

Creekside Friends

Catching Friends For Jesus

November / December 2005

Have a very Happy Thanksgiving and blessed Christmas...
from the Children's Ministry at First Evangelical Free Church.



Mark Your Calendar...

Kids Singing in December!

Christmas and Children...what do you picture?

Imagine boys and girls in their Sunday best singing about Baby Jesus!
Please note when the children will be singing during the worship service:

December 11 Grades K-3 Creekside Kids
December 18 Grades 4-6 Creekside Explorers
(with the adult choir and by themselves)

Parents: It's important that your child be at the practice times on Sunday mornings in order to learn the music. Here is the practice schedule:

Grades K-3 11:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Primary Room
Grades 4-6 @10:30 - 11:20 a.m. Sanctuary (go from Jr. Church)

If you have any questions, please contact Jenny Merry or Jerry McDonald. We appreciate your support!

Jan. 1st!

**Nursery and Preschool
Graduation**

Will your toddler be 2 1/2 by January? Then it will be time to HOP down the hallway to the 2's and 3's Preschool Hoppers' room!

Will your Preschool Hopper be 4 by January? Then it will be time to become a Preschool Critter in the 4's and 5's room!

Way to go, Preschoolers!

Creekside Clubs and Operation Christmas Child

On Wednesday night the boys and girls had a hands-on lesson in giving by participating in *Operation Christmas Child*. Kids piled up toys and other items then worked together to load them into shoeboxes. They were all smiles and full of excitement with this opportunity of sharing God's love with other kids across the globe!



Did you know?

- 55 kids came on the first night of Creekside Clubs.
- Doug Nelson is the Chief Ranger.
- 70 kids are registered so far. 30 of them don't attend First Free!

Creekside Nursery

Thank you for giving of your time in our nursery. It's a crucial part of our ministry to families at First Free. If you are scheduled to be in the nursery, please note which area you are to report to. Please remember to

- report early to the nursery
- welcome visitors
- help parents check their child in
- put yourself in their shoes

If you are not yet on the nursery list, please call Mary Bostrom or Lori Peterson. Thanks much!

Mission of Creekside Friends: To provide a safe, fun environment where kids can come to know Jesus as their Savior, grow in their relationship with Him, and share their faith with others.

Parenting Seminar

Hear authors Dr. Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller, RN, BSN!

Jan. 18 6:30-8 p.m.

Hastings United Methodist Church

Cost: Free
Children's Program provided

Jan. 19

Crystal Evangelical Free Church

Cost: \$5
Children's Program provided

Check them out at www.biblicalparenting.org

Current Needs

- NEED Items for Activity Bags. These are available each Sunday for kids to take in to the service. Need new or gently used non-consumables such as Magna Doodles, books, etc.

- NEED More caregivers to serve in the nursery

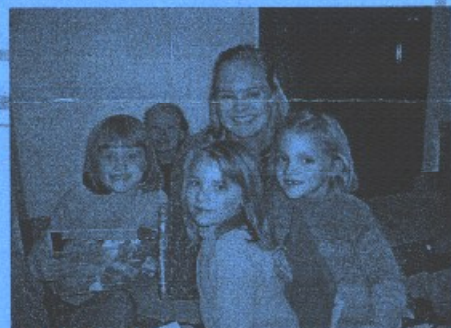
- NEED people to Lead the Opening Time on Wed. Nights in songs, games, etc.

- NEED Prayer!

Meet Jennefer Caruso...



We are thrilled to have Jennefer Caruso teaching our 1st graders during the *Creekside Kids Bible Time*! Jennefer has a sweet group of kids whose enthusiasm she enjoys! They do lots of fun projects! Jennefer and her husband, Mark, live in South Minneapolis and are the parents of Adam (age 11), Haleigh (almost 9), and Joey (almost 5). Mark says she is addicted to reading (Jane Austen!), burning out her booklight and flashlights in the evening. She also loves to bake and cook, with Italian and Greek being her specialties. The Caruso family doesn't own any live frogs (yet!) but Jennefer thinks frogs are very cute and has a fun collection of them! Thanks, Jennefer!



Creekside Clubs

Sign up at the CREEKSIDE CANTEEN!

Who: All boys and girls in grades 1-6
When: **Wednesdays
Time: 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.
Where: Meet in Room 2
Why: Games, Songs, Bible Stories, Crafts, Snacks

**Note: Clubs will NOT meet on Nov. 23, Dec. 21 & 28, and Jan. 4

B O Y S Christian Service Brigade Leaders
Doug Nelson
Rick Vatsaas
Craig Hucek
Dan Larson

Russ Anteronen
Mark Poston
Mark Mellema
Adam Nordell

G I R L S

Girls Rock! Leaders

Becky Sutton
Heather Aunan
Christina Olson

Patty Mellema
Cheryl Vatsaas

Christmas Traditions

What traditions do you do with your family?
Is it time to start a new one? Here are a few ideas:

- Do an Advent Calendar together
- Have a Nativity Scene that the kids can play with! (i.e. Playmobil Set from Target)
- Make a Birthday Cake for Jesus
- Put a doll, wrapped in a blanket, under the tree to serve as a reminder of the Greatest Gift!
- Give new pajamas every Christmas and take pictures in the morning!



Beth Brown
Children's Ministry Director
beth.brown@firstfreechurch.org



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