

PUPPETS 4 Him

Well, here you have it! The very first ever Puppets 4 Him Newsletter! Whether you're a part of the Puppets 4 Him "alumni", one of our biggest "fans", or just know we exist, we thought you might like to hear about our puppet year. Now don't panic ... we can guarantee that with all the prop building and script writing that goes on throughout the year, you will never receive more than one of these within a 12 month period!!!



Puppets 4 Him

Puppets 4 Him has just completed its third year. This year's team consisted of eight members, including ourselves. Three members returned for their second year, and three were first year members. Team members contributed artistically with their input on choreography as well as suggestions for animating songs. We are very thankful for the dedicated bunch who also demonstrated their faithfulness time and time again during what turned out to be a very busy year.

Between October and June, we performed a total of 22 shows including departments at Calvary Temple such as Kidzone, Open Door and Brigade. We were also pleased to take part in the PAOC district Kids Crusade at Charleswood Gospel Temple. One of our busiest times was at Christmas. Never mind the ten lords a leaping ... these eight puppeteers were a hoppin' with 9 bookings in a 2 1/2 week period! Of the many outside invitations we receive, we were able to present at 7 other churches and the Union Gospel Mission had us perform once again for their Spring Concert. Although we have had to decline a number of outside invitations, it is very encouraging to receive so many. Some of the holidays we covered this year were: Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. Other themes presented were: "The Bible", "The Church Family" and "Many Voices, Wise Choices".



Christmas 2000 we took our first stab at blacklight puppetry.

All in all, it was a pleasure to work with this year's team. We appreciate the girls who took their commitment seriously. Some would have continued throughout the whole summer if old fogies like us didn't need a break!

Festival



A visit to the Mall of America has become a traditional part of the Minneapolis trip.

Our annual Minneapolis trip in March is always anticipated by the team. This year Pastor David braved the cross-country adventure with five energetic teens that turned into a wacky game of “Puppet Survivor” in the van! We all enjoyed a fun weekend of attending seminars and viewing performances by other teams. As our trip drew to a close, Pastor David received the most votes in the Survivor game. That was because we saw him as “the ultimate survivor” since he survived the wild weekend with us!!

Seminars

A new opportunity as directors was to lead a seminar at the Total Church Leadership Conference this past fall. We conducted a hands on seminar on the basics of puppetry. On the flip side, we attended a puppet making workshop with the Living Bible Explorers, making two pretty impressive puppets (we even surprised ourselves!) and gaining a wealth of knowledge in the construction aspect of puppetry . We put that knowledge to use by creating our own candle puppet pattern. In June prior to winding up our year, we held a puppet construction class where each puppeteer had the opportunity to make a puppet of their own.



Thank You

... to Bob and Dean for videotaping many of our performances. Not only do we have a library of the shows we have performed, but the videos have become somewhat of a “ministry tool” as they have circulated amongst a number of families at Carol’s work.

... to the co-operative caretakers at Calvary Temple who look after our needs, open the doors and haul in the TV. Bernie even likes to help us unload all our stuff!!!

... to the people who have prayed and shown an interest in our ministry. We appreciate each encouraging word and note.

And last but not least, we want to express our gratitude to the committed parents who were so faithful in driving their puppeteer to and from practices every Thursday, not to mention all the performances that had them rising earlier than usual and driving to all corners of the city! We appreciate them so much. What a difference it makes to have their co-operation and support!

