppressed people. Learn a fresh approach for sharing Christ with others, especially for those who feel inadequate and intimidated by witnessing.

#### RVL Discipleship Study (Anita Hillman)

As modern-day followers of Jesus, it is vitally important that we value Scripture in the same way. This study from *Focus on the Family* and Ray Vander Laan uses engaging video episodes and discussion to outline how we are meant to interact with the Scripture.

#### The Secret Battle of Ideas About God (Bill Beck)

Only 3 percent of Americans currently have a biblical worldview. Are you among them? This study teaches Christians how to understand what they believe, why they believe it, and how to defend it against Secularism, Marxism, Islam, New Spirituality, and Postmodernism.

#### Wesleyan Bible Curriculum (Connie Wells)

This is an in-depth Bible study written in the Wesleyan tradition. Studies this time come from the book of James.

"Truly my soul finds rest in God; my salvation comes from him.

Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will never be shaken."

Psalm 62:1-2

## Drama Production

Are you interested in being a part of the summer dinner theater? If you are interested (whether it be acting or behind the scenes), plan to attend the meeting next Sunday at 3p.

Here is a description of this summer's production:

Elbert finds a rare and valuable object, but before he can collect on it, it is accidentally donated to a local thrift store. Dorothy finds something that will save her thrift store/soup kitchen, but sells it before she realizes its value. Tina receives a gift from God, but doesn't realize what it is. Part mystery and part comedy . . . this is a dinner theater where everyone wants something but they aren't sure what.

### Men's Breakfast

All men (ages 12 and older) are invited to breakfast, fellowship, and spiritual growth on Saturday, April 13th, from 8-9:30a. *Sign up on the bulletin board*.

### Ladies

- All ladies are invited to *Mancino's* on Thursdays at 6p to be a part of this Life Group. Come for devotions, fellowship, and to meet ladies in our church.
- The March/April Book Club selection is "Hidden Among the Stars" by Melanie Dobson. Obtain a copy and get reading. We will meet on Monday, April 15th, at 5:30p for a discussion.
- Chef Robin from the New Castle Career Center Culinary Arts program will be our special guest on Saturday, April 20th, at 10a. She is a pastry chef and will be teaching us some basic techniques to create beautiful, artistic desserts. Debby Rains will share a devotional and refreshments will be provided. Sign up on the bulletin board.

### The Wondermoms

Moms of kids/teens: We will continue the study "The Art of Parenting" this month on April 14th and 28th from 4:30-6p. It's not too late to be a part. See Chari Rhoads if you have any questions.

### . MISSIONS NEWS .

### March Missions Giving

#### **Global Ministries**

| Faith Promise                      | \$750  |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| JESUS Film                         | \$100  |
| A. England (mission trip)          | \$600  |
| Shunem House                       | \$150  |
| He Sapa New Life Ministries        | \$150  |
| The Hot Dog Club                   | \$350  |
| HC Pregnancy Care Center           | \$1100 |
| Love Offering (Winchester tornado) | \$4129 |
| Victory Lane Camp (meal)           | \$200  |

### Praise/Thank You's

- Our young missionary family in Home Country has found an apartment. Praise the Lord! They are now learning the language of the people there. Pray that they can learn effectively.
- You were very generous in giving to the Pregnancy Care Center and in our love offering for some victims of the Winchester tornado. Thank you for your giving.

## Financial Update

Yearly Budget \$280,000 Year to Date Pace \$293,000

Did you know you can give your tithe online through our website? Go to www.mtzionwesleyanchurch.com and click on the "donate" tab. Let the church office know if you have any questions.

### Attendance Last Month

|               | <u>3/3</u> | <u>3/10</u> | <u>3/17</u> | <u>3/24</u> |
|---------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Sunday School | 70         | 73          | 57          | 71          |
| Worship       | 170        | 162         | 148         | 163         |



# **Kids Ministry**

There will be no Special Edition Kids Church for the next few months. This is when Kids Church starts earlier than normal. We will still have Kids Church each week at the regular time. Look for updates in the bulletin and future newsletters.

### The Gospel Project - During Kids Church

All kids will be learning about the growth of the early church in spite of persecution and opposition the disciples faced.

April's Big Picture Questions:

Elementary - Why did Jesus become human? Jesus became human to obey His Father's plan and rescue sinners.

**PreK/K - Why did Jesus become a person?** Jesus became a person to rescue sinners.

Nursery and Younger PreK - Jesus became a person to save us.

Key Verse: Isaiah 53:5

**Sunday School** . As of right now, there is no Sunday School for the those newly 4 and under.

We do have classes though for all other ages. Our teachers have been doing so many cool things with your kids during this time. From using the gym to digging in dirt, so many hands on activities are happening to help them learn Biblical truths. It is a great time to get your kids involved. We could also use more help. See Karyn if you would like to know what opportunities exist to serve and worship God by helping with the Kids Ministry.

**Potato Day** . Remember when the kids got excited to celebrate potatoes!?! This is one of our new favorite traditions. Some of them actually have been asking when it is. . . . Save the Date for August 18th!



# **Teen Ministry**

For April/May, Teen Group will resume our former time of meeting from 5:30-7p as this is better for most of the teens and their families. We realize teens are overwhelmed with schedules. While we don't ever want to compromise discipleship and put it on the back burner, we also want to meet teens where they are. We are thankful that they have both Sunday School and Teen Group to plug into to grow in their relationship with God and with a church community of their peers. For these reasons, Teen Group will not meet the second Sundays of April/May. Nor will we meet the first Sundays of June or July. We hope giving these few hours back provide some time to slow down a bit more and that teens will not feel "behind" as much if they miss a Teen Group time. Teens: know you are welcome no matter if it is every week, once a month, or even less. You are valued and wanted. You are never "behind."

Also, for April and May, the last Sunday of each month will be more event-oriented. This could be a theme night or meeting offsite. Times may be adjusted depending on the event.

April 7th . 5:30-7p

April 21st . 5:30-7p

April 28th . Time & Location TBD

As we get together on Sunday evenings, we will continue to talk about what being a disciple of Jesus really means and how we can be true followers of "The Way."

**Sunday School** . Karyn is leading the Teen Sunday School this month. Join her at 9:15a for some practical Bible study tips as well as "untangling" the meaning behind many church phrases and what they truly mean.

**NTS Camp** . Camp is June 10-14th. Make sure Karyn has your email address to send you info on cost and how to register. You can always check out details and go ahead and register online at www.ntscamp.com