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# **Kids 4 Christ Update**

*for volunteers & supporters of Kids 4 Christ* 

March / April 2005

## **Big Plans for Spring 2005**

### ***Kids 4 Christ Offers Many Opportunities for Service, Giving***

As the weather warms up this spring, Kids 4 Christ is rolling out a long list of new projects, programs, and opportunities for serving God. On April 16th K4C will host a pancake breakfast fundraiser - a delicious way of raising money to buy a new bus. If that isn't enough of a mouthful, Kids 4 Christ will also be hosting a mothers' brunch on May 11 to bring mothers of K4C children together for food, fellowship, and inspiration.

Bible camp is coming up again in June, and K4C will once again be sending children for a week of fun and worship. Sponsors are needed to make sure every child who earns a camp trip gets to go.

In mid-April K4C will have a regular staff meeting to bring volunteers up to date on their teaching skills and provide

them with some basic first-aid training. That meeting will also begin the process of assigning volunteers to new jobs for the upcoming class year.

For those who want to help the community's disadvantaged but cannot work on Wednesdays or prefer to give through material donations, K4C is working with another organization setting up a new food and clothing ministry in LaFayette. The Care Mission, opening in June, will give the area's struggling families a resource to help them get back on their feet and fill the gap left by the closing of Kids 4 Christ's clothing ministry.

Those opportunities and more are detailed inside this edition of the k4C Update. Anyone who has put off doing more for God can find plenty of chances to give or serve within the pages of this newsletter.

# Recent Happenings

## Service Points Program

To reward volunteers who faithfully give of their time each week, Kids 4 Christ on March 1 introduced Service Points. Volunteers receive Service Points for each hour spent working on K4C programs or special events and trips (excluding administrative jobs and board meetings). Volunteers can also get points for wearing their name tags during K4C events, calling ahead when absent, and for other actions considered "above the call of duty" by the director. Volunteers with the most points will be recognized in the Update newsletter and during a volunteer appreciation banquet held at the end of the year.

## Skating Trip

On January 22nd, Kids 4 Christ took 27 children to Chamlee's Roller Rink in Trion to reward them for good attendance. The children selected had all missed one or no Wednesday Bible classes during the last quarter (Oct-Nov-Dec) of 2004. All the children and adults who participated had a lot of fun, especially the few younger kids who had never been skating before.

Beyond just encouraging children to attend, the reward outings show parents that K4C cares about their children. The January trip led to the parents of several children getting involved with the program as volunteers - parents who are now regularly exposed to God's word.

Since January 2004 K4C has had a pizza party, took kids bowling, went on a hayride, and went skating twice to reward perfect attendance. The next outing, number six, will be a trip to Chickamauga Battlefield Park on April 16th to fly kites, hike, and picnic. With the Park outing and Pancake Breakfast held on the same day back-to-back, this is an excellent opportunity for supporters who come eat to also join the kids on a trip.

## The Care Mission

Almost one year after the K4C clothes program was shut down, another program to help needy families is being created in the city of LaFayette.

K4C volunteers Den & Kendra Phillips (of Catlett Community Church) and Ringgold-based Here I Am, Inc. are setting up The Care Mission, a free food and clothing program for families going through hard times. Care Mission will be located in LaFayette inside the former Real Deal building, on the corner of S. Chattanooga and W. Patton St.

Families using the Mission's services will be screened to make sure they are truly in need, and a thrift store operating in the same building will raise funds to cover expenses. Kids 4 Christ will refer needy families to Care Mission, and Care Mission will promote K4C to its clients. K4C will also work with Care on joint fundraising projects.

Care Mission is working now to get their operation going, and plan to open to the public on June 1st. Right now Care needs clothing donations, volunteers, and financial support to cover startup costs. The building will be open for donations or donor visits on Saturdays from 10 to 4. For more information about The Care Mission, please call the Phillips at 423 645 8623.

## Special Thanks To...

Kids 4 Christ is extremely appreciative to everyone who recently contributed to the apple juice collection and the church members who provided literally thousands of Little Debbie cakes for the kids.

*"Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me."*

*-Matt. 25:40b (CEV)*

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## Ministry Milestones

Average Wednesday night attendance during January & February: **92**

Highest attendance during January & February: **99** (Feb. 16)

New children attending for the first time during January & February: **17**

Churches represented by active K4C volunteers: **8**

# Noteworthy Needs

## Bible Camp Sponsorships

This summer K4C will again be sending at least 20 children to Bible camp for a week. But individuals are needed to sponsor children and help pay for the cost of sending them.

Five children from each K4C class (Kindergarten and up) can earn a trip to Camp New Dawn by memorizing Bible verses. While at camp children will play sports, hike, wade, have Bible study, and participate in many other fun activities. (For more information about Camp New Dawn, call director Jennie Chandler at (706) 539 2324.)

K4C will pay the full price of their attendance, provide some limited spending money, and transport the children to and from camp. Sponsors will need to pledge \$25 per child in order to cover most of these expenses. Pledges will be due by May 11th so camp fees can be paid in time.

## New Bus Drive

To safely keep up with growing attendance and reduce insurance costs, Kids 4 Christ needs to replace one of its older 15 passenger vans with a newer 25-passenger church bus. In order to do that, K4C needs to raise at least ten thousand dollars to spend on the new vehicle. That amount of money is well outside the organization's regular budget, so K4C will once again turn to generous community supporters to bridge the funding gap and help buy a new bus by mid-summer. If you feel led to contribute to the bus collection, please contact K4C.

## School Supplies

Kids 4 Christ is planning to once again give away free school supplies to children when school starts back in the fall. To provide the supplies, K4C needs families to save their kids' used bookbags in May when school ends. K4C will be collecting these bags throughout the summer. Local churches and community groups are encouraged to set out bookbag collection boxes again to repeat the successful bag collection efforts of last summer.

## Open Volunteer Positions

### ●Family Care Minister

To build relationships with the families of children who attend class each week, K4C needs Family Care Ministers to visit children at home, talk to their parents, and look for spiritual and financial needs in their lives. This job can be done any time of the week and would be ideal for someone who cannot participate in Wednesday activities because of work or church obligations.

### ●Class Assistants

In order to successfully teach, K4C teachers need other Christians to help kids listen and learn in class. Assistants are needed on Wednesdays from 5:00 to 7:30.

### ●Vehicle Chaperones

Chaperones ride on a K4C bus or van to help keep the children calm and under control. Chaperones also help drivers handle route checklists. Service is needed on Wednesdays from 5:00 to 6:00 and 7:30 to 8:30. Chaperones can choose to do only one of the trips if they want to help but still attend outside church services.

*This is the ideal time for new volunteers to sign up with Kids 4 Christ because many new jobs will be opening up this summer when the new class year begins.*

## After School Program

Session 1 of the Cool After School program had a modest start, and Session 2 will be even smaller, a session held for children who could not participate in the first meetings. But in the fall K4C hopes to start the after school program again on a larger scale, allowing more children to receive homework help and tutoring.

In order to meet those needs, K4C needs adult who can tutor children one-on-one. This is an excellent ministry opportunity for retired teachers, but any adult who can do basic math or help a child read can participate. Volunteers would need to be available on Tuesday afternoons when After School meetings are usually held.

*If you can help with any of these needs, please contact K4C (see info on back page). Please remember all of these needs in your daily prayers.*

# ***Schedule of Events***

**March 8: *K4C Cool After School Session 1 Ends***

**March 8, 7 PM: *K4C Ministries Board of Directors Meeting***

**March 30, 6 to 7:30 PM: *Illusions for the Lord***

Pastor and noted illusionist Jerome Rewis will present “magic” to the children of K4C while using his talents to present the Gospel message. Regular activities will be postponed one week.

**April 3 to April 10: *Spring Break for Walker County Schools***

**April 12: *K4C Cool After School Session 2 Begins***

**April 12, 7 PM: *K4C Volunteer Staff Meeting***

Regularly scheduled staff meeting for all active and potential K4C volunteers. The meeting will focus on safety, with first aid training presented by Dr. John Emberson. Gail and Karen will also present teaching tips they recently learned during a conference in Atlanta. Volunteers should be prepared to decide what jobs they want during the next class year.

**April 16, 7 to 11 AM: *Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser***

Community pancake breakfast to be held at the K4C building. Adult plates are \$4, child plates \$2. Each plate includes pancakes, sausage, and drink for dine in or carry out. Tickets available March 16th through April 15th from K4C, First Baptist, First Methodist, Antioch, and Center Grove. All ticket sales will benefit the K4C Bus Drive.

**April 16, 1 to 3 PM: *Kites in the Park Good Attendance Outing***

After the Pancake Breakfast, K4C will take children with good attendance during Jan/Feb/March on a reward outing to the Chickamauga Battlefield Park. While at the park kids will hike, fly kites, and eat a picnic lunch. Adult chaperones are still needed for this fun trip.

**May 10, 7 PM: *K4C Ministries Board of Directors Meeting***

**May 14, 11 AM: *Mothers' Brunch***

Reaching out to the families of participating children, K4C will host a mothers' brunch the Saturday after Mothers' Day. Women who attend will be given a free brunch and receive an inspirational presentation from Dr. Andrea Clayton. All women who participate in K4C as volunteers are encouraged to attend this event and bond with the kids' mothers.

*These scheduled events may be changed or canceled as necessary.*

*For an up-to-date list, please see the Web schedule at [www.k4c.info/schedule/](http://www.k4c.info/schedule/)*

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