

Messy Church Report for Leadership Team Meeting 9-19-21

The September Messy Church was a big success! We had 28 participants, 11 of whom were children and 5 of whom were new to Messy Church. Special thanks go out to Laura and Peter Griffin and Margaret Belvin for providing food.

We are in need of somebody to LEAD the meal planning aspect of Messy Church. We have plenty of willing hands but no one committed to organizing and implementing the meal on a consistent basis. We have lots of resources to make it as easy as possible including volunteers to cook and provide whatever they are asked. It's the asking, planning and the organizing that we need somebody to take ownership of. Without the meal there is no Messy Church so please prayerfully consider if this is an area where you could lead or who might have the gifts and spirit.

Ryan has brought some fresh ideas to Messy Church, including:

- Occasional Messy Meet Ups at the park or the zoo or the movies or the ball park. (Okay, he said hockey.) at times other than our usual Sundays.
- Our first two Messy Churches will be outside. With COVID surging, this just makes sense. May showed us how easy and fun it is to have Messy Church in the garden and it attracts the greater community too. This month we had somebody wander over and participate because she heard the music!
- Twice a year, the activity time will just be a big service project. We can still have a short celebration and a meal, but we'd all work together on something beforehand instead of having all the activities.
- For Easter and Christmas the Activity & Celebration will be the egg hunt and Live Nativity. Live Nativity, come in and have meal and get a picture with Santa. Egg hunt, picnic in the garden and maybe play on the playground.
- We will cross next summer's bridge when we come to it, but I really liked taking a break in June and August and having the Messy Carnival in July. It may depend on whether we have the volunteers to continue this ministry.

Messy Church Schedule:

October 24 - Theme:TBD (outside)

November 21 - Theme: Gratitude/ Service Project: No-sew scarves for NEST/The Shelter

December 12 or 19 - Theme: Live Nativity (Nellwyn has requested the 12th)

January 9 - Theme: TBD

February 13 - Theme: TBD

March 13 - Theme: TBD (service project?)

April 10 - Theme: Easter Egg Hunt

May 15 - Theme: TBD (outside)

Respectfully submitted.

Melanie Cramer
Messy Church Coordinator