



## Year End Report of the Director of Children's Ministries 2010-2011

Those of us serving our Lord through His children and families think we have the most AWESOME calling in the world! It is a great PRIVILEGE, being allowed by my heavenly Father to influence lives at such a young and impressionable age. And if your church is honored by God to have children, you are SPECIAL! Give Him thanks for the young lives He has entrusted to your church family. I give Him thanks for each of you and the wonderful jobs you are doing week in and week out leading the children and families of this district to the throne of God. Thank you for allowing me the chance to serve you.

This year started off with a bang as we celebrated May Fest together at South Mountain. Saturday, May 15, 2010, was our annual fun day at the mountain. God gave us a wonderful, sunny day for our activities. The Kids Kort area had a record number of churches providing booths this year. We had all kinds of activities for the children. Thanks to all those churches that participated.

Beginning in June, many churches throughout our district were involved in local Vacation Bible Schools, puppet teams, and other outreach endeavors. The summer was "a buzz" with activities for children to be ministered to and to minister to others.

The highlight of the year was once again Kids Camp! Mr. Kelvin Carpenter and the Kids Camp committee provided great leadership for the camp. Thanks also to the staff of the camp. There are around 80-100 adults and teens giving of their time each summer so that our kids can have some face-to-face time with God. Only God knows the impact being made in the lives of His children. A special thank you to the many counselors who are with the campers 24 hours a day during the week, making sure they eat, sleep, and GET A SHOWER (or at least TRYING to make sure this happens). We could not have camp without any of these folks! May God bless you all!

This year I had the distinct pleasure of being the camp evangelist. Our theme for the week was "The LOVE Song". I am thankful for the opportunity of sharing God's Word with the children of our district.

Last year our numbers for camp were down, but God provided and saw us through. This year, God provided once again. Our numbers were higher than they have been in several years. Praise be to God! We had about 184 campers at Senior Camp and about 121 campers at Junior Camp.

But more important than any numbers, the Spirit of God was on our camp this year in a mighty way. Children were challenged to let God's "LOVE SONG" flow TO them and THROUGH them. Many realized for the first time just how much God LOVES them. Others prayed to SHOW God's love more. And many children wept as they prayed to forgive those in their lives who have hurt them. Monday night's service was especially moving. Many are still talking about the "Holy Hush" that was on the entire camp. Thank you God for showing up in such a mighty way! I pray YOUR NAME be glorified in all of our lives. May we ALL live out the challenge you gave us at Kids Camp 2010.

On Saturday, August 28, I had the opportunity of meeting with the children's ministry workers and Pastor of Mt. Moriah Wesleyan Church. The Pastor and workers were interested in taking a closer look at their ministry to children and families and seeing what more they could do to reach into these lives. We had a great day together seeking God's direction for their church and the children of their church and community.

In November I had the opportunity to attend "Beyond Atlanta" in Atlanta, Ga. This was a conference sponsored by the Children's Ministry Dept. of Wesleyan World Headquarters. We were able to tour several different churches in the Atlanta area and learn about their Children's Ministries. This was a very informative time for us.

On January 9 I had the pleasure of attending Crossroads Church in Belmont for the evening service. The puppet team from Clover Wesleyan Church, led by Mrs. Bonnie Spear, was performing there. It was a great night with children and families enjoying hearing the Word of God as presented by the puppet team.

The District Spiritual Formation team met on Monday, September 27 at United Wesleyan Church in Charlotte to begin making plans for the upcoming Huddle Expanded Edition. This year's Huddle was held on two different weekends in two different places. The hope was to make it possible for more people to attend and more churches to be involved. The dates and locations were March 5 at First Wesleyan Church in Kannapolis and April 2 at Missionary Wesleyan Church in Forest City. We had a good turn-out for these events. We totaled about 150 people in attendance from around 25 different churches. There were several breakout sessions provided for those ministering to adults, youth, and children.

I had the pleasure of leading the Kids' Worship part of the Triad Area Revival the week of March 20-23. This revival was held at Shady Grove Wesleyan Church in Colfax. We had a good turn-out in the kids' area with lots of fun and worship together.

Plans have begun for May Fest at South Mountain for this year. There are going to be a few changes in the Kids Kort area. We are offering the activities for children with NO CHARGE this year thanks to many donations from churches and individuals. May Fest is scheduled for Saturday, May 14.

**Kids Camp is scheduled for July 24-29** this year. Our speaker is Mel LaMar from Colorado and our theme will revolve around "Hope". The Camp Committee met in February and is hard at work preparing for a GREAT week together.

We have so many wonderful opportunities for the children of our district to be engaged in learning about our Lord. Many of those opportunities happen at the local level in each church each week. But there are other opportunities happening at the district level just a couple times each year. There is so much our children gain by being involved in things beyond their own local church and their own town. PLEASE, consider getting them involved in district events also.

And we have opportunities also for your entire children's ministry team to join together for training and fun. This year the Huddle was offered at NO COST. FREE TRAINING, right in your "backyard"! Wow! Thanks to our district for providing this.

Respectfully submitted,  
Selina M Wheeler