

**Small Church Application
Vacation Bible School
Great Plains Annual Conference
Summer 2015**

Application deadline: March 1
Cost to the congregation: \$350

If selected, a team of college students in the Great Plains Annual Conference will lead VBS at your church. As time allows, the students would be available to do some mission work in the nearby area. The congregation will provide room and board for 5 college students.

A small church is considered to be one with about 50 or fewer in worship.

Name of Congregation _____

Address _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

Pastor _____

Average Weekly Worship Attendance _____

VBS Contact person _____

VBS contact person's address _____

Phone _____ **Email** _____

If you are the pastor, do your VBS director/teachers/Christian education people know you are applying?

(circle one) YES NO

If you are the VBS director/coordinator, a Sunday school teacher or Christian education person, does your pastor know you are applying?

(circle one) YES NO

How long has your pastor been serving your congregation? _____

Does your pastor serve other congregations also? _____ **If so, which one(s)?**

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Do any other congregations in the community do summer VBS? _____

If so, which one(s)? _____

Does your congregation do VBS every year? _____ If not, when was the last time you did VBS? _____

If you answered "No", why do you no longer do VBS? _____

What service projects will you provide for interns to do in your community or nearby communities for 2-3 a day for 3 of the days? (examples: painting, organizing, cleaning)

VBS-related questions

1. Do you prefer to organize children for VBS by age, make groups intergenerational, or other?

2. Do you want to have a VBS program at the end? _____ YES _____ NO

If yes, on the last day or during Sunday worship? _____

What contents do you want for the program? (ex: children singing VBS song or 2, scripture verse recitation, etc.)

3. What time of day do you want VBS? (circle one)

Morning

Afternoon

Evening

**PLEASE KNOW IF YOU CHOOSE EVENING, YOUR CHILDREN WILL NOT HAVE A
LIVE VIDEO CONVERSATION WITH CHILDREN IN AFRICA**

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4. How long do you want VBS to be? (circle one)

2 hours

2 ½ hours

3 hours

If selected, what are some ways you will build relationships with the students and their families who do not have a church home? How will you follow up in the fall with the students who attend VBS and their families (For example: How will you invite them to church and to the ministries available to them at your church throughout the year? What are the needs of VBS student families in the community? Is the UMC helping to meet those needs?) *Attach an additional sheet if necessary.*

Preferred Dates and times for VBS 2014 (list 3):

On an additional sheet of paper, write a couple of paragraphs that describe some of the ways having College Student-Led VBS in your community would increase the long-term vitality of your congregation. How will your ministry with children be more vibrant because of this VBS experience in summer 2014?

Application may be submitted by email or by U.S. postal service.

Email is preferred: mmccorkle@greatplainsumc.org

Rev. Micki McCorkle
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316-210-3996

SMALL MEMBERSHIP CHURCH VBS 2015

If selected your congregation will be invited to create a plan to reach the VBS children and their families this fall, including outcomes you wish to realize by summer 2016.

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Our congregation will be able to provide:

REQUIRED:

- _____ advertising in your community and county, if applicable
- _____ hosts for students (homes in which 4 or 5 college students will stay while in town. These hosts and/or the church will provide daily meals for the students as well.)
- _____ volunteers to staff the registration table
- _____ snacks and the volunteers to do the snacks
- _____ volunteers to shepherd each group of children and review the story with them, adults and/or youth
- _____ volunteers to help with music, story time, crafts, countries and recreation
- _____ craft supplies

WOULD BE HELPFUL for Congregation to Supply:

- _____ mission work and/or activities for the young adults to do while not doing VBS

Small Membership Church Ministries will provide:

- background decoration
- a few promotional materials
- Information about items you might want to order
- Young Adult Involvement
 - College students will set up and tear down before and after VBS
 - College students will direct the VBS each day and the program at the end.
 - College Students will provide direct leadership as the: director, storyteller, country coach, lead musician, recreation leader and, craft leader.

END OF APPLICATION