

This Week in the Church

6/13 – 6/20

Planning for VBS 2021 is taking place! BFUMC's Young Children's Ministry Team is working hard! They have adopted a room upstairs as a center of operations. Their faithfulness has inspired me and others. If they can dedicate so many hours in preparation for VBS, we can certainly be intentional about inviting family and friends to participate. Please thank these exceptional ladies!

The CDC has applied for a grant through DSS. This is another grant available to child care facilities to compensate for difficulties associated with the Covid pandemic. The CDC staff has been dedicated to providing excellent childcare throughout these difficult times. They are always awesome! Thanks to Shannon for locating and pursuing this additional grant possibility for BFUMC.

An informal lunch meeting was held by some on the PPRC team, and others. The meeting was held to begin discussions concerning Debbie Capp's retirement. The full PPRC team will be meeting soon to develop focused discussions, and planning in earnest. The meeting covered a range of topics! Edward McCutcheon shared thoughts about bringing in a part time person from Furman but continuity would be difficult. There was hope a young person could assist in the office, and also help BFUMC with developing a Contemporary Service. The discussions transitioned into thoughts about how to bring Wesley Foundation students alongside the BFUMC congregation in ministry and mission. There were also discussions about how BFUMC could begin reaching out to develop relationships with Furman students. Nothing has been finalized or officially decided by committee. Debbie Capps has been concerned about having a retirement celebration with her health risks. Talking with Betty Stover this week, Debbie is now open to having an outdoor event. Please reach out to Larry McCants or your PPRC Team if you have any ideas about how to make this a special day for Debbie.

Bob Helms has donated a sound system to the church. The system will certainly help with enhancing sound quality in smaller gathering. It may also help with larger gatherings – we just do not know its full potential. Bob, your donation and faithfulness to BFUMC is much appreciated this week, and all these many years. Please thank Bob and Donna for their generosity!

Robert Bagwell donated a kitchen on wheels to the church. This mobile kitchen has a grill and or smoker, two large burners, a deep fryer, pots pans and equipment, etc., etc. This gift received by the Men's Club allows BFUMC to cook for large numbers of people during fundraising, or ministry events. The possibilities for ministry and mission in years to come are endless with this donation. Please thank Robert and Sue Bagwell for their generosity!

The Men's Club, Trustees, and others met 6/19/21. The Men's Club received the Bagwell donation and discussions were had about how to possibly improve the Vendor and Car Shows in the future. There was a discussion about beginning outreach efforts to Thrive Houses. Patty Taylor oversees a Thrive House. These are homes for individuals with handicaps, and there are 45 of these homes in the upstate. I think Bobby Taylor said it well – these are forgotten people. The men are

planning an outing for the Thrive residents to come to the church for an ice cream social. There were discussions about having movie nights for Thrive in the future. The Men have agreed to fix a hotdog supper for the last night of VBS. The group then proceeded to clean out the United Methodist Men's storage closet. Hopefully this space will be used for exciting new ministries ahead.