

Welcome to our Stepping Stones Newsletter!
This newsletter will be published monthly to keep you informed of what's going on in the Children's Ministry.

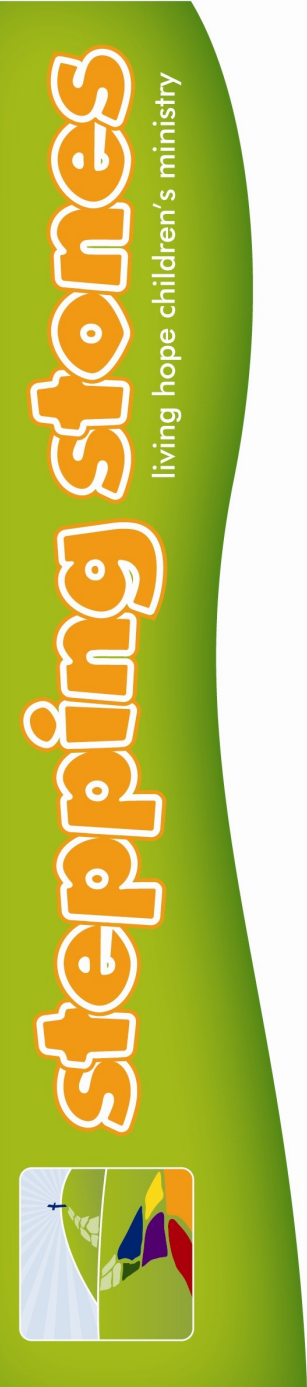
Initially, we will have hardcopies located in the Children's Wing at the front lobby welcome center. However, we want to encourage everyone to begin viewing the newsletter online at

www.livinghopewired.com/42046/

Our website provides lots of good info and our hope is that parents will begin to utilize this wonderful resource on a regular basis. It not only provides a wealth of wonderful information but it helps save paper and postage. You can even register for events online.

If you have any suggestions of how we may serve your family better, do not hesitate to contact us. The door is always open :-)

Sept 2011 Newsletter



www.livinghopewired.com/children



stepping stones
living hope childrens ministry



Sept 2011

For all Children's Ministry info, go to www.livinghopewired.com/children

Thoughts from Cindy...

"So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom." Psalm 90:12

"Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands." Psalm 90:17

These are verses of powerful intent and I want to challenge you to begin praying this for your family. Our days are often marked by trails of interruptions which by evening can leave us weary as we read over the unfinished list and look at the untouched piles of "to dos". I have tried to focus on daily intent by asking,

- what are the non-negotiables of my day?...carve out time for these.
- what builds wisdom in the heart of my family?...have I read the Word of God?
- what produces growth and a deeper sense of God?...am I watching for God/giving thanks?
- how am I going to listen to God today rather than simply talking to Him?...am I ever quiet?
- how can I be prepared to be a testimony of the gospel today?...have I prayed to be prepared?
- have I armored myself? My children? My husband?...by showing love? Grace? speaking truth?

And then I have prayed the above verses with thanksgiving, structured my day, and as evening falls I rest in God's providential control. This is a walk of faith; an active guarding of my heart. Let's walk together – live with intent.

This newsletter is designed as an information bullet aiming to answer the overarching question, "WHAT'S GOING ON?" I hope that this will give you a clear sense of the many opportunities that are offered as we partner with you to the glory of God.

Shepherding A Child's Heart—Tedd Tripp Seminar

It's not too late to buy your tickets for this parenting seminar. Friday, August 26 at 7 pm and Saturday, August 27 at 8:30 am in the Worship Center Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased in the front office or at the door. This will be an excellent time of instruction and encouragement.

Sunday Morning(Stepping Stones/Bridge/Curriculum)

We offer Sunday school at 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 am for preschool children, 9:30 and 11:00 for school age children K-4th grade and at 9:30 am for 5-6th graders. We strongly encourage our school age children to attend Sunday School and worship service so that they receive instruction and opportunities to worship with their own peers and with the larger community of faith. *Our children learn in grade teams – STEPPING STONES is K, 1st and 2nd, 3rd and 4th and THE BRIDGE is 5th and 6th.* Each team follows a large group instruction model followed by small shepherding groups designed for conversation and application.

Sunday Night (SNS/THE BRIDGE)

Sunday Night Stuff (SNS) begins on SEPTEMBER 11th and runs through November 20th. It begins at 5:30 and ends at 7:00. Programming is designed for preschool children that are 3 by October 1st and older along with children in grades K-4th. In addition our 5th-6th grade students experience **The BRIDGE on SUNDAYS** on the 3rd floor. Both programs provide recreation, fellowship and a more casual atmosphere for building thoughtful, Christ honoring relationships.

FNW/WNW

FNW/WNW is offered on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month. FNW is designed with our multi-generational family of faith in mind with a particular emphasis on our families with children. WNW follows a more traditional structure and includes a program for our oldest preschool children through 3rd grade. All year we have studied God's unfolding plan of redemption. In September we will study Isaiah, October is Nehemiah, November is John the Baptist, and December is Christ.

MOPS/STORYTIME

MOPS is an ongoing outreach to Moms of Preschoolers that meets on the 3rd Monday of each month in the Middle School Room. Our FIRST MOPS will be September 19th from 6:30-8:00. This is a fun time for fellowship, laughter, and encouragement. We often have food and a guest speaker. Childcare is provided. In addition, THIS YEAR beginning in October, MOPS is going to sponsor a **Preschool Story Time** in the Connection Center. Make plans NOW to join us for stories, crafts, and time in the Bouncy House. This is designed as a MOPS outreach opportunity...invite your friends and mark your calendar!

Missions – OCC/Trunks/Gift for Christ

The Fall season is always a very missional time at Living Hope. Here are the upcoming outreach dates/opportunities so that you can begin praying and planning now.

OCC

Our annual OCC Shoebox packing Party is on September 18th at 3:30 in the Student Building. We are asking our children to donate specific items to fill the boxes. We will be collecting these items through Sunday September 12th. On the night of our packing party, you can bring a filled box and/or fill a box with us using the supplies that have been provided through donations. Details will come home beginning this Sunday and information will be available on-line and at church. It is our goal to fill over 400 boxes to be sent to children all over the world. This is a great, child-friendly outreach that is sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. (<http://www.samaritanspurse.org>)

GIFT FOR CHRIST

Gift for Christ Sunday is November 20th. This is LHBC's largest mission offering of the year. This is also a time for your family to set a giving goal for GIFT FOR CHRIST and experience the joy of supporting missions throughout the world. Your children will bring home their GFC bread banks in October and offer them at the altar on GIFT FOR CHRIST Sunday.

TRUNKS OF TREATS

Trunks of Treats will be on Halloween Night, Monday, October 31st. Begin NOW to design your trunk with a Bible story decorating theme and JOIN US for this community outreach event. Many bags of candy need to be donated; volunteers are needed; trunks are needed...this is a GREAT, EASY way to GET INVOLVED. Mark your calendar and watch for details!!