

Preschool---Babies through Kindergarten

A child's spiritual journey begins even before birth. The Bible reminds us in Psalms 139, "You are the one who created my innermost parts; you knit me together while I was still in my mother's womb. I give thanks to you that I was marvelously set apart. Your works are wonderful- I know that very well." As a church we want to nurture the growth of preschoolers as they grow and become more aware of the world in which they live. A child grows and develops more in the first six years of life than in any other time. A child's attitudes toward church and God are often formed during these important years of growth. Our church offers a solid Biblical foundation that is theologically as well as developmentally appropriate for the beginning of a child's spiritual journey.

The following activities are offered to our Preschoolers and their families:

Sunday

Worship Care- *Preschool Hall, Education Building*

8:30 AM and 11:00 AM Sunday

Sunday School- *Preschool Hall, Education Building*

9:45 AM Infant-Kindergarten

Preschool Choir- *Sanctuary Building*

5:30 PM Sunday

3 years- Kindergarten

Wednesday Evening

Childcare- *Preschool Hall, Education Building*

6:00 PM-7:30 PM Infant- 2 years

Missions- *1st Floor, Sanctuary Building*

6:30 PM-7:30 PM Mission Friends

Ages 3 years thru Kindergarten

Special Events throughout the year include:

Vacation Bible School, Family Water Day, Parents' Night Out, Family Putt-Putt, Fall Festival, Family Advent Wreath making, Elf Workshop, Father Son Bowling, and our Mother Daughter Tea.

Children (Grades 1-5)

The elementary age years build on the spiritual foundation that is laid in the preschool years. During the elementary years children further develop friendships at church, and begin feeling like a part of an "extended" family, made up of both adults and children in our church community. We would love to welcome you and your children into this loving family!

As the children continue to grow in their spiritual journey they are offered opportunities to learn Bible verses and stories and are given help in applying these stories and their truths to their own lives.

There are four basic concepts we teach children about God:

- *God is Love
- *God is Forgiving
- *God is Ever-Present
- *God is Faithful

The following activities are provided to enhance the learning experience:

Sunday

Sunday Worship- Sanctuary

8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

Children learn by imitating. We believe that the best way for them to learn how to worship, then, is by being in the regular worship service with their families. As they imitate the way their parents and others worship, they will learn how to worship God themselves. We do offer a children's sermon as part of our regular 11 o'clock worship services.

Sunday School- Children's Hall, 2nd Floor of the Education Building

9:45 AM-10:45 AM The children are in graded Sunday School classes where they learn age-appropriate Bible lessons and learn how to be part of a community.

Sunday Night Music- 1st and 2nd Floors of the Sanctuary Building

5:30 PM-6:30 PM

The Children's Choir Ministry is a combination of choir groupings of children ranging from age 3 through Grade 7. Each choir has leadership, collectively referred to as Children's Choir Workers, that consists of a director, one or more teachers, and an outreach leader. These experienced workers are under the overall direction of the Music Associate, Maryann Tyler. The Children's Choirs Finale in the spring normally includes all the groups (except the Three's) and is a wonderful opportunity for parents to witness the difference in music skills learned at each level, as well as a chance for the children to experience worship through music at all ages.

Wednesday Evening

Missions- Children's Hall, 2nd Floor of the Education Building

6:30 PM-7:30 PM

Girls in Action for girls in grades 1-5

Royal Ambassadors for boys in grades 1-5

Wednesday nights are a time for our children to learn more about missions and to actually participate in mission projects. In GAs and RAs the children learn about various missionaries and how they not only help others, but also how they show others God's love. Our children also do various mission projects throughout the year, including collecting canned goods and packing shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. This is an important time for children as it helps them understand the need and call to help others.

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