

Children of the Harvest Announces Sidewalk Sunday School (SWSS)



File photo.

Sidewalk Sunday School will be available again this year. Here is a success story from the past.

Sidewalk Sunday School (SWSS) was held in the evening and we advertised it as a "community event". Kid-friendly meals are offered at a nominal cost so parents could bring their kids and know they would be fed. A pre-registration and meal payments are requested at that time. There was no charge for SWSS, only a small charge for those eating meals. The response has been wonderful. Many parents came early to pick their kids up so they

could watch the closing gathering and listen to the children sing. Everyone has been very favorably impressed with the program.

Our church kept track of the children who were not a members of the church and attended SWSS. Several families who were new to the worship community have been identified. In almost every instance, these new families were looking for a way to connect their children with others their age. For many, this is the first community event their children have ever attended.

Two follow-up visits were made to each family who had indicated that their children were not currently enrolled in a Sunday school. Sunday school registration forms were mailed to each of them and the response was great! The SWSS program helped to target specific households with children who were not involved in a church program. Now both children and adults from those families are now active in our various ministries. In addition to the new families, 26 adults from church were involved in some way with the SWSS program. Many of them are now asking if the program is coming back again this year.

Sidewalk Sunday School will be available to churches from June 6 through July 29. This high energy Vacation Bible School is available to churches that would like to have a children's outreach program in their local community. Churches are asked to email their request for Sidewalk Sunday School to Mike and Libby Flowers at Childharvest@msn.com. Churches should indicate a general time frame that they would like to host SWSS. Every effort will be made to get as close to the dates requested as possible. The Deadline for SWSS requests are by March 31. Scheduling will begin in early April.

Submitted by Mike and Libby Flowers, Spirit Lake Ministry