

JULY 2025

The Uwharrie View

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR COMMUNITY CHURCH MEMBERS

This Month's Events

- **7/5** COMMUNITY TABLE @ 8AM
- **7/6 WORSHIP & BREAKFAST** 9:30 PM
- **7/13-7/17** VBS 5:30- 8:00 PM
- **7/19** CR SPECIAL EVENT

Why kids ministry should be important to you and your church

Choosing not to give priority to children's ministry may very well be to the eternal detriment of our children. In this Q&A, Bill Emeott, lead ministry specialist for LifeWay Kids, shares some sobering statistics about children's ministry and why churches must make ministering to children and their families a priority. (An ncbaptist.org article)

"Why should children's ministry be a priority for churches today?"

Children's ministry must become a priority in our churches. Several years ago, George Barna coined a phrase, the "4-14 window." In his research, he found the majority of Christians come to know Christ between the ages 4-14. More recent studies suggest as many as 63 percent. Furthermore, for every year after this window, the likelihood of conversion falls. We must move ministry to this group to the "front burner" and give it the priority that it needs. Choosing not to give priority to children's ministry may very well be to the eternal detriment of our children. Also, I believe that we must move children past the point of conversion to becoming lifelong followers, growing in Christ. Discipleship is key to a successful Christian life. It takes intentionality to build spiritual habits, and those habits, practices and disciplines are best learned and embedded in one's life during childhood. Additionally, children can be a bridge to reach families. Churches who include the strategy of reaching families through children have a better chance of reaching them. But it doesn't happen without intentionality. It's never been more important to see our role as children's ministry leaders as partners with families. Research shows that families are attending church less often.

How do you anticipate this information will impact children's ministry in the future? How can teachers and leaders equip parents to make disciples at home? It's been said that families who attend church one to two times per month are now considered "regular attenders." This is dramatically changing how we approach discipleship in children's ministry. It's never been more important to see our role as children's ministry leaders as partners with families. We must develop strategies that include equipping, training and encouraging families to embrace their role as spiritual leaders and disciplers of their kids.

As you know, Vacation Bible School (VBS) is a major event for many churches. What are the benefits of VBS beyond a fun week for kids? How can churches incorporate VBS into an overall discipleship strategy for the entire church instead of considering it a "stand-alone" kids' event? In a recent study, 80 percent of those who attend church regularly believe that they have a personal responsibility to share their faith. However, 61 percent admit to not sharing their faith within the last six months. We have an evangelism crisis, and VBS can be a powerful tool to reach unchurched families. Statistics show that 22 percent of those enrolled in VBS don't attend church anywhere. What a great opportunity! VBS is a ministry tool that mobilizes the entire church to reach the community with the gospel, an endeavor in which all aspects of the church can be on board."

We're incredibly grateful for the overwhelming support we receive at UCC for our annual VBS—both in volunteer time and financial generosity. It's a true blessing! But it also raises an important question: Are we truly investing in our URE Kids ministry if that support doesn't continue throughout the year?

Our kids need consistency—not just a one-week experience, but regular faces who show up, love them, teach them, and help them grow in their faith week after week.

If you've been moved to serve during VBS, consider how that same energy could make a lasting impact in our weekly children's ministry. Our kids deserve more than a moment—they need a community that shows up consistently.

Ways to Serve

- **IMPRESSIONS TEAM**
MISSY ARCHER
- **HOSPITALITY** TERRY MAIERS
- **URE KIDS**
CRYSTAL MORRIS & ALLIE LOFLIN
- **WORSHIP TEAM**
KELLY LOFLIN
- **COMMUNITY GROUPS-**
JASON & PATTI HEDGE

Community Groups

- **WOMEN'S - SUNDAYS @ 6 PM**
- **STUDENTS (6TH-12TH GRADE)**
- SUNDAYS @ 6 PM
- **MEN'S - 2ND FRIDAY @ 6:30PM**
- **MARRIED COUPLES - 3RD FRIDAY @ 6:30 PM**
*CHILDCARE
- **CELEBRATE RECOVERY - THURSDAYS @ 6:30 PM**
*CHILDCARE
- **WEDNESDAY NIGHT COMMUNITY BIBLE STUDY @ 6:30 (ADULTS & KIDS)**

Uwharrie Community Church exists to help people LOVE God, LOVE others and LOVE sharing the Good News of Jesus. That means we WORSHIP God in every area of our lives, we love and serve those in our COMMUNITY and we take our MISSION seriously of telling others of God's love for them. We say it like this, "Love HIM, Love THEM, Tell them WHY."



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