



Leading students to follow hard after Jesus

Community Bible Church Student Ministries

Parent Update

January 2008 issue

From CBC's Youth Leadership Team

2008 Is Here!

Were you aware that this year has been designated *THE YEAR OF THE POTATO* (by the United Nations, in recognition of its potential to feed the world's growing population)? Here are a few more for 2008: *THE YEAR OF THE RAT* (Chinese calendar zoo collection); *THE YEAR OF THE REEF* (protect your local coral reef); *THE YEAR OF THE FROG* (tagline: "keeping threatened amphibian species afloat"); and *THE YEAR OF SANITATION* (those UN folks are busy).

I don't know how year designations are created (this may as well be *THE YEAR TO HONOR PARENTS OF TEENAGERS!*), but our prayer is that 2008 provides many opportunities to grow closer as families and also deeper in relationship with our Savior Jesus Christ.

Greetings! This *Parent Update* is for parents of students in the youth ministries of Community Bible Church (CBC): KICKS (7th and 8th graders) and TREK (9th through 12th graders). We hope you enjoy the updates, pictures, and information. These winter months will soon lead to the warmth of spring – always exciting times for student ministries. Read on!



KICKS students complete during their "Merry New Year Party"



TREK van to SBYC

This newsletter is also on the web at www.cbckansas.org/youth_ministries.php. (Click "Parent Update").

Youth Leadership Team

The Youth Leadership Team (YLT) serves to provide oversight and direction to the student ministries of CBC: KICKS and TREK plus youth Sunday School. The group ensures the leadership, planning, and policies are consistent with the overall church vision of building relation-

ships with God, family, and community.



If you as a parent have any questions or concerns, please contact any of the Youth Leadership Team (contact

information is on the back page).

We greatly value your student and are grateful for the opportunity to partner with you. We want to ensure we are doing what we can to encourage him or her on their spiritual journey through the teen-age years.

KICKS & TREK Events — Fall Semester Review...

Both KICKS and TREK were well-attended last semester and continue to have much energy and excitement. Below are some photos from the fall 2007 semester.

KICKS and TREK did two events together during the fall semester. The first was the Fall Party at the Stutzman's in October. The Fall Party was

a great night of games, food, worship, and teaching - Pastor Tom's challenge was based on the theme of "Thirsty" (Jeremiah 17:5-7).

The second combined event was bell-ringing. Students and sponsors rang bells for seven hours on December 20 at the Olathe Wal-Mart, raising funds for the Salvation Army.

KICKS also had a "Merry New Year" Party to start 2008.

TREK had a full semester of activities, including a Video Scavenger Hunt, a fundraiser meal, the annual youth conference ("SDYC" - this year in Hillsboro, Kansas), a Christmas Party, a Start of 2008 Party, and various service projects.

Fall Party for KICKS & TREK



3-legged kickball at the Fall Party



Worship in the barn



A bonding moment...



Traditional pumpkin toss



TREK Caroling at Grandma Pat's



TREK Mexican Christmas Party



TREK at SDYC in Hillsboro



KICKS New Year Party



Bell-ringers in action

KICKS Updates

KICKS meets each Wednesday of the school year from 6:30-8:00pm at CBC. Bible study topics have centered around the 30 core truths of Christianity (www.dare2share.org/soulfuel/archives). Current leaders are Donovan Funk, Tom and Debbie Hardy, Marilyn Friesen, Elisabeth Cartney, and Grant Lacina.

The big KICKS event coming this semester is the **“He’in & She’in KICKS Retreat” April 11-12 at God’s Mountain Camp (near Joplin, MO)**. Mark your calendars now and make plans for your child to attend. This Friday night/Saturday event will include games, food, and times of worship, teaching, and small group interaction. Pastor Tom is the speaker, and he will lead sessions on God’s purpose for sex/sexuality and understanding the value of purity and



high cost of failure. *In preparation for the retreat, a special “Parents-Only” session will take place in March (a Saturday to be named later - stay tuned for details) where Pastor Tom will share the content of the sessions and address any questions and concerns. In the meantime, if you have questions about the “He’in & She’in KICKS Retreat” or issues with the*

April 11-12 dates, please contact Donovan Funk (764-9294). Please plan to attend the Parents-Only session in March.

Other KICKS calendar items:

- No KICKS spring break week (March 19).
- May 7 is the Awana Fair, and KICKS students will serve by helping at the event booths.
- KICKS will continue to meet every Wednesday through the month of May.

Junior High Sunday School has been taught by Russ & Marilyn Friesen and also by Jack & Lori Houghton. They are leading students on a year-long study of Jesus based on the Student Life Bible Study curriculum.

TREK Updates

TREK meets Thursday evenings 6:30-8:30 throughout the year. The theme for the school year has been “Doors.” Much of the fall was focused on the “Doorway to Truth” using the concept of the “Mythbusters” TV show to help debunk myths of our culture. Other “Doorways” included healing, peace, service, reality, and a “glorious New Year.” Future topics include doorways to worship, to purity, and to compassion.

Last November, TREK took a Thursday to visit DeSoto Youth Ministries, a community youth group which also meets on Thursdays. We hope to meet with DYM again this semester.

The last Thursdays of most months are “Game Nights”. It’s been a good night for students to bring friends to introduce them to youth group.

Several TREK events are coming up, so mark your calendars:



- February 3: Super Bowl Party at CBC (5pm start)
- February 8: Valentine’s Banquet (TREK is helping serve and also doing childcare for the CBC event)
- February 22-23: 30-Hour Famine (fundraiser for World Vision - check out www.30hourfamine.org)
- February 24: TREK fundraiser



meal (before CBC’s Family Gathering - starts at noon)

- March 13: Spring break activity (to be announced)
- March 20: No TREK - Maundy Thursday service at CBC
- March 30: Tentative date for a Youth Sunday
- April 15: Senior celebration (sponsors and graduates)
- April 19: Service project at Kansas City Rescue Mission

Stay tuned for details about a summer mission trip. Talks are underway with the ministry in Toronto where CBC sent a team in late December.

Sunday School is taught by Pam Frase and David & Lisa Bender. They are using the same curriculum on Christ as the Junior High group.

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This is a "parent update" from the Youth Leadership Team (YLT) at Community Bible Church (CBC). YLT sends three updates per year to keep parents informed of the student ministries at CBC: **KICKS** (students in grades 7-8) and **TREK** (students in grades 9-12). If you have questions or concerns related to student ministries, please contact any of the YLT members below:

- Amy Cartney: 782-2999
- Pam Frase: 764-5957
- Russ Friesen (youth pastor): 522-2896
- Donovan Funk: 764-9294
- Raimund Guensche: 894-9411
- Kyle Zoellner: 371-7001

Discipline Reminders

Healthy boundaries and guidelines are needed to promote a fun, safe, learning experience for students. Given the natural energy and passion of students, behavior could occasionally be an issue not appropriate for a learning environment. For that reason, the YLT has set up discipline guidelines for CBC youth group settings and events.

3-step method for discipline issues:

1. **Look** (eye contact, clear warning)
2. **Move** (move student to different seat or have sponsor sit beside them)
3. **Remove** (adult sponsor takes student out of room to parent or designated adult)

If a student is removed, the adult sponsor will follow-up with the stu-

dent to make sure they understand the guidelines/purpose; also, the parents will be notified.

If a student is removed a second time, the student will be asked to miss 2 weeks. Parents will again be notified. The leader should communicate their desire for the student returning with excitement for appropriate participation.

Note that the goal is not *punishment* (where the focus is on the rules and misbehavior) but *discipline* (focuses on future good behavior and corrective training).

We desire that all students feel valued and cared for. If you have questions about these procedures contact Russ or another YLT member.

Final Word...

It is a privilege to serve CBC in the student and worship ministries. This coming June will be the start of my 8th year of serving full-time in these roles at CBC – God has been so good to me and to my family in these years and I look forward to what He will do in the years to come. I have been afforded a sabbatical opportunity that I am planning on taking this summer. The timeframe and scope is in the planning stages, but I will likely take 2 months (mid-June to mid-August) to refresh, study, and recharge. CBC has been blessed by many gifted and talented people who will have more opportunity to lead during this time. Thank you for your encouragement and prayers!
In Christ's service,