

Our mission is to: Know, Love, and Follow Jesus**“Deep and Wide” Thoughts from Doug**

Recently I was invited to endorse a new book coming out sometime in the near future. The title of the book will be “Sustainable Children’s Ministry.” I just finished the manuscript, and it has been beneficial to me in thinking about how we structure the ministry here so that it will never be dependent on me or any one person.

While reading this manuscript to endorse I also had the added benefit of learning even more about what it means to shepherd this important ministry.

The following is part two of my observations:

One section is called “Tracking the Who.” This section reminds the children’s pastor/leader “If we’re not careful, our ministries can revolve around what rather than who, the children and families for which our ministries actually exist.” (p. 57, Sustainable Children’s Ministry, DeVries/Safstrom).

FM KIDS cares far more about who belongs to us. Every name counts, every name is a person. We value children and families equally.

All our teachers and leaders want to be more than a chaperone; they want to be a shepherd. They want your kid to be known, be loved and experience belonging.

Every week I sit down with the sign in/out sheets and track attendance so we can better know who has been here and who has been missing. We would not want anyone to have been gone for an extended time and feel as though they were forgotten.

Sunday is our primary time to be together, so we highly recommend and strongly encourage you to be here as often as possible. The more you are here, the more your kid feels comfortable, the more we get to know you, the more you get to know us, and the more we grow to know, love and serve Jesus!

Going wider and deeper,

Doug

Email: doug@fmcsb.org

Text: 805-252-3216

Office: 805-965-1338 x224

**Know, Love,
and Serve
Jesus!**

COMING EVENTS

October 28 – Fall Family Festival

November 10 – Parents Night Out

November 19 – All Church
Thanksgiving Dinner

December 2 – Parents Christmas
Shopping Time

January 26 – Parents Night Out

February 6 – Parent Seminar with Dr.
Andrea Gurney

MASTER CALENDAR

Master Calendars for the 2017-2018 school year will be available at the “Welcome Station,” or you may find a copy on our fmcsb.org/children web page. This will give you a good “snapshot” of the entire year to come.

REGISTRATION

Thanks to all who have registered. We are getting caught up and can now do an even better job knowing who belongs to us. If you have not completed a registration form, Nancy Ranck will help you.



All Church Family Picnic



RESOURCE

DOING GOOD TOGETHER: This national nonprofit has programs and plans to help families volunteer and serve together in their communities. The aim is to promote kindness and goodness and to create a new generation of volunteers. <http://www.doinggoodtogether.org/>

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“Young people learn to be trusted (and to trust) much the same way they learn to walk, not by first demonstrating it as an achievement, but by being encouraged, supported, and assured by those who have been through it themselves.”

Eugene H. Peterson, *LIKE DEW YOUR YOUTH*, Eerdmans Publishing 1994, p.43

Fall Family Festival

FALL FAMILY FESTIVAL

Saturday, October 28 is the date for **Fall Family Festival 2017**. Our two lower church parking lots will be transformed into a “fun zone” for kids and families of Free Methodist Church, Cliff Drive Care Center and the whole community. Games, prizes, photos, cake walks, bounce house and a yummy barbecued lunch, will all be a part of the day. Don't forget “Trunk or Treat” where people take the trunk of their cars, decorate it and add some sweets!

The festival begins at 11:30 am and ends around 2:30 pm.

We'd love for you to participate and help too. Sign-ups will be happening soon!

Invite your friends!!!



All
Church
Family
Picnic



ALL CHURCH PICNIC

One of our favorite traditions, as a church family, is to come together for the All Church Picnic at Stow Grove Park. What a great time we had at the end of August playing games, bouncing, making bracelets, painting rocks and even faces. It was fun hanging out with all the kids and families. Check out a few of the pictures!!! (Pictures also on pages 2 and 3.)



PLEASE CALL ME (Doug) if you want to talk about how your child is doing, if you have any questions about helping you and your child grow deeper in your faith, or if you just want to talk. I am here for you! My cell phone is 805- 252-3216.