



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

SPIRITUAL FORMATION for
Children and Youth

2017 – 2018



2017 – 2018 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 *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

Families begin worship together in the sanctuary. The children leave for choir after *Time with Our Children*, and an adult will escort them to the Youth Music Room. 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 several times throughout the year in addition to performing a spring musical on May 13.

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 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 May 13.

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 23 – 27, 2018

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 or service project.

Senior Highs: Grades 9 – 12

Classroom 7

Following the way of Jesus is a high calling and a lifelong endeavor. That is why this new Sunday school class will provide ample opportunities for teens to explore their faith from all angles. In addition to forging friendships and enjoying Sunday morning fellowship, they will be encouraged to ask questions and engage life issues in a safe and open environment. When do teenagers really have time in their busy schedules to reflect on deep topics? Let Sunday mornings be that time and Classroom 7 be the place.

DECEMBER 3

An Intergenerational Advent Celebration!

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





180

YOUTH MINISTRY

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 17
5:00 – 7:00 p.m. with pizza
Community Hall and Classroom 6
Come out to hear the exciting plans

Youth to Lead Worship on Reformation Sunday

Sunday, October 29, 10:00 a.m.

And Enjoy Fall Festival

Sunday, October 29, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

505 Worship at the Center for The Creative Arts

Sunday, November 12, 5:05 p.m.
And enjoy dinner together after worship
Pick up at 7:00 p.m.

Middle School Retreat at Kirkwood Camp and Retreat Center

Friday night – Sunday morning
November 3 – 5

Senior High Retreat at Camp Johnsonburg

Friday night – Sunday morning
November 17 – 19

Christmas Party

Sunday, December 10
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Location TBA

9-Square-a-Thon

Sunday, January 14, 1:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Bowling!

Friday, January 26
Details TBA

Midnight Run in NYC (Senior Highs)

Saturday – Sunday, February 24-25

And much, much more...

