

# ***Kids 4 Christ Update***

**May & June 2004**

[www.k4c.info](http://www.k4c.info)

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## **K4C Increases Recruitment Efforts**

### ***Community Events Grow Interest, Volunteers Still Badly Needed***

During the months of March and April, Kids 4 Christ volunteers increased their efforts to make the community more aware of the group and its activities.

Representatives attended a missions fair at Peavine Baptist in late March and spoke at several other churches in April, attempting to recruit new volunteers for the children's ministry. We also held an open house in late April for the same purpose.

Those visits were successful on several levels, resulting in dozens of new people added to the K4C mailing list and several generous financial contributions. But so far we have been unable to get more of the scarcest resource: volunteer time.

The future success of Kids 4 Christ hinges on the availability of more people willing to give up free time in order to work with LaFayette's at-risk children. Financial and material support is important, but those contributions are useless without workers.

With Wednesday attendance trending upward for three straight months and several special events on the horizon this summer, K4C needs new volunteers now more than ever before.

More children attend class each week, regardless of how many volunteers we have. At the current rate of growth we will soon have to tell new children they cannot come to church because we don't have the people to keep them safe in class or during their ride in.

# March & April Happenings

## K4C Creates Advisory Board

As Kids 4 Christ continues to grow larger, running the group becomes a larger responsibility. Since K4C began in June 2002, Team Leader Gail Marks has shouldered all of the leadership duties, making every crucial decision by herself.

One person can only do so much, so to reduce the Team Leader's responsibility we have created an advisory board to distribute the load of decision making among more people. The Team Leader will still handle day to day operations, but major decisions will be voted on by the board.

The K4C advisory board members are: Mike Wade (Center Grove), Karen Oakes (Naomi), Terry Smith (Naomi), and Rev. Jim Powell (Center Grove).

These people were chosen for the advisory board because of their strong Christian backgrounds, business experience, and long-term involvement with K4C.

## Indoor Yard Sale Successful

The sale held on March 26 and 27 was very successful, raising more than \$300 for the children's ministry. Items sold included books, home decor items, toys, exercise equipment, and other items not appropriate for the clothing ministry or crisis room. A small number of items sold were donated to K4C specifically for the yard sale.

## Camp Trip Winners

Thanks to generous community support and their own hard work, 26 children have qualified to attend Bible camp for free this summer. The kids earned the trips by memorizing verses, attending class, and doing homework assignments. Thanks to generous Christians, we have raised more than \$1300 for this purpose. Donations beyond the cost of sending kids will be donated to Camp New Dawn.

## LFO Coach Speaks to Kids

On April 4th, Lakeview-Fort Oglethorpe football coach John Allen visited Kids 4 Christ. Allen spoke to the children about his own childhood and how he overcame abuse to accomplish God's will in his life. All of the kids were very attentive and one accepted Christ after the coach's talk.

## Good Attendance Skating Trip

23 children who had excellent attendance during the first quarter went on a K4C-sponsored skating trip on Saturday, April 10th. Everyone had a wonderful time, especially the handful of kids who never skated before.

## Web Site Relaunch

Several weeks ago we relaunched an all new Kids 4 Christ Web site. The new site features more information, photos, need listings, and a form to donate over the Internet using PayPal. [www.k4c.info](http://www.k4c.info)

## Monthly Milestones

Average Wednesday night attendance in March and April: **63**

Highest Kids 4 Christ attendance on a Wednesday: **73**

Postcards mailed to children during April: **49**

Total meals served during the first 4 months of 2004: **997**

# Noteworthy Needs

## Book Bag Collection

This spring as school ends, save those used book bags, backpacks, and satchels. We are collecting those items so we can give them away to disadvantaged children during our Back 2 School Blast cookout in July. We hope to fill each bag with new school supplies and have enough for every child who attends the event.

Book bag collection boxes are located in several local schools and churches. You can also donate bags directly to K4C by dropping bags off at the clothing ministry during regular hours - Wednesdays 10 to 1 and Saturdays 1 to 3.

## Volunteer Positions

In order to keep up with our growth, K4C needs more lead teachers, classroom assistants, and substitutes for Wednesday nights. These are perfect opportunities for anyone interested in getting hands-on experience with mission work or teaching children.

Vehicle chaperones are still needed to ride on a van or bus with the regular drivers and help with discipline. Chaperones are very important for keeping the children safe. May also be trained to work as sub drivers. School bus license is a plus but not required for the position.

We also need someone who enjoys sports to work as director of recreation. This person will be in charge of planning and supervising (with help) all activities in our gym and on the playground.

## Window Heat & Air Units

As summer starts we are having trouble keeping our old building cool enough for classes. Several small / worn out window AC units need to be replaced, ideally with units that produce both heat and cool air. Those are the most cost and space efficient way to warm and cool the building.

## K4C ADVENTURE! Classes

For two weeks in June we will be teaching some VBS-style classes in three of LaFayette's poorest communities. The main purpose of these classes is to get new children involved with the ministry by going out to neighborhoods where spiritual and physical needs are greatest.

In order for ADVENTURE! to be a success, we need more adult volunteers for the two sessions being held during the week of June 21st. (A youth group and several adults have already agreed to cover the first session during the week of the 14th.)

Teaching skills are not necessary, we just need a few more people to play games, help keep order, and get children's contact information. If you've considered getting involved with K4C but can't commit to working every week, this is something you might want to think about. We also need snacks & drinks for all three sessions.

## Repair & Maintenance Needs

This summer we hope to have some outstanding repair and maintenance needs taken care of. There are many jobs suitable for anyone - skilled and unskilled, individuals or groups. If four or five people would sacrifice one weekend a month, or even two weekends during the summer, we could make a lot of progress towards improving our building and classrooms.

## Clothing Needs

The Clothes Closet is still in desperate need of clothes for babies and infants. Our supply of children's clothing is also very limited, and we have NO t-shirts. T-shirts are in high demand with the weather warming up, and we are unable to meet the community's need for them.

Donations are accepted any time the Clothes Closet is open or can be left outside our Chestnut St. entrance after hours.

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

# ***Schedule of Events***

## **May 22, 2:00 PM - Allstars Championship Wrestling**

Allstar Wrestling is more than just a show, it's the timeless Gospel Message presented in a way that draws in people who just want to be entertained. This event will feature testimonies and outreach along with some good clean family fun. Wrestlers scheduled to appear include The Fabulous One, Nick Rampage, Spitfire, and Jim Powell, among others. We will be providing food and drinks for all who attend, and also have several door prizes to give away. If you plan to attend, please carpool if possible and bring your own lawn chairs.

## **June 6th to 11th - Younger Kids Camp Trip**

During the first full week of June we will be taking the first group of children, 1st - 5th graders, to Bible camp for a week. The kids will be picked up at their homes on Sunday afternoon and will stay at Camp New Dawn until we pick them back up on Friday.

## **June 14-18 & 21-25 - Kids 4 Christ ADVENTURE!**

Our VBS-style Summer classes begin on Monday the 14th at 11 AM in the Hale's Hill housing project. The next two sessions will be taught during the week of the 21st at Simmons Park in Linwood (11:00) and the Glenn St. housing project (1:30). Each session will be taught Monday through Friday and will last approximately 90 minutes each day.

## **Independence Day Schedule Changes**

Kids 4 Christ classes will not be held on July 7th in order for our volunteers to take a well-deserved break and enjoy the July 4th holiday week. The Clothes Closet will not open during the two weeks surrounding Independence Day, June 30th through July 10th.

## **July 3rd / 4th / 5th - LaFayette Freedom Festival**

This year K4C volunteers will be working the crowd at the annual Independence Day celebration in the city rec center. We plan to hand out promotional items and brochures to make the community more aware of what God is doing in West LaFayette. Exact time and date dependent on the rec dept. schedule, to be announced.

## **July 11th to 16th - Older Kids Camp Trip**

In July K4C will take the second group of children to Bible camp for a week. The kids will be picked up at their homes on Sunday afternoon and will stay at Camp New Dawn until we pick them back up on Friday. This trip will be for the middle school grade children.

## **July 24th, 4:00 to 8:00 - Back 2 School Blast 2004**

Last year's back to school cookout was attended by more than 225 people from all over LaFayette. We hope this year's event is more successful and draws more children in to our activities. We will be giving away book bags and school supplies to all the kids who attend.

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

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



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