

**- Children and Youth Ministries Area Report –  
Church Hall Meeting  
Plans for 2016**

**Goal – Making Disciples**

**Family Focus**

**Childcare (NOT babysitting!)** -In 2015, part-time childcare workers and a supervisor were added to CUMC staff to provide childcare for families who would like to attend Worship, Grow and Connect events. The new childcare staff absolutely love their jobs and look forward to anytime they can work with CUMC children. Besides Sunday mornings, childcare is offered (at no charge to the families) on Sunday, Tuesday and Friday evenings.

**Family Events Planned**

- Family Night – 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday every other month
- Date Night with Explorer Groups offered for Grades K-2 and 3-5

**Spiritual Growth**

- Would like to offer Sunday School for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders at 11:00.
- Children’s Church offered during the 8:15 and 11:00 worship services
- Overnight retreat for children scheduled for March at Camp JoyEL.
- Spring retreat for youth at the Great Wolf Lodge April 2-3.
- Small group discussions on Sunday evenings at Youth Group.
- Youth assisting with children’s Sunday School and Children’s Church.

**Fellowship and Fun**

- Mini Youth Group now meets 2 times each month – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays and has been embarking upon a “Destination Unknown” theme.
- Youth Group every Sunday evening with 40+ kids coming weekly
- Parties for Youth (at the 2015 Christmas Party, there were 53 youth in attendance)
- Snow tubing, Nerf night, etc.

**Little Lights Learning Center**

- **Children’s Sabbath Children’s (October)** - The Sparks Choir and a large group of children from Little Lights participate in worship services and sing several numbers.
- **Christmas Program** – The children from Little Lights annually sing and perform various numbers at a Christmas program in the Sanctuary.
- **Little Lights Readers** – CUMC volunteers regularly read books and assist Little Lights teachers in their classrooms.
- **Little Lights/CUMC End of Summer Celebration (August)** – A combined LLLC and CUMC event for families at the Carlisle Pool. Food, games, and time for teachers and families to hang out together.
- **Little Lights will go caroling** to a local nursing home and send special invitations to the CUMC LAMS residing there.

- **Little Lights will participate in the American Cancer's Society's Relay for Life** with part of the funding to assist a family with a child who attends Little Lights who is battling cancer.

### **Community Outreach**

- **Community Easter Egg Hunt at Mt. Asbury (March 26)** – New this year a baby/toddler egg hunt in addition to hunts for kids Pre K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Easter activities and snacks too.
- **NEW Summer Series Vacation Bible School** with a new name "SEEK" (Summer Encounter Experience for Kids) Tuesdays 6-8 pm July 12-Aug 16<sup>th</sup>. Kick off at LeTort Park with dinner at 5:30 pm with intentional invitations to community families.
- **Harvest of the Arts (Fall)** – CUMC will once again participate in this community event with games, refreshments and an opportunity to talk to interested persons about the CUMC children's program.
- **Breakfast at Bethlehem (first Sat of Dec)** – CUMC families, Little Lights families and other families in the community will be invited for breakfast at the Inn of Bethlehem where they will meet the innkeeper and others who were there the night of Jesus' birth.

### **Mission**

- Youth mission trips (July 9-16 Kentucky and July 24-30 Virginia Beach)
- Combined Youth and Adult mission trip to the Bahamas (June 19-25)
- Sharing with the congregation at worship services

### **Volunteer Appreciation**

- Volunteer teacher and leader appreciation through notes, small gifts, and meals
- Mini campaign for volunteers

### **Where You (the Congregation) Can Help**

- Children's Ministry volunteers are needed to teach and assist with Sunday school, children's church, and family events. Volunteers can commit to one Sunday a month or one service a month. Volunteers will need to get all of the necessary clearances though before they can help.
- Support Youth Mission Trip Fundraisers, e.g. Hoss's –February 28 and Rent-a-kid.
- Give a financial gift
- Pray for our children and youth AND our staff and volunteer leaders