

## An Idea for Summer

If you do not have a summer programme for your Sunday School children, but there are still several who come to church with their parents, consider ordering Children's Worship Bulletins. The cost is \$26.38 approx a quarter (It depends on the exchange rate) It would be possible to order them for July, August and September only. The bulletins are based on the Revised Common Lectionary, and you can see samples on the internet at [www.childrensbulletins.com](http://www.childrensbulletins.com). To order them for a Canadian address you need to phone 1.800.992.2144. The company will send them to you by e-mail and bill a credit card. The bulletins are regular folded 8 1/2 X 11 paper size and contain 4 sides of pictures to colour, puzzles, codes, mazes, dot to dots, hidden pictures etc. There are two versions, one for 3-6 years and one for 7-11 year olds. The price quoted above is for both of them.

### Puppet Workshop

*Puppets are wonderful tools for reaching children.*

The Church Army is giving a puppet workshop on June 22 and 23 at Taylor College in Saint John. It runs from 7 - 9 p.m. on Friday evening and from 10 - 4 on Saturday. The cost of \$40 includes lunch and snacks. If you are interested, please call Janet Edwards at 693-8975.

### Before Sunday School Ends

- Plan a meeting to assess your programme. Are you happy with the **curriculum**? What could be changed to improve things - for example, do you have a worship time at the beginning of classes? Would one set the tone for what is to follow? Is this best done as a large group or in individual classes?
- Have you found that the **materials** you needed to teach your lesson were easily found? Does your supply area need re-organized for next year? Do you need to appeal to the congregation for recyclables to use for crafts e.g. toilet paper tubes, old newspapers, egg cartons, Styrofoam trays, plastic containers etc.? What needs to be ordered?
- Have you organized a **closing ceremony** for Sunday School? Will you be passing out certificates and where are you going to get them or will you make them? Someone with a computer can do a great job on

this. Are you going to recognize your teachers also? How?

- Plan ahead for your **opening** in the fall. Plan also to have a **training event** of some sort, or, at least, a gathering to discuss aims and objectives and share ideas.
- Pass **class lists** on to next year's teachers. Pass on curriculum also so they can get a head start over the summer.
- Encourage teachers to spend time over the summer in **Bible reading** and **prayer** and to try to attend **worship** wherever they may be. Summer gives us a wonderful opportunity to take the time for both physical and spiritual refreshment.

### A Time of Planting

When I was teaching in the public school system, I was given a wonderful book. It is now out of print, but occasionally copies appear in the secondhand listings of internet book dealers. It is "Rainbows for Teachers" by Janet Colsher Teitsort. Here is an excerpt from the poem, "A Time of Planting".

*Father, in my teaching you have taught me.  
Now I see that my students are seedlings  
you have placed within my care.  
You have assigned me  
the responsibility of  
nurturing them.*

*I pray that the sunlight of knowledge  
will flood their minds, and the rain  
of discontent will make them delve  
more deeply until  
they are rooted academically.*

*But even more,  
I pray that you  
will spiritually  
nourish them until they take hold,  
becoming rooted and grounded in your love.*

Janet finishes her poem by quoting St Paul: Be happy. Grow in Christ. Pay attention to what I have said. Live in harmony and peace. And may the God of love and peace be with you. 2 Cor: 13:11 (LB)