

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES REPORT to the CONSISTORY of RICHVILLE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 2nd, 2022

On Tuesday, April 5th, I attended our CE meeting at the church at 6:30pm. This month, I made it a point to get our Sunday School educators filled in their slots. I emphasized with CE to reinforce communication for all those concerned who are teachers/workers in Sunday School. I wanted to make sure that everyone's email was invited, including mine, as to help with any confusion of schedules. I also concentrated on the season of Holy week and the activities that surround that with our youth & families. I checked in with Beckie Custer & Alisha Dennis and their administration regarding any concerns and/or needs for the Community Egg Hunt. With that said, I promoted the egg hunt in my typically fashion of communication (s) and attended the event on Palm Sunday, April 10th at 2pm. I oversaw the registration and hand-off literature table at the activity! I greeted our visitor's and made them welcome, while inviting them to our Monumental VBS this year! As the plethora of guests calmed down, I also roamed the area and snapped shots of the action to use for my "Director's Chair" weekly entry on our church Facebook page.

As one result from our CE meeting this month, I was to find two strong youth readers for our Resurrection Sunday service this year. I picked and successfully landed Kady Shafer & Anna Dennis. On every third Sunday of the month, and even during other weeks, there are spontaneous moments that arise where I need to wear my Do Y& M hat even with earphones and a camera remote in hand. For example, on the April 24th service, I stepped up to find an emergency teacher and met & greeted a new family that attended that morning. Incidentally, I also dropped a thank you card in the mail to thank them for attending and visiting our service. As far as RISE, I encouraged them to meet at the church & attend the egg filling party on April 4th at 6pm, since our regularly scheduled timeslot was occupied by Easter Sunday.

I have been praying and seeking something extra (spiritual sense) for our RISE senior high youth. I have mentioned this in reports in the past. I have been searching & gathering info from other youth leaders at a higher level within the denominational framework of the UCC. I have landed a local meeting with the new youth director from Zion UCC. We are to meet on April 29th for lunch to talk and discuss any ideas/thoughts to see if we can join and make something happen? Details to follow next month.

Respected submitted,

Gary Bickel

Director of Youth & Family Ministries