



Presbyterian Church
of Aotearoa New Zealand

KIDS FRIENDLY News

Synod of Otago and Southland July 2011

Hello everyone

Winter is definitely here with the heavy snow falls of the last week right across the South. It's also school holidays and hopefully that means a well-earned break from the term's rhythm of children's programmes. For some churches it has been all go with holiday programmes!

Holiday Programmes

I was involved with my local church's holiday programme last week and was struck again by the children's enthusiasm and openness to the Good News. Holiday programmes are a LOT of work but so much fun and very worthwhile when you consider....even a 2 hour programme for 4 days is equivalent to AT LEAST a term of Sundays and valuable relationship building with many children who don't come regularly or at all on Sundays. So it's an amazing outreach and privilege. Interested in running one? Contact me or look at the Kids Friendly 'Running a Holiday Programme' resources. Available in PDF from me or if you are a network member access it and over 20 other Kids Friendly resource directly from the PCANZ website, www.presbyterian.org.nz/national-ministries/kids-friendly

Let's share more!

Meeting together with other children's ministry leaders is always encouraging and re-motivating. It was great to see over 25 in Dunedin and 15 in Invercargill gather in June at the Children's Ministry Network meetings. Julie Hintz gave us some great tips on using games. (Any one tried 'Don't eat Larry' yet?) PTO for the next exciting meeting in August in both Dunedin and Invercargill.

Coming Up

AUGUST

4th (Thurs aft) Connect@Croque, Dn

12th PRAY DAY

12-13th Southern Presbytery AGM in Cromwell

20th (Sat am) Puppet workshop with RunRIG
(Sat aft)Chn's Min Network with RunRIG in DUNEDIN

21st (Sun am) Cheryl preaching at Windsor Invercargill.

(Sun aft)Chn's Min Network with RunRIG in INVERCARGILL

SEPTEMBER

8th (Thurs aft) Connect@Croque, Dn

OCTOBER

1st (Sat aft) Chn's Min network, Dunedin
Other centres to be confirmed)

6th (Thurs aft) Connect@Croque, Dn

NOVEMBER

3rd (Thurs aft) Connect@Croque, Dn

11th (Sat 9am-4pm) Children's Ministry conference. Weston, Oamaru

If you are aware of other regional training events, please let me know and I will circulate these as widely as possible to help our children's leaders to connect and be well resourced. For those in the Dunedin area who can make it we are continuing with **Connect@Croque** –an informal but valuable get together on the 1st Thursday of each month, at the Gardens cafe 1:30- 3pm to share resources, ideas and talk about ministry issues. You are welcome!





David Rees from RunRIG ministries will lead 2 exciting sessions (Dunedin and Invercargill) on the use of **sung worship**, and a bonus Sat morning session in Dunedin on making and using **puppets!**

Dunedin - Sung Worship

When: Saturday 20th August, 2.30 to 4.30 pm.

Invercargill - Sung Worship

When: Sunday 21st August, 1.30 to 3.30 pm.

Dunedin – Puppets (Optional Extra)

When: Saturday 20th August, 10.00 to 12.00 pm.

David Rees (AKA Captain Dave) lives in Palmerston and is, as he jokes, 'the CEO & Roadie' of RunRIG Ministries. (Founded in 1999)

RunRIG's aim is to grow high quality relational children's programmes, either directly in what they do, or through training and mentoring others.

All children's ministry leaders (both paid and volunteers) are welcome

Look out for a fuller separate email notice coming soon and keep the dates free!

Have you heard?

In February 2012, the Bible Society and CEC are planning to gift a set of 20 specially designed Bibles to EVERY Yr 5 and 6 class in NZ that has Christian Religious Education!

Wouldn't that be an awesome mission project for your children's ministry and church to support? More information from <http://biblesociety.org.nz>

Pray Day Friday 12 August

Scripture Union is encouraging churches to join together in praying for their local schools and for schools across our nation.

They have made this easy for you by putting together a range of ideas, resources and promotional materials on their website.

Visit www.prayday.net.nz for everything you need to take part in Pray Day this year.

Let's Share Resources!

Many of you creatively organise programmes week after week, year after year and along the way make amazing props and resources. What happens to all this stuff? Sits in a cupboard for 5 or 6 years until you can use it again? Would you be willing to share it with another church and bless them with many saved hours of preparation?

If you think this is a good idea, let me know what you have to share and I will create a list. To set the ball rolling I have a LIFE size (Yep! 9 ft high) wall hanging of Goliath on calico. It can be hung or held by 2 people with rods down the sides. Also a Joseph's multicoloured robe –fits children to medium-height adult.



OTHER EXCITING RESOURCES

Faith box for Families

I highly recommend that you check out this fantastic tool for NZ families to share a fun, interactive faith-building time once a week at home. How great it would be if ALL our church families were using the Faith Box at home each week, even on the weeks they can't make it to church!

<http://www.faith4families.org>

Essential Jesus

Did you know there are great children's resources that go with this Bible Reading Challenge? A pack of 20 well designed Bible reading cards in a nifty little box. (\$7) and a fantastic 'ready to go' 20 week children's programme "**Investigators Inc**" that is easy to use and adapt for any context. (\$20) Check it all out at www.e100nz.org.nz

Please be in touch if I can help in any way. I can come and visit YOU if I am invited☺

God Bless

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