



Lemont United Methodist Church  
Sunday School



# Notes to Parents

Dear Parents,

October 2006



Halloween is nearly upon us. As a Christian, do you feel conflicted about this holiday? Is it, as some claim, a form of demon worship? Actually, although the celebration of Halloween has been adopted by many cults and cultures (some of which have evil purposes), the origin is much tamer. In 5<sup>th</sup> century BC, summer officially ended on October 31<sup>st</sup> in Celtic Ireland. According to one story, the Celts believed that on this special night, the souls of persons who had died the previous year could come back to possess the living in their quest for eternal life. So they dressed up in costumes and made a ruckus to scare away these dead souls. Eventually this ritual came to merely mark the Celtic New Year celebration. Throughout the ages, other groups have adopted the celebration and applied their own meaning. Even the word "Halloween" has its origins in the Catholic Church—a contraction of All Hallows Eve (the evening of All Saints Day, which is a day in honor of saints). The bottom line is that this day is only as evil as one chooses to make it. In modern-day America, it has become a harmless tradition of dress-up fun and treats for children. So let your little ghouls and goblins enjoy their evening. As long as they know that there is only one God to worship, the holiday can be harmless. Happy Halloween!

Yours in Christ,  
Karin Peraino & Mary Rohrer



## Candy for Soldiers

*Sure Trick or Treating is a lot of fun! But often our children bring home more candy than we'd like them to have. What do you do with the excess? Bring it to the church on the Sunday after Halloween! We'll package up all non-chocolate candy and send it to our soldiers in action. While you might be sick of the sweets, they are a special treat to our soldiers who don't receive such items as part of their daily rations. You'll make their day, and you'll feel better too—in more ways than one!*

### Mark Your Calendars

#### **Trick or Treat for Unicef:**

Orange boxes will be passed out on October 22<sup>nd</sup> to be used for UNICEF collection. Children can either bring them along as they do their regular Trick or Treating, or do a separate collection. Please return them the week after Halloween.

#### **Bake Sale on 10/29/05:**

We will be holding our annual Halloween Bake Sale at both the 8:30 & 10:45 church services. Please bring baked goods on Sunday, 10/29, to contribute to this effort. Then plan to buy a few yummy treats to bring home.



Donations for both events will benefit UNICEF (The United Nations Children's Fund). See [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org) for more about this worthwhile charity.

# FaithWeaver

## FaithWeaver Bible Curriculum – Weaving Faith Through Life!

Using FaithWeaver, teachers will teach as Jesus taught, with a variety of learning experiences and interactive discussions. All grade levels will cover the same lesson, which can make follow-up discussions easy and interesting. Take home pages will be provided to keep you informed and allow you to continue the learning at home. Lessons move chronologically through the bible—Old Testament in the Fall, New Testament in the Winter/Spring.

- † **Memorable Bible Lessons:** The experiential lessons connect from church to home, moving Bible lessons beyond church walls and into people’s lives!
- † **Relevant for Today—and Every Day:** Each learner, no matter the age, sees how God’s Word is relevant to their lives, then applies it every day.
- † **Reinforced Bible Learning All Week Long:** The HomeConnect™ section on each student page, everyone studying the same Bible story, and Driving Home the Point take-home pages help make this happen!
- † **Know How to Live Like Christ:** Participants take what they’ve learned in class and use it to shape decisions about how they live their daily lives.

Although we hope to see every student each week, we realize that schedules sometimes do not allow that. Below is a calendar of upcoming lessons so that you may review them at home with your child if he/she should have to miss.

<b>Lesson &amp; Date</b>	<b>Bible Story</b>	<i>Scripture</i>	<b>Key Verse</b>	<b><i>Bible Point</i> Ages 3-5</b>	<b><i>Bible Point</i> Grades 1-HS</b>
<b>FALL 2006 (Old Testament)</b>					
4) 10/01	God Gives the 10 commandments	Exodus 19:16-10:21	Deuteronomy 6:5-6	<i>We love God</i>	<i>We honor God by obeying him</i>
6) 10/08	The Israelites Worship a Golden Calf	Exodus 32:1-25	Exodus 20:2-3	<i>Worship only God</i>	<i>Only God deserves our worship</i>
7) 10/15	The Israelites Build the Tabernacle	Exodus 35:4-36:38	Colossians 3:17	<i>We can serve God</i>	<i>We all can serve God</i>
8) 10/22	Moses Sends Spies into the Promised Land	Numbers 13:1-14:23	1 Corinthians 15:5	<i>Stand up for God</i>	<i>Standing up for God means following him no matter what</i>
9) 10/29	Balaam’s Donkey Talks	Numbers 22:1-38	Psalms 66:5	<i>Pay attention to God</i>	<i>God does amazing things to show his power</i>
10) 11/05	Joshua Becomes Leader of Israel	Joshua 1:1-11	Joshua 1:9	<i>God helps us</i>	<i>God helps us accomplish his plans</i>
11) 11/12	Joshua Sends Spies to Jericho	Joshua 2:1-24	Hebrews 11:6	<i>Believe in God</i>	<i>We can have faith that God will do big things in our lives</i>
12) 11/19	The Israelites Cross the Jordan River	Joshua 3:1-4:24	1 Chronicles 16:8	<i>Remember to Thank God</i>	<i>Remember what God has done</i>
13) 11/26	God Gives Victory Over Jericho	Joshua 6:1-27	1 Peter 5:6-7	<i>God is Powerful</i>	<i>God’s power works for good in our lives</i>