

THE NEXT LIFESAVERS

They are difficult parent questions to answer when you're asked on the way to teach at Kid's Konnections on a Sunday morning. "When can my child take communion?" "My child keeps asking if they can get baptized - what do you think?" Let's work together to answer the who, what, when, where and why's of kids who want to understand and grapple with baptism and communion.

Please send your submissions to:
Carol Wiebe
Unionville Alliance Church
4898 - 16th Avenue
Unionville, ON L3R 0K6
Tel: 905-887-7428
Fax: 905-477-5847
cmchildren@hotmail.com

(Please send ideas before September 15th so that we can include them in our October 2002 issue of Lifesavers.)

Lifesavers subscriptions are available! Contact Canadian Ministries at the National Ministry Centre 416-674-7878 ext. 230.

ROOTS THAT GO DEEP



It's an important question. If I have the privilege of ministering to a child in my church from the time that he or she is three or four years old to the time they are twelve, what will that child have learned from the weekly teaching offered here at West London Alliance?

In response, I have begun a process of putting together a curriculum that will focus on discipling kids from age three to age twelve, the goal being that that child will clearly understand the important elements of the Christian life by the time they are ready to go to high school. Children will be taught about God, prayer, the Bible and a variety of faith topics based on their developmental readiness to understand certain concepts. Each year, the child will move to the next level of discipleship and will be challenged to go deeper in their understanding of God and His Word.

This is a huge task, I know, and I have had to shake my head a few times to make sure I'm not crazy to attempt something so enormous. But, as I am shaking my head, God has been shaking my heart. He is asking me to be sure that I am doing all I can to help children's spiritual roots go deep so they grow up like "trees planted by living water which grow fruit in season and whose leaves do not wither and fall."

Jane Cushing, West London Alliance Church, London, ON

Awesome Adventures

Jamie Stinson, Bayridge Alliance Church, Kingston, ON



If you have worked with children for any length of time, you probably already understand the daunting task of locating quality children's discipleship materials. When I discovered "Awesome Adventures" by Karl and Sara Bastian of the DiscipleLand company, it immediately caught my attention! The books are divided into upper and lower elementary age levels, along with a Leaders Guide. If you are looking for an "Alpha course for children" then "Awesome Adventure: My New Life with Jesus" is the perfect choice. It is a collection of 12 lessons for small groups or one-on-one discipleship. Children will discover the new life God has given them, the power they now have in Christ, their purpose for living and the church they are now a part of. It covers the basics of our faith from salvation to Bible study and prayer, spiritual gifts, witnessing, missions and obedience. The books also offer plenty of kid appeal with 3D glasses which allows them to look at satellite images of the earth under the lessons. Other perks include the Awesome Adventure code, puzzles and activities. This creative curriculum wins my vote as a fun way to learn theology!

They can be contacted at 1-800-284-0158, or visit www.ThroughTheBible.com



Discipleship for Kids



PRODUCED BY THE NATIONAL CHURCH EDUCATION COMMITTEE - CHILDREN'S DIVISION

AT YOUR SERVICE

WE want to be at your service! If you find you have any questions or concerns about ministering to children, or about the National Church Education Committee Children's Division, please don't hesitate to give us a call.

Carol Wiebe
National Children's Facilitator
Unionville Alliance Church
4898 - 16th Ave., Unionville, ON L3R 0K6
Tel: 905-887-7428 Fax: 905-477-5847
cmchildren@hotmail.com

Jan Heppner
Kelowna Alliance Church
2091 Springfield Rd
Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 7X1
Phone: 250-860-2427
Fax: 250-860-4551
kac@silk.net

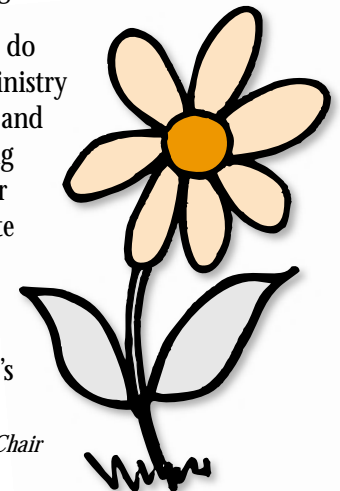
Ruth Mitchell
Sherwood Park Alliance Church
1011 Cloverbar Rd.
Sherwood Park, AB T8A 4V7
Tel: 780-467-8404
Fax: 780-467-1454
ruth.mitchell@spac.ab.ca

Richard Emilson
Canadian Theological Seminary
4400 Fourth Ave.
Regina, SK S4T 0H8
Tel: 306-545-1515
Fax: 306-545-0210
remilson@cbccs.ca

In every one of our churches, we will find ourselves at different intersections in our ministries to children. Some churches simply try to survive Sunday to Sunday. Some churches have one component of their ministry that thrives while the Nursery is falling apart. Some churches are running from one thing to the next and rarely have the time to stop and think about why they're doing what they're doing.

It's a very good question, by the way - why do we do what we do? What do we see as the goal of our ministry to children? Do we know where we're starting and where we're trying to head or are we simply letting the curriculum companies tell us what our children are going to look like when we graduate them into the youth department? Christ commanded the church to seek and save the lost and then to bring our people to maturity in Christ. That process is known as discipleship. Let's think through together "Discipleship for Kids."

- Carol Wiebe, Chair



Let's Do Lunch!

If you're in Hamilton on Friday, July 5th during the Christian and Missionary Alliance 2002 General Assembly - we hope that you can do lunch with us! "Let's Connect" our vision, our passions, our relationships as together we connect kids to God! **The cost of the luncheon is \$20.00 and tickets can be purchased through Assembly Packets on the Fees and Ticket Order Form.** Non-delegates can receive information in the Assembly Event Brochure.

