

Children and Family Ministries Team March Meeting Minutes  
March 6, 2011, 12:15 p.m.

Present: Michele Fenton, Lara Greene, Kristin Keener, Heather Schulke

Review of last month:

Teacher and Child Care appreciation on Feb. 13 went very well. Child care workers really seemed especially to like it. We discussed possibly doing appreciation things (like muffins or tacos) more often – maybe alternating months.

Baby celebration had 7 of the 21 families participate. Scout Sunday went well; Lara will work harder next year to recruit more girl scouts and other troop members earlier.

Clean up day had over 30 volunteers! Lara and Jim Weaver are working to address some of the issues raised during the work day, like new floor pads or mats that would hold up and look cleaner as well as mobile toy storage to allow the custodians to move the toys and furniture more easily.

New Business:

VBS

We are still looking to fill the co-director and 2 assistant director positions. Lara has turned in a more detailed description of these jobs to run in the next bulletin and contacted Ann Miller, Amy Ellis, and Amy Davis about considering. Lara will also contact Melani Novinger. We are also looking for an Arts and Crafts assistant for Heather Schulke who could take over next year. Michele Fenton is considering.

**Work days at Tarrytown UMC are: May 16, 9:00 a.m. – noon and June 26, 4:30 – 7:00 p.m.** (There is also one on July 17, the day before their VBS starts, so we probably will not go then) **Child care will be provided at FUMC not Tarrytown this year.**

Easter picnic and egg hunt

Lara is following a lead to a steel drum ensemble, but has not secured entertainment yet.

Cathy and Lara are firming up the youth's involvement, but currently they are slotted to organize and lead the group games/races.

We made a proposed schedule for the day to help alleviate some of the chaos and concerns:

11:00 – 11:45 picnic begins, music entertainment plays

11:45 children are encouraged to find the Easter Bunny, moving them to the "front lawn" of the capitol (the area across the inner drive, toward 11<sup>th</sup>); volunteers "hide" eggs; Bunny pictures begin with younger children; games and races begin with the older children

12:00 youngest group (2-3's) are escorted to their section and begin hunting; older children continue games

12:15 older groups are escorted to their sections to begin hunting; games end  
12:30 organized activities finish; bunny pictures could continue  
1:00 picnic ends, clean up

We need:

signs for each egg section that announces its start/opening time

signs to remind parents of the egg limit (last year it was 6)

Lara will check current inventory of decorations and signs and let group know of other needs.

Lara will publish/announce candy and toy collection to fill the eggs for the month of March

### Lent and Easter

Family devotional books are available in the education building and narthex

Children will be making paper butterflies to be used in the Sanctuary and Education building for Easter season decorations. Lara will try to visit some classrooms to lead the activity (any volunteers to help?) as well as our sending them home for families to do together and bring back and we are going to try to set up a table/station for parents and children to do on Sunday mornings. We want to make as many as possible.

We will also decorate each classroom door with a large white paper cross, backed in a bright color that the children can fill in sometime during Lent. Thanks, Michele, for taking the lead on this project! Butterflies and crosses and any other Easter decorations will be hung during the week prior to Easter – Wed., Thurs. or Fri.

### Parents' Night Out

April 1, 2011 (no foolin'). Times TBA, but probably 5:30 – 9:00 p.m. Lara and Cathy coordinated this to be the same night as a youth movie night, so parents with different aged children could take advantage, as well as hoping to foster a broadening of the parent-community feeling.

Thank you!