

## Hibben UMC Educational Standards and Action Steps – August 2012

### Nursery (ages birth – 2 years)

| Area of Discipleship         | Educational Standards   | Action steps to meet standards  |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Service</b>               | Stewardship of God's gifts  | Cleaning up of toys and nursery space, sharing toys with others   |
| <b>Biblical Knowledge</b>    | Introduction of basic Bible verses and stories                              | Use of decor and toys, Bible cartoons, puppets, costumes, music, and storybooks                         |
| <b>Prayer</b>                | Introduction of corporate prayer  | Incorporate prayers into nursery time (opening prayer, blessing of snack, closing prayer, etc.)         |
| <b>Church Life</b>           | Establish comfort and familiarity with church (both the people & the space) | Foster a warm and welcoming nursery environment   |
| <b>Worship</b>               | Incorporate elements of worship throughout nursery program                  | Adhere to a program schedule each Sunday which includes prayer, music, storybook or Bible reading, etc. |
| <b>Relationship with God</b> | God loves me  | Caregivers act and nurture in a way which represents God's love on earth to the children.               |

## Hibben UMC Educational Standards and Action Steps – August 2012

### Pre-K (ages 3 - 4 years)

| Area of Discipleship         | Standards to be reinforced                                       | NEW Educational Standard(s)  | Action step(s) to meet standard  |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Service</b>               | - Stewardship of God's gifts by care of classroom and materials. | 1. Sharing God's love with others  | 1. Hands-on participation in mission projects like Operation Christmas Child, Backpack Buddies, The Table, etc.; expressing thanks to family, teachers, etc.   |
| <b>Biblical Knowledge</b>    |  | Continue introduction of Bible stories   | Each week will feature a new Bible story as well as basic life-application focus   |
| <b>Prayer</b>                | - Continue corporate prayer with weekly classroom prayer         | 1. Introduce concept of talking to God<br>2. Introduce the Lord's Prayer                                 | 1. Explain that God listens to us anytime, anywhere.<br>2. Read the Lord's Prayer aloud once during each class meeting.  |
| <b>Church Life</b>           |  | 1. Introduce the seasons of the church.<br>2. Introduce special celebrations like Baptism and Communion. | 1. Use decor, crafts, music, Bible stories to talk about the church seasons.<br>2. Show children the Baptismal font, the elements of Communion, and prepare them on Sundays when these celebrations occur. |
| <b>Worship</b>               |  | Introduce the concept that each person is an important part of worship.                                  | Encourage them to contribute to worship times by singing, listening, praying   |
| <b>Relationship with God</b> | - God loves me   | Intro these concepts:<br>1. Jesus is God's son.<br>2. God created the world and me.                      | 1. Use applicable scripture<br>2. Use applicable scripture   |

## Hibben UMC Educational Standards and Action Steps – August 2012

### Kindergarten and 1st Grade (ages 5 - 6 years)

| Area of Discipleship         | Standards to be reinforced  | NEW Educational Standard(s)   | Action step(s) to meet standard   |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>Service</b>               | - Sharing God's love with others by participating in church mission projects. | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Begin serving others in the church</li> <li>2. Introduce financial stewardship.</li> <li>3. Engage children in supporting a church-wide mission project.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participate singing at special events and worship services.</li> <li>2. Emphasize Sunday School offering and mission giving.</li> <li>3. Fundraise for mission goal</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Biblical Knowledge</b>    |   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction to Bible basics</li> <li>2. Learn foundational scripture.</li> </ol>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Old Testament vs. New Testament; lesson(s) on locating books, chapters, and verses of the Bible; begin work on learning the books of the Bible.</li> <li>2. Commit 2 key verses to memory per year.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Prayer</b>                | - Continue corporate prayer with weekly classroom prayer                      | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue to learn Lord's Prayer.</li> <li>2. Reinforce concept of praying anywhere.</li> </ol>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Read Lord's Prayer aloud, begin to discuss what each part means to us. Incorporate art/craft or other creative element to enhance learning.</li> <li>2. Encourage children to pray at home before meals, before bed, in the mornings, etc.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Church Life</b>           | - Recognize church seasons via decor, crafts, and activities.                 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Set forth expectation of fellowship with other believers</li> <li>2. Introduce Doxology and Gloria Patri.</li> </ol>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Emphasize attendance at Sunday School, VBS, mid-week programming, family events, Children's Church, etc.</li> <li>2. Begin to learn the words to each song.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Worship</b>               |   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduction to an attitude of worship.</li> <li>2. Continue introduction of sacraments.</li> </ol>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Incorporate a short time of worship into Sunday School hour to practice reverence, respect, etc.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Relationship with God</b> | - God loves me, Jesus is God's Son, God created the world.                    | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduce concept of the Trinity.</li> </ol>  |   |

## Hibben UMC Educational Standards and Action Steps – August 2012

### 2nd - 3rd Grade (ages 7 - 9 years)

| Area of Discipleship         | Standards to be reinforced   | NEW Educational Standard(s)  | Action step(s) to meet standard  |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Service</b>               | - Continued opportunity for financial stewardship via Sunday School offering and mission giving. | 1. Continue outreach to others via church-sponsored mission projects.<br>2. Introduce concept of spiritual gifts                 | 2. Use applicable scripture and activities to help kids begin to identify their own gifts.   |
| <b>Biblical Knowledge</b>    | - Continued focus on Bible navigation (books, chapters, verses, OT vs. NT, etc)                  | 1. Continue Bible memory work.<br>2. Focus on classic Bible stories.   | 1. Memorize and review key scriptures; use music to help memorization.   |
| <b>Prayer</b>                | - Foster increased understanding of the Lord's Prayer.   | Student-lead class prayer  | Begin circle/directed prayer with class, encourage children to lead class in prayer aloud.   |
| <b>Church Life</b>           | - Continued learning of Doxology and Gloria Patri  | 1. Introduce children to the workings of the local church<br><br>2. Begin familiarity with hymnal                                | 1. Structure of church leadership, purpose of committees/boards, members<br>2. Teach students how to read/sing a hymn from the hymnal.       |
| <b>Worship</b>               |  | 1. Continue to incorporate worship time into Sunday School hour<br>2. Encourage participation in worship services via acolyting. | 1. Show meaningful worship that can be fun and energetic by use of music and activities.   |
| <b>Relationship with God</b> | - Deepen understanding of the Trinity.   | Introduce concept of personal devotion time  | Present a devotion book to children when they receive their Bibles, encourage daily personal devotions with the children and their families. |

## Hibben UMC Educational Standards and Action Steps – August 2012

### 4th - 5th Grade (ages 9 - 10 years)

| Area of Discipleship         | Standards to be reinforced   | NEW Educational Standard(s)   | Action step(s) to meet standard   |
|------------------------------|--|---|---|
| <b>Service</b>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continued opportunity for financial stewardship via Sunday School offering and mission giving.</li> <li>- Deeper understanding of spiritual gifts.</li> </ul> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Intro "the Greatest Commandment"</li> <li>2. Leadership of service project</li> </ol>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reflect weekly on the less fortunate and how they can help.</li> <li>2. Empower this age to select a project and use their gifts to share God's love through service.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Biblical Knowledge</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continued review of Bible navigation skills</li> </ul>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bring Bible to church!</li> <li>2. Intro 10 Commandments</li> <li>3. Master learning Books of the Bible</li> <li>4. Become familiar with lesser known Bible stories.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. consider incentive/reward program.</li> <li>2. use applicable scripture/activities.</li> <li>4. use applicable scripture.</li> </ol>  |
| <b>Prayer</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue corporate prayer with weekly classroom prayer</li> </ul>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Achieve comfort leading group prayer.</li> <li>2. Introduce individual prayer.</li> </ol>   |   |
| <b>Church Life</b>           |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Bring family and friends to church</li> <li>2. Understand Communion</li> </ol>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. consider incentive/reward program.</li> </ol>   |
| <b>Worship</b>               |  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Achieve reverence in worship.</li> <li>2. Expectation of active participation in worship services</li> </ol>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Incorporate student-led responsive readings, prayer, candle lighting, etc. into Sunday School worship time</li> <li>2. Encourage acolyting, singing, ushering, greeting, etc at worship services and special events.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Relationship with God</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Expectation of daily personal devotion time.</li> </ul>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Introduce concepts of repentance and forgiveness.</li> <li>2. Intro concept of faith impacting morals and difficult life situations.</li> </ol>                                 |   |

## Hibben UMC Educational Standards and Action Steps – August 2012

### 6th Grade (ages 11 - 12 years)

| Area of Discipleship         | Standards to be reinforced  | NEW Educational Standard(s)   | Action step(s) to meet standard   |
|------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>Service</b>               | - Continued opportunity for financial stewardship via Sunday School offering and mission giving.                            | 1. Instill a deeper understanding of outreach.<br>2. Participation in church worship services.                                | 1. Offer off-site mission project opportunities.<br>2. Establish a "greeter in training" and "usher in training" programs to introduce these positions to this age group. |
| <b>Biblical Knowledge</b>    | - Continued review of Bible navigation skills   | 1. Introduce foundational stories in OT.<br>2. Introduce Jewish traditions.<br>3. Focus on Gospels, Parables, NT stories      | Use applicable scripture.   |
| <b>Prayer</b>                | - Continue corporate prayer with weekly classroom prayer<br>- Periodic review of the Lord's Prayer to deepen understanding. | 1. Begin exploring different types of prayer.<br>2. Encourage in-depth, personal prayer                                       | 1. use ACTS (adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication) and other prayer models.<br>2. include personal prayer time during gatherings.                            |
| <b>Church Life</b>           |   | Become a resource for visitors and an ambassador for the church   | Understand the layout of the church, including locations of Sunday School classrooms and offices to be able to provide direction and hospitality to visitors              |
| <b>Worship</b>               | - Continued active participation in worship services via acolyting, singing, ushering, greeting, etc.                       | Begin student-lead worship times.   | Involve students in the planning and leadership of worship time in Sunday School and other small gatherings.  |
| <b>Relationship with God</b> | - Expectation of daily personal devotion time.  | Begin to study Bible passages from a life-application perspective, teaching how to turn to the Bible in times of need or joy. |   |

## Hibben UMC Educational Standards and Action Steps – August 2012

7th Grade (ages 12 - 13 years)

\*\*\**WORK IN PROGRESS*\*\*\*

| Area of Discipleship         | Standards to be reinforced  | NEW Educational Standard(s)            | Action step(s) to meet standard |
|------------------------------|---|--|---------------------------------|
| <b>Service</b>               | - Continued opportunity for financial stewardship via Sunday School offering.   | Begin overnight mission trips/projects |                                 |
| <b>Biblical Knowledge</b>    | - Continued review of Bible navigation skills   |  |                                 |
| <b>Prayer</b>                | - Continue corporate prayer with weekly classroom prayer<br>- Periodic review of the Lord's Prayer to deepen understanding. |  |                                 |
| <b>Church Life</b>           |   | Participation in UMYF events           |                                 |
| <b>Worship</b>               | - Continued active participation in worship services via acolyting, singing, ushering, greeting, etc.                       | Worship with other teens and cultures  |                                 |
| <b>Relationship with God</b> | - Expectation of daily personal devotion time.  |  |                                 |

## Hibben UMC Educational Standards and Action Steps – August 2012

### 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade (ages 13 - 14 years)

| Area of Discipleship         | Standards to be reinforced   | NEW Educational Standard(s)  | Action step(s) to meet standard  |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <b>Service</b>               | - Continued opportunity for financial stewardship via Sunday School offering and mission giving.   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Deeper awareness of others' sufferings</li> <li>2. Cultivate sense of fulfillment in helping others</li> </ol>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continue off-site and overnight mission opportunities, as well as church projects.</li> <li>2. Give opportunities for students to share their mission experiences with the church and with their peers.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Biblical Knowledge</b>    | - Continued review of Bible navigation skills  | Students should possess a comfort and confidence with reading and using the Bible.   | Maintain previous achieved standards through periodic check-ups and via Bible study  |
| <b>Prayer</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue corporate prayer with weekly classroom prayer</li> <li>- Review of the Lord's Prayer to deepen understanding.</li> </ul> | Introduce the concept of listening to God during prayer.   | Provide opportunities for students to experience different types of prayer, and practice sitting quietly to listen to God.   |
| <b>Church Life</b>           | - Continued student participation as ushers, greeters, acolytes, etc.  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Check-up of membership vows (prayers, presence, gifts, service)</li> <li>2. Opportunity to serve on boards and committees.</li> <li>3. Opportunity to read scripture in worship services.</li> <li>4. Opportunities for students to plan UMYF and special events.</li> </ol> |  |
| <b>Worship</b>               | - Continued active participation in worship services via acolyting, singing, ushering, greeting, etc.  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participation in traditional and non-traditional worship services.</li> <li>2. Provide opportunities for students to praise God outside church walls</li> <li>3. Include students in planning of special worship services and events.</li> </ol>                             |  |
| <b>Relationship with God</b> | - Expectation of daily personal devotion time.   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Further explore the Trinity.</li> <li>2. Study the Bible and faith topics in small group settings.</li> <li>3. Continue life-application discussions of faith.</li> </ol>  |  |



## Hibben UMC Educational Standards and Action Steps – August 2012

10th - 12th grade (ages 15 - 18 years)

| Area of Discipleship      | Standards to be reinforced  | Educational Standard  | Action step(s) to meet standard   |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|
| <b>Service</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continued opportunity for financial stewardship via Sunday School offering.</li> <li>- Continued awareness of spiritual gifts and how they can be used to serve the church and world.</li> </ul> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Continued awareness of the needs of others</li> <li>2. Build confidence that the students have the ability to meet the needs of others.</li> </ol>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Local, regional, and international mission trip opportunities.</li> <li>2. Involve youth in all aspects of planning local, regional, and international mission projects.</li> </ol> |
| <b>Biblical Knowledge</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continued review of Bible navigation skills</li> </ul>   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Study of the prophets (Amos, Micah, etc.) from a decision-making standpoint.</li> <li>2. Introduce lesser known stories.</li> <li>3. Examine familiar stories and the life lessons they teach.</li> <li>4. Introduce the writings and experiences of other Christians.</li> </ol> |   |
| <b>Prayer</b>             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue corporate prayer with weekly classroom prayer</li> <li>- Review of the Lord's Prayer to deepen understanding.</li> </ul>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Encourage youth-lead group prayers.</li> <li>2. Share joys, concerns, and needs with one another; encourage prayer for group members.</li> <li>3. Explore different styles/types of prayer.</li> </ol>  |   |
| <b>Church Life</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continued student participation as ushers, greeters, acolytes, etc.</li> <li>- Periodic check-up on membership vows.</li> </ul>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explore UMC beliefs and social principles.</li> <li>2. Encourage students to hold one another accountable for church attendance and participation.</li> </ol>   |   |
| <b>Worship</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continued active participation in worship services via acolyting, singing, ushering, scripture reading, greeting, etc.</li> </ul>  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Actively participate in congregational worship.</li> <li>2. Experience different types of worship</li> <li>3. Develop awareness of worshipful moments in everyday life.</li> </ol>  |   |

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|                              |  |   |  |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|
| <b>Relationship with God</b> | - Expectation of daily personal devotion time.<br>- Review of the Trinity to deepen understanding. | 1. Develop Christ-like decision making.<br>2. Explore how being a Christian influences how life is lived. |  |
|------------------------------|--|---|--|