

## Another New Curriculum

The CRC (Christian Reformed Church) curriculum - Bible Steps/Bible Ways - which has been popular in a number of churches for many years has been replaced by **"Walk With Me"** for fall, 2004. Some very good and useful changes have been made.

1. The curriculum for grades K - 8 is taught in theme based 4 week units, which is good if you have children who attend sporadically. It is possible to buy these by the year (36 weeks worth), by the quarter or by the unit.
2. Curriculum groupings are Preschool, K/1, 2/3, 4/5, 6-8. For Preschool see below. K/1, 2/3, and 4/5 are taught on a 2 year cycle. Grades 6-8 has a three year cycle.
3. 5 session summer programmes are available which may also be used for Vacation Bible School.
4. 2 week Christmas and Easter units are available to be slotted into the curriculum at the appropriate times. These include dramas, music and crafts.
5. There is a preschool curriculum with 40 sequential Bible stories in a 'file box' with action rhymes, a music CD, posters etc included.
6. Lesson plans are clearly labelled with the learning style favoured by each activity.
7. There are colourful student take homes, the type varying according to grade.
8. A good innovative idea is to list at the beginning of each unit ways in which others in the congregation might be enlisted to help with the lessons for the next 4 weeks, e.g. by buying certain materials, by making something to be used in a lesson, by acting the part of a Biblical character, by helping with a service project.

CRC has always produced strong Biblically centred curriculum and 'Walk With Me' is the same. The lessons are well laid out and the activities are varied and look like fun. Some of the music suggested is familiar such as 'Come all you people, come and praise your maker,' 'Who built the ark?', and 'Joshua fought the battle of Jericho,' Compared with something like Scripture Union's 'Light,' mentioned last month, this curriculum is expensive. Cost for K-6 materials by 4 week unit is \$10.95 Cdn for the leader's guide and resources (all in the same volume) and \$3.95 Cdn per child.

## Zipper Pull Awards

Don't forget to order your end of year awards. Red and gold zipper pulls are available from Anglican House in Saint John @ \$2:50 including tax. These read "Anglican Church of Canada," around the edge. The pewter ones which say "Anglican Church School" are \$2 + tax. Phone: 693-2295



## Diocesan Sunday School Workshop October 2, Christ Church (Parish) Church, Fredericton

Two additional workshops will be given by Carolyn Brewer of Pioneer Clubs Canada. In the morning she will lead a session on 'Group Discipline that Works' and in the afternoon her subject will be 'Growing Today's Churches - Reaching the Parents of the Children You Teach.' This will be of interest to those who wonder how to connect with the parents of children who are sent to Sunday School or Vacation Bible School by parents who do not attend church themselves. These additions mean that 7 workshops will be offered both morning and afternoon, 5 being repeated - there is SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE. For details please see last month's newsletter or the May issue of the NB Anglican. A printable registration form will soon be available on the Diocesan web site, [www.anglican.nb.ca](http://www.anglican.nb.ca).

## Recruitment Hints

- Now is the time to begin planning for next year. Try these tips:
- Invite someone from the congregation you think would make a good teacher to assist in a class for a Sunday.
  - Tell that person why you think they would make a good teacher. E.g. "Kids love to be around you." "You always know what to say to encourage a child and make him feel welcome." "You are so creative, kids in your class would have a great year." "It's so obvious that you are excited about Jesus. It would be wonderful to have you pass that on to the children."
  - Invite newcomers to teaching Sunday School to teach for a limited period in the fall - say the first six weeks. It seems less overwhelming.
  - When you invite someone to teach next year, ask them to think and pray about it for a week, and then follow up with a phone call. Honour their answer.
  - Be specific about training sessions, supply availability etc.

## For Fun

**Sheriff:** I just arrested a cat for throwing garbage all over town.

**Deputy:** Really? What was the charge?

**Sheriff:** Kitty Litter.