**Why Do We Trick or Treat?**

**(By Brandi Broxson, Real Simple Magazine, October 2016.)**

“The fun size answer: Because candy is an excellent bribe for warding off mischief. The longer story: In the mid-19th century, Irish immigrants to North America brought with them the Gaelic celebration of All Hollow’s Eve, replete with trick playing and fortune telling. Lisa Morton, the author of *Trick of Treat: A History of Halloween*, says that, back then, the pranks were mild: “Shop signs were switched, gates disassembled, and flour-filled socks were flung at those wearing black coats.” Over the years the mischief became vandalism, and people awoke to broken windows or even blazing fires. During the Great Depression some cities considered banning the holiday. Chicago had a better idea—to busy the idle hands of the potential troublemakers with festivities and encourage homeowners to do the same. Because money was scarce, families often held “house-to-house parties,” which kept the children moving door to door for a different entertainment or treat. Ring a Bell? “

**TRUNK OR TREAT FOR OUR KIDS KLUB INVITES ALL OF YOU TO HOST AN OPEN CAR TRUNK OR OPEN TABLE WITH GAMES AND TREATS AS OUR COSTUMED CHILDREN MOVE ABOUT. MARK OCTOBER 30TH ON YOUR CALENDAR. SIGN UP AT THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TABLE IN FELLOWSHIP HALL.**