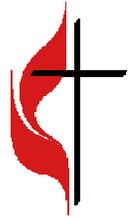




## Lemont United Methodist Church Sunday School



# Notes to Parents

Dear Parents,

March 2010

Not long ago, I pulled out a favorite old video to watch. It was rated R, but after seeing it for the second time, I couldn't figure out what warranted that rating. That's when it hit me: society has built up a tolerance over the years. What would have been considered inappropriate a few years ago, barely raises an eyebrow today. As a result, our children are regularly exposed to graphic violence, profanity, sexual activity, and cruelty--in music, movies, TV, books, and everyday life. We bring them to Sunday School and church to impart Christian values, but those 1-2 hours each week are far outweighed by the other exposures in their lives. Is it possible to raise a Christian child in today's world? Yes! Remember that Jesus lived in a sinful world but he remained sinless. Here are some tips from Children's Ministry Magazine:

- **Be a Role Model**—remind children that what they see on TV and movies is make-believe; what they see at home is real
- **Have Open Discussions**—talk to your kids about the media they're exposed to; make sure they take away your values
- **Find the Lesson**—point out the Christian message hidden within movies, etc. (even if it's an example of what not to do). Challenge older children to find the lesson themselves.
- **Keep it in Context**—even though a war movie will contain violence, your kids are not in a war. Remind them that even though others do something, they don't need to (eg, we don't swear)
- **Explain**—sometimes young children just repeat words or behavior they've seen but they don't usually want to be bad or hurt others. Explain why something they've seen is inappropriate.
- **Don't be afraid of Discipline**—use consequences to stop bad behavior before it becomes habitual!

### Easter Fun



Turn coloring eggs this Easter season into a teachable moment. Separate a raw egg into three bowls: shell, yolk, and white. Then use it to explain the Trinity—one God in three parts: God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

### **Prayer Connect**

*This month's theme is  
Being the Light to  
Others (Matthew 5:16)*



Dear Lord,  
May my children's  
light shine, may  
they do good deeds  
and praise you, our  
Father in heaven.

We don't have to shield our children from a sinful world, nor do we have to ignore it. We can teach them to live within it...just like Jesus did. Happy parenting!

Yours in Christ,

Karin Peraino & Mary Rohrer



### **Mark Your Calendar**

- ✓ 3/28/10 – Palm Sunday; children usher in "Jesus" at 10:45
- ✓ 4/04/10 – Easter; no Sunday School; Egg hunt at 10:00am

*Please read the messages in the eggs with your children.*

*This year's theme is Favorite Bible Stories.*

# FaithWeaver

## FaithWeaver Bible Curriculum – Weaving Faith Through Life!

Following is a calendar of upcoming lessons so that you may follow along with your child and review them at home should he/she have to miss a week of Sunday School.

| <b>Lesson &amp; Date</b>           | <b>Bible Story</b>                      | <i>Scripture</i>          | <b>Key Verse</b>   | <b>Bible Point Ages 3-5</b>        | <b>Bible Point Grades 1-5</b>                                 |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Spring 2010 (New Testament)</b> |   |                           |                    |                                    |   |
| 1) 3/07                            | Jesus Teaches about Good Fruit          | Luke 6:43-44              | Matthew 5:16       | <i>God helps us Grow</i>           | <i>Our Christ-like actions show we're Christians</i>          |
| 3) 3/14                            | Jesus Tells the Parable of the Lost Son | Luke 15:11-32             | Nehemiah 9:17b     | <i>God is Loving and forgiving</i> | <i>God will forgive us when we sin</i>                        |
| 4) 3/21                            | Jesus Washes the Disciples' Feet        | John 13:1-17              | Mark 9:35b         | <i>God wants us to help others</i> | <i>Jesus wants us to follow his example of serving others</i> |
| 5) 3/28                            | Jesus is Tried and Crucified            | Luke 19:28-40;<br>23:1-49 | Romans 5:8         | <i>Jesus died for us</i>           | <i>Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins</i>         |
| 6) 4/11                            | Jesus Appears to Mary                   | John 20:1-18              | Romans 10:9        | <i>Jesus is Alive!</i>             | <i>The good news of Easter is that Jesus is alive</i>         |
| 7) 4/18                            | Apostles Defend Their Faith             | Acts 5:12-42              | James 1:2-3        | <i>Tell others about Jesus</i>     | <i>Keep following God, even when it's hard</i>                |
| 8) 4/25                            | Saul Meets Jesus Near Damascus          | Acts 9:1-20               | 2 Corinthians 5:17 | <i>Jesus changes our lives</i>     | <i>Jesus changes our lives</i>                                |

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Lesson for Jr. High (Grades 6-8)</b>  |
|-------------|--|
| 3/07        | <b>5) Topic = Lent</b><br><b>Point:</b> Lent helps us prepare our hearts to be forgiven            |
| 3/14        | <b>6) Topic = Easter</b><br><b>Point:</b> Jesus' death & resurrection allow us to be with God      |
| 3/21        | <b>7) Topic = Means of Grace</b><br><b>Point:</b> God wants us to be close to Him                  |
| 3/28        | <b>8) Topic = 50 Days of Easter – Service</b><br><b>Point:</b> God wants us to serve others        |
| 4/11        | <b>9) Topic = Pentecost – Holy Spirit</b><br><b>Point:</b> God gave us the Holy Spirit to guide us |
| 4/18        | <b>9) Topic = Pentecost – Self-Esteem</b><br><b>Point:</b> God created us & He loves His creation  |
| 4/25        | <b>10) Topic = Gifts of the Spirit</b><br><b>Point:</b> God has given each of us different gifts   |