

MBC CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Summer Camp

Children love to go to camp! Now is the time to sign up for summer 2012. Choose from the following options:

Mother-Daughter Camp– for girls who will have completed 1st-6th grades and their moms. June 18-20 at Camp Mundo Vista. \$145 for 1 mom/daughter or \$185 for 1 mom/2 daughters. Deposit of \$25 is due February 5 and the balance is due March 18.

Father-Son Camp– for boys who will have completed K-5th grade and their dads. July 5-7 at Camp Caraway. \$106 per person. Deposit of \$25/person is due by February 5 and the balance is due March 18.

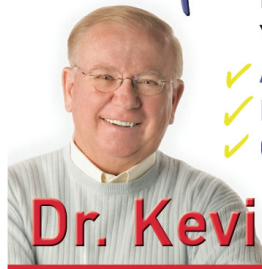
Student Life for Kids Camp– for students who will have completed 4th-6th grades. July 21-24 in Toccoa, Georgia. \$269 per person. Deposit of \$65 is due by January 15 and the balance is due July 1. We will have fundraisers for this camp.

Those in need of assistance with the cost of camp should see Shirley for payment arrangements or about a scholarship. Anyone who would like to make a contribution towards a child's camp costs should also see Shirley.



Parenting Class

Have a
New Kid
by Friday



How to Change
Your Child's

- ✓ Attitude
- ✓ Behavior &
- ✓ Character in **5 Days**

Dr. Kevin Leman

Seasoned parents and those just starting out will all benefit from this biblically based course that will guide parents to make the changes necessary to improve their family life and their child's behavior. Each session begins with a video segment followed by discussion and application. No outside reading is required.

When? Wednesday nights 6-7 pm for six weeks beginning January 18

Where? Masonboro Baptist Church Children's Education Center (Covenant Classroom)

Facilitated by Shirley Womble

Church Nursery Available During Worship Services

It can be challenging to stay engaged in worship if you are trying to keep a small child or baby still and quiet. While children are always welcome to attend worship services with their parents, we also provide a nursery during both worship services every Sunday. The nursery provides loving care for children from birth through four years of age.

Parents are asked to sign their child in and out of the nursery and to leave diapers, bottles, etc. for the nursery workers. Babies up to 2 years of age are cared for in Room 302 while 2-4 years olds are in Room 303.

Our nursery is staffed by carefully screened volunteers who work to ensure every child has a good experience in the nursery. Comfort and care is provided to

every child, but our workers will contact you if your child needs your attention. Pagers are available for parents to make contacting you easy. Volunteers follow our Safety & Security Policies for the safety of all children. Parents are also welcome to stay in the nursery with their child until they feel comfortable leaving him or her.

If you are the parent or soon-to-be parent of a young child and would like to know more about our nursery, please contact Shirley at 395-0343.



PARENTS & VOLUNTEERS:

Children's Ministry Council will meet on January 22 at 12:30 pm in the Library to make plans for this summer's VBS. If you are interested in serving on the council, please contact Shirley.

Permission Forms to participate in church programs along with medical consent forms are needed for EVERY child in our ministry. If you have not filled one out for your child, please do so as soon as possible. Children may not participate in off-campus activities without these forms. See Shirley if you need a new form.

Safety & Security Policies are available. Please obtain your copy from Shirley or check them out on our website (www.masonborobaptist.org). You are asked to follow these guidelines so that we can ensure the safety of all our children. We are in the process of setting guidelines for background screenings which will be required for all new volunteers.

WHAT'S UP & COMING?

January 15- Q56 Camp deposits due.

January 16- 1:30-4 pm- 1st-6th grade ice skating trip. \$5/person.

January 22- 12:30 pm- Children's Ministry Council Meeting- Library.

January 29- Family Day in Worship (both services).

February 5- Mother-Daughter and Father-Son Camp deposits due.

February 17- 3:30-7:30 pm- Jammie Jam at the Children's Museum (2 years-Kindergarten). Meet at the museum and plan to stay with your child. \$8/person.

March 16- 6:30 pm- Family Game Night- Youth Building.

April 1- 1:00 pm- Community Easter Egg Hunt.

April 28- 8:30 am-Noon- Relay for Life- Ashley High School.

April 29- Family Day in Worship (both services).

Additional events will be held. Check our website or your Sunday bulletin for updates!

FAQ

WHEN AND HOW SHOULD I TALK WITH MY CHILD ABOUT SEXUALITY?

Many parents wonder when they should begin talking about sexuality with their child as well as how they should go about it. We all want to pass on biblical values of sexual purity to our children. Knowing how to do so doesn't always come so naturally.

From infancy onward, children are learning to distinguish right from wrong as well as developing an understanding how they fit into God's world. With each new stage comes the need to learn new lessons and reapply old ones to new circumstances. The same is true for the child's developing understanding of sexuality. Parents of young children are wise to start early by laying a strong foundation of trust and acceptance. This will help to keep lines of communication open as your child matures. Using the real names for body parts and helping young children learn the differences between boys and girls will be a helpful start. Those who have older children need to teach not only the physical aspects of sexuality such as what to expect during puberty, but also God's plan for our world including his desire for sexual purity.

Today's child faces enormous social pressure from a surprisingly early age regarding sexuality. Parents of school-aged children are often surprised to find their child already "knows" quite a bit about sex. Children as young as 10 may be pressured to engage in sexual activity. The uninformed child is much more likely to be lured into such a situation. Waiting to let the school teach your child about sex may

get you out of the hot seat, but it will do little to improve your relationship with your child or to instill Christian values from an early age. Avoiding the subject all together will result in a misinformed child who is not prepared to make wise choices.

Many resources are available to help Christian parents teach their children to have a healthy self-image and understanding of sexuality as well as to communicate godly values. I will be happy to recommend books that may be useful for you as a parent or to read with your child. These resources emphasize the goodness of how God has created our bodies and provide the details of the transformation from childhood to adulthood in a tactful way. They also provide opportunities to discuss sexuality with your child in a way that is appropriate for his or her age.

Take advantage of opportunities to teach your child about sexuality as it comes up. Children will often ask questions such as, "How did the baby get out of Miss Kim's tummy?" As a parent you can choose to view this question and others like it as a teachable moment and take advantage of it with an honest age-appropriate answer that doesn't share too much or too little.

As your child nears adolescence, you will want to point out the unhealthy emphasis on sex that is prominent in our society and share God's healthy version of who we are created to be as sexual beings. Equipping children with the words to use to get themselves out of a sticky situation is a valuable investment of time as is being sure they know they can ask you any question they may have without fear of getting into trouble. Continue to monitor your child's exposure to inappropriate expressions of sexuality on TV and in movies, video games, and music throughout the preteen years.

When your child does encounter inappropriate expressions of sexuality, talk about the scene together pointing out how it is contradictory to God's standards. Help your child suggest a more appropriate possibility for the situation.

Sadly many children suffer silently as the victims of sexual abuse. They often believe they are at fault or that they are in danger if they tell anyone. Do not assume your child could never be the victim of such an act. In addition to being vigilant to protect your child from harm it is important that you warn him or her of this danger. One way to discuss this with a child is to say something like, "The areas of your body covered up by your swimsuit are private. No one has the right to touch you in those places without your permission. Your parents or doctor might need to do so in order to keep you clean and healthy, but no one else should. If someone tries to hurt you or makes you feel uncomfortable scream "NO" loudly and run away. Then tell your parents right away about what happened." Frequent reminders of this simple rule can help a child know the difference between appropriate and inappropriate touch and to feel confident telling you about any situations with which they are uncomfortable.

