

*May our sons in their youth be like plants full grown,
our daughters like corner pillars, cut for the building of a palace.
Psalm 144:12*

Plants Full Grown

a newsletter for Central Plains Mennonite Conference youth leaders

September 2010

Contents:

Youth Escape reports
Curriculum options
Improved SS curriculum
Podcasts for youth leaders

We had a great time at Youth Escape!

Participation

There were 151 people at Youth Escape, 91 youth, 32 sponsors and the other 28 were staff and volunteers. Nine of those volunteer staff were college students who were developing their own leadership skills by leading the mixers, coffeehouse, break-outs and worship.

Highlights

Shane Claiborne's preaching was definitely a highlight. He has a way of making you laugh and touching your heart, not to mention modeling a gentle but passionate obedience to Jesus. He has great stories and a compelling charge to join in God's work of reconciliation and healing for a broken world. The game of Persecution was also a highlight for many kids. It's a fun and active way to learn the stories of the early Anabaptists and imagine how we might act in similar circumstances. Finally, the kids liked free time on Saturday afternoon with a variety of fun activities.

Offerings

Youth Escape participants gave \$373.44 in worship offerings for the peace education ministry of the Quito (Ecuador) Mennonite Church. At the coffeehouse on Saturday, people contributed \$42.66 to Plant with Purpose. This will plant 42 trees and offset 16,800 lbs of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere! Shane's travel to Youth Escape created 660 lbs of carbon, so we offset **25 times** more carbon than was created! Way to go! We'll be sure to tell Shane that.

Sunday School and Bible Study Curriculum

Are you thinking about what to study in Sunday School or youth group? Hopefully you have a plan in place, but for the last-minute deciders or for the winter quarter, check out an updated list of elective curricula for Mennonite youth on the [Youth Ministry page](#) of our web site.

Check it out! Improved high school SS curriculum

Take a second look at Mennonite Publishing Network's high school Sunday School curriculum! Because it is written fresh for every quarter, improvements have been built in over time, and now it has a whole new format! For starters, it is shorter and made to be folded and slipped into your

Bible. Gone are the childish activities at the end of the lesson, now the entire lesson is more age-appropriate. Take a gander at a sample session at www.gatherround.org or on the [Youth Ministry](#) page of our web site. [Download the fall quarter teacher's guide here](#) for \$41.95.

Quick Object Lesson

There's a great activity to get kids to think about their tendency to compete rather than cooperate in the latest edition of *Relate*, the newsletter for youth leaders from Mennonite Mission Network. [Check it out here](#). This would be a great activity to pair with the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5) or Ephesians 2:11-22.

I'll be visiting your church soon

As you may know, we have had some staff transitions in Central Plains. Sharon Kennel and Ed Kauffman are leaving. Tim Detweiler is now full-time conference minister for ministerial leadership working for the whole conference. My husband, Dave, is the new executive conference minister. His responsibilities include administration, vision, and mission. **Dave and Tim and I are planning to visit every congregation in Central Plains conference between September 11 and November 17.** Watch your church bulletin for the date and time of our visit, and please come out to see us! If we haven't yet met in person, please introduce yourself to me and tell me what your role is working with youth in your congregation! I am eager to meet you! --*Shana Peachey Boshart*

Plants Full Grown is published the last Friday of each month for Central Plains youth leaders. Please include items from this newsletter in your church bulletins and newsletters.

Find archived issues at www.centralplainsmc.org.

Editor: Shana Peachey Boshart. To subscribe or unsubscribe, email shanaboshart@centralplainsmc.org.



Central Plains Mennonite Conference leads congregations as they proclaim and become a sign of God's reconciling work in the world.

Central Plains Mennonite Conference
P.O. Box 101, Freeman, SD 57029
605-925-4463
www.centralplainsmc.org