

Urban Connections

Connecting with Christ... Connecting with People.

S p o t l i g h t s

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 13 - KidZone Outing
March 20 - Work Project Day
April 2-11 - Spring Break
April 10 - Garage Sale
April 17 - KidZone Outing
May 22 - KidZone Outing
June 12 - Work Project
June 14-18 - KidZone Day Camp

HUGE GARAGE SALE! ONE DAY ONLY!

April 10th, 9am-3pm

First Alliance Church

(on the corner of Sawmill & Henderson)

Get your donations ready!

Call 457-4550 April 1 - April 8
to arrange a drop-off time

*we will in some cases pick up large items,
please call ahead to make arrangements.

C h a l l e n g e

Back in August we had a big debate about whether to separate out our middle school group from other students. This was a group that in the history of UC has tended to fall off of our radar. Sixth graders were lumped in with elementary schoolers, and seventh and eighth graders were with high school "teen night". But these grades didn't seem to fit in, and so the students - even those who had come for years - just stopped coming. In September we decided we needed to try and I (Cathy) began leading Wednesday night Middle School Bible study.

Lately we've been studying "the big picture" of the Bible, and by the end of school (20 weeks total) we will go from creation to Jesus' resurrection. So far we are about 7 weeks into the study, and the youth would summarize what we've done so far this way:

"Creation, Fall, Flood, Nations, SALT, Isaac, Israel to Egypt, 400 years to Moses"

That may seem silly, but "nations" is what we labelled the story of the tower of Babel, and "salt" stands for Abraham's family (Sarai, Abram, Lot, Terah). With all the silliness, I asked the students what we have learned from these stories. Here are their answers:

- God created everything, and can punish because He makes the rules.
- When God has a plan, He sticks to it.
- God expects respect.
- God remembers His promises.
- God wanted to "hang with" people but we messed it up.

Here is what one of our regular volunteers on Wednesdays who also mentors a couple of the girls had to say:

"On Wednesdays I think we all have noticed a deeper level of attention given to Bible study. Something that I have also been able to see is the retention and carry over of the Bible study lessons. Being able to spend time with 2 of the girls has allowed me converse and inquire about both what we are teaching and life in general. Having this opportunity has personally been encouraging and I hope to be able to see continued growth."

We as a ministry are encouraged by the students' learning and growth. More importantly we're excited about seeing what God will do through these middle school youth. Please pray for them, and give us a call if you'd like to come be part of our ministry to these or other youth.

L e t u s P r a y . . .

Do you, your family or your small group pray for us? If so, here's a few requests:

- that our younger students would be learning the foundations of faith in Christ, his love for them, and that they can trust him.
- praise God for the growth of our middle school group and pray that they would continue to remember what they are learning and put their faith in Christ.
- that our teens would see their need for Christ. They keep coming to Bible study but tell us they can wait and follow God later.
- that our efforts at increasing our volunteer and financial base would not be in vain.
- that our partnership with the schools would be allowed to continue in the new school year, that funding would come and our support would be welcome.
- that our staff would continue to be encouraged and strengthened to run the race long term in our neighborhood.
- that our work days in March and June would be productive, safe and help us reach out in our community.

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