



Kid's Page

By: Colleen McDonald
To: The church's young people and their families

DECEMBER 5, 2007



CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Here are the plans for December 9:

Babies – 3's will have story time and sharing time, snack, and play time.

This is *Make a Difference* Sunday for the Pre-K – Senior High classes.
There will be several different activities:

- 1) Pre-K – Senior High will start upstairs** in the sanctuary, to participate in a *Child Dedication* ceremony.
- 2)** Next, these groups will go to the *chapel* to learn about this month's service organization, *Heifer, International*. **Sue Lantz** will tell about the tree-planting and bee hive projects, and how you can help.
- 3)** After the chapel program, you will go back to your classes to help the R.E. Committee with their *evaluation*—What do you think of the changes in this year's church school program? What do you like best? What would make our program better?



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
to ***Molly Ruiz*** (Dec. 9, 10 years old) and ***Aiden Kimel*** (Dec. 14, 2 years old).

MORE MONEY FOR UNICEF!

Thanks to ***Ren Campos*** for trick-or-treating for UNICEF.

A CHRISTMAS SHOP FOR YOU

You can buy gifts for your family at the Motherhouse holiday shop for young people up to 12 years old; everything there costs between \$1 and \$6. The store is at the Clock Tower (in the space that used to be *Figs* restaurant). It will be open weekends (Dec. 8, 9, 15, and 16) between 10 AM and 6 PM. The sales help support Motherhouse, which helps parents and offers emergency child care.

POETRY CORNER

Hideout by ***Aileen Fisher***

They looked for me and from my nook
inside the oak I watched them look.
Through little slits between the leaves
I saw their looking legs and sleeves.
They would have looked all over town
except—I threw some acorns down.

[Who is the *me* in this poem?]



COLLEEN'S COLUMN



Thanks to everyone who helped our 4th/5th grade class collect dog bones, newspaper, towels, and other supplies for Winnebago County Animal Services. They collected a carload of stuff!



Last Saturday **Rame & Karen Diamond, Valerie & Dianne Stenerson, Shari Smallwood**, and I dropped off the donations and got a tour of the building.

A staff member named Donna showed us around and answered our questions. I learned a lot! Did you know...

The number of pets and the number of people in Winnebago County are about the same. Most people with pets have more than one.

Sometimes the shelter runs out of room for cats, but that doesn't happen with dogs.

(Many fewer dogs end up at the Shelter.)

All the cages, bowls, and litter boxes at the Shelter are cleaned every day. (And the litter is changed daily.)

There is an area outside the shelter where the cats and dogs can be taken for fresh air when the weather is good. (This area includes a run for the dogs.)

Each dog at the shelter is tested to see whether s/he bites. Unless the animal is very young and can be trained, dogs that bite are not eligible to be adopted.

The shelter has its own surgery room. Before they can be adopted, puppies and kittens (and sometimes older animals) who arrive at the shelter are given surgery so they cannot reproduce (make more puppies and kittens).

Many times the computer chips in lost pets do not help the shelter find the pet's family, because the family has moved and not given the shelter their new address.

If you go to our shelter to adopt an animal, someone will help you pick out a pet that is right for you and your family.

Donna told us that volunteers help the shelter in many different ways, including teaching people about pet care, raising money, making cat toys, cleaning cages, and playing with the animals. Before we left, Shari got a volunteer application so that she can help!

Another way to help the shelter is to visit zootoo.com. This is a website where you can read about pets, post photos of your pet, and learn about pet care products. Through zootoo.com, you can earn points for the shelter. If the shelter gets enough points, it can win money to make some improvements. (For example, the shelter would like to be able to add a room where cats who get along with other cats can roam free, without having to be in a cage.)

You can learn even more about our county shelter by visiting its website, www.wcasrock.org.

Love, **Colleen**

PARENTS CORNER

This is the second part of a parents' peace blessing, created by **Naomi Drew**:

"May we each do our best to live the words of Gandhi: 'We must be the change we wish to see in others,' and may we know we are not

alone when we struggle, stumble, and sometimes even fall. Every minute of our lives is an opportunity to do better, so each minute we live gives us another chance -- an unparalleled gift for which to be supremely thankful."

Peaceful Parents newsletter, 11/07