



WESTMINSTER  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH

SPIRITUAL FORMATION for  
**Children and Youth**

2016 – 2017



# 2016 – 2017 SUNDAY PROGRAMS FOR Children and Youth

## 8:45 – 11:15 A.M. FOR BABIES AND TODDLERS

### **Nursery**

Childcare is provided for babies and toddlers each Sunday. Two paid caregivers and a teen volunteer provide loving care for the children in a safe environment. A special area is available for nursing mothers as well.

## 9:00 – 10:00 A.M. FOR CHILDREN

### **Godly Care: Ages 2 – 4**

#### **Preschool Suite: Classroom A**

Families begin worship together in the sanctuary, and the children leave for their class after the *Time with Our Children*. In Godly Care, young children experience simple worship rituals and learn key stories in the Bible. Each story is told in a lively fashion using bright, colorful felt figures. Children respond through crafts, songs and prayers.

### **Godly Play 1: Kindergarten – Grade 2**

#### **Ruth Christie Room** (concludes in Preschool Classroom C for pickup after worship)

Families begin worship together in the sanctuary. The children leave for their class after the *Time with Our Children*, or they may remain in worship. Children learn the language of God's people through sacred space, sacred stories, parables and liturgical actions. Much more than play, this experience is highly structured and applies the Montessori Method to religious education. *Please note that Godly Play 2 is now at 10:10 a.m.*

### **Sing-to-Praise Choir Program: Grades 3 – 6**

#### **Youth Music Room**

A parent or responsible adult will escort their child to the youth music room at 8:55 for sign-in, just prior to the start of worship. Parents pick up their child immediately following 9:00 worship. The older elementary choir program will encourage faith formation through singing, scripture, creative expression and fellowship. Singing and musical development with instruction in note-reading will be emphasized, and the children's choir will sing in worship a minimum of six times in addition to performing a spring musical on March 12.

### ***Keeping Our Children Safe – Security Labels***

*Our nursery and children's programs (birth – grade 2) use security labels as part of their check-in and check-out process. Labels are available in the nursery, Preschool Suite, and the sanctuary pew pockets. A parent or guardian will fill out one side of the peel-and-stick label during the announcements, stick it to their child's back before the Time with Our Children, and retain the stub to be presented when they pick up their child.*

10:10 – 11:00 A.M. FOR CHILDREN



## Sunday School for Preschoolers: Ages 2 – 4

### Preschool Suite: Classroom D

Guided by the new Cokesbury publication *Deep Blue*, our preschool curriculum aims to present important biblical stories to young children in fun and accessible ways including an animated DVD. We also sing songs and make crafts, forming a playful environment in which teachers and children can explore stories of the Bible together.

## Joyful Noise Choir Program: Kindergarten – Grade 2

### Youth Music Room

The younger elementary choir program is an excellent opportunity for children to sing, play, make friends, and practice communal worship. The Joyful Noise choir includes occasional Sunday worship participation, Christmas Eve worship, and a spring musical performed with the Sing-to-Praise choir on March 12.

## Godly Play 2: Grades 3 – 5

### Classroom 4 (The Art Room)

Following a similar format as Godly Play 1 for younger children, the stories in Godly Play 2 are longer and the work/response time offers added variety for the interests and abilities of older children. Because Godly Play 2 takes place during the education hour, there is more time available for the children to engage the story through wondering questions and creative response.

10:10 – 11:00 A.M. FOR YOUTH

Save the Date!  
Vacation Bible School  
July 17 – 21, 2017

## Middle Schoolers on the Move: Grades 6 – 8

### Classroom 8

This class will provide middle school youth with an opportunity to learn biblical skills as well as an outlet for community discussion on faith questions and curiosities. Adult leaders will facilitate an ongoing class conversation, which will address the role of faith and scripture in one's life. The program may include an occasional Sunday morning field trip.

## Confirmation: Grades 9 and 10

### Classroom 7

Following the way of Jesus is a high calling and a lifelong endeavor. That is why this confirmation experience is designed to help young people begin to grasp the radical nature of the Christian journey. By the end of the program year, a young person who has been committed to and active in the group will be able to articulate why faith is important and how that faith is visible in his or her life. Youth who have participated in the program and choose to join Westminster Church will be received into full membership during the Easter Vigil on the Saturday night prior to Easter Sunday.

## Senior Highs: Grades 11 and 12

Older teens may be engaged on Sunday mornings by helping out with our children's programs: Preschool, Joyful Noise and Sing-to-Praise. Children enjoy and respond well to the individual attention of teenagers. For information about how you can become involved, contact Susan Moseley (smoseley@wpc.org or 302-654-5214, ext. 124).

NOVEMBER 27

### **An Intergenerational Advent Celebration: Love Gives!**

A joy-filled occasion in Community Hall that will engage everyone, at every age.





## Grades 6 – 12

Sunday Evenings  
5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

### A FEW HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COMING YEAR:

- **Launch Night and Orientation for Youth and Parents**  
Sunday, September 11  
5:00 – 7:00 p.m. with pizza  
Community Hall and Classroom 6  
Come out to hear our plans for a new and exciting 180° year.
- **Biblical Story Adventures in October**  
With Westminster Storytellers
- **180° Guatemala Mission Focus**  
And senior high mission trip to Guatemala, planned for June 2017
- **Fall Retreat at Camp Johnsonburg in New Jersey**  
Saturday, September 17, 12:00 p.m. –  
Sunday, September 18, 4:00 p.m.  
*Permission form required.*
- **Christmas Party**  
Sunday, December 11  
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
Hosted by The Saathoff Family
- **Luminary Worship Arts**  
Sunday nights, 6:30 – 7:00 p.m.  
With Director of Children and Youth Music,  
Merideth Hite Estevez
- **And much, much more...**

