

Coordinating a Bible Club Outreach

Information for the Coordinator in a Local Church



Coordinating Summer Bible Clubs for GMTC Pocono

Each summer, Gospel Ministries to Children conducts many Bible Clubs for local churches all around the Poconos. It is our hope to glorify the Lord and fulfill His Great Commission by helping local churches extend their outreach to children and families that they might not otherwise reach. We have had much success in this area through the Bible Club outreach.

For a Bible Club outreach to be successful, it takes careful prayer and planning. It also takes some committed believers in local churches to do the following:

- host a five-day Bible Club and invite children, including those who are unchurched, to the club;
- follow up on unchurched families, including letting them know of the programs offered by the church;
- pray for the clubs, the children and their families.

These tasks are not usually all done by one person, but by various people in the church. In churches where this outreach has been particularly successful, there has usually been one person designated as a Bible Club Coordinator to help organize the local church's involvement and act as a liaison with the GMTC director.

The Bible Club Coordinator

The Bible Club Coordinator is a person in a church who recruits/contacts people to host five-day Bible Clubs. It is not necessarily the case that they actually host one themselves or attend any of the clubs. The Coordinator acts as a liaison between the GMTC and the church by soliciting clubs to be held, and scheduling them, with attention to driving time, into blocks of time so that a single team could possibly teach all of the clubs.

For example, suppose the Coordinator finds six families/individuals to host Bible Clubs, all during the week of July 16-20. The Coordinator might create a schedule in this fashion:

Team One:

Mrs. Andrews, 570-555-1345, 315 Main Street, 10-11am
Mrs. Barber, 570-555-1132, 126 Knowlton Road, 12-1pm
Mrs. Cromwell, 570-555-2319, 715 Marx Avenue, 1-3pm

Team Two:

Mrs. Davis, 570-555-3689, 65 Henry Way, 10:30-11:30am
Mrs. Englert, 570-555-6389, 389 Smith Road, 1-2pm
Mr. & Mrs. Fowler, 570-555-9687, 1057 Smith Road, 2:30-3:30pm

Note that the Coordinator has gathered contact information on each host family, and it is assumed that the times of the clubs allow for driving time between clubs as well as 10-15 minutes for setup and at least 15 minutes before the team leaves the site. A team is composed of two trained GMTC

Summer Missionaries. Their earliest possible departure time in the morning will be 9am from Brodheadsville, and they should return to Brodheadsville in time for dinner around 5:30pm.

The Coordinator should also ask each host family for detailed directions to the club site from their previous location for the missionary team. The Coordinator gives this information to the GMTC Director.

About Bible Clubs

A Bible Club is like a "mobile VBS." It is a five-day (M-F) program lasting about one hour each day which includes varied activities: Bible lesson, singing, games, missionary story, memory verse, etc. The material is appropriate for ages 4-12.

Host families will provide a location, inside or outside, for the Bible Club, invite children (hopefully including unchurched children), and provide a snack for the children at the end of the club each day.

Also, the host family may choose to provide for some other activity such as playtime, craft, swimming or some other activity, but doing so is completely optional (and in fact is not usually done; any other activity would be overseen by the host family).

The goals of a Bible Club include:

1. reaching unsaved or unchurched kids with the Gospel;
2. teaching believing kids spiritual truths to help them grow in the Lord;
3. making contact with families in the hope that some may come to the church.

Because of the goals just given, the host family should make an effort to include unchurched kids in the club. However, we are in no way seeking any "guarantee" that any certain number of kids will attend, or that any number of unchurched kids will attend.

GMTC provides invitations for the host family to invite kids, but the host family is not required to use them as their method of inviting children.

We have also published a flyer, "Your Home, A Lighthouse" to provide more information for those families considering hosting a club.

We are very appreciative of the time and effort made by those individuals who serve as Bible Club Coordinators. Truly you make a huge difference in the lives of children and their families, and help the church fulfill its missionary obligation to the Lord!

Gospel Ministries to Children
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