

June/July 2020

Children's Ministry Newsletter



"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. "

Deuteronomy 6:5-7

Welcome Back to Children's Ministry!

We are so excited to be able to restart our Sunday morning children's ministry programming! We can not wait to spend time with your kids! Sunday, June 28th is our restart target date for first and second service children's ministry. This will include Babies and Toddlers through 6th grade (student ministries also plans to start the same week). There are some minor adjustments though. Temporarily, the 4's & 5's and Kindergarten classes will be combined in the 4's and 5's classroom during second service. In the elementary school, some grade groups may be combined or split based on the week's needs, but all elementary kids will still meet in their regular classrooms.

We are doing our part to provide a clean and healthy environment, though it is a team effort! Some things you as parents can do to help:

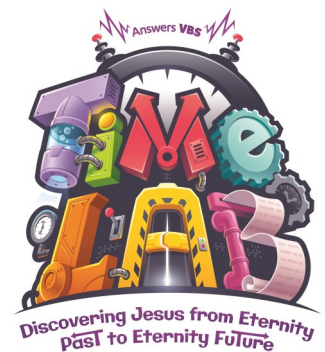
- Please, if you child shows any symptoms of illness, keep them home. We will look forward to seeing them when they are well!
- If possible, have only one parent (preferably the same parent) drop off and pick up your child on Sunday mornings. This will help limit foot traffic and the number of people gathered at classroom entrances and exits before and after the service.
- Please have your child wash their hands before and after they attend class.

We greatly appreciate your vigilance in helping make our reopening a success. If you have any questions or concerns, don't hesitate to reach out to me at gwen.m@e-free-family.com.

Sign up for VBS 2020!

VBS is just around the corner! July 27-31 is our TimeLab VBS, and any kids who have completed Kindergarten through 6th grade are invited to attend! As always, the week will be filled with lots of fun games, music, and activities, all with the focus of teaching the good news of Jesus Christ. With a wacky time travel theme this year, we will be discovering Jesus in the Old Testament, New Testament, present, and future! It should be a blast!

Kids can be registered online at <http://e-free-family.com/connect/children/>.



Discussing racism with your kids

I know this is a little late to the game, but I wanted to share a few resources I found that give ideas and perspective on how to address some of the racial tension in our country right now with our kids.

The Gospel Coalition “5 Children’s Books on Racism and the Gospel” (www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/5-childrens-books-racism-gospel/) - I’ve only actually read one of the books on this list, but it was super great! The book “God’s Very Good Idea” handles racism in the context of sin and salvation through Jesus Christ.

Focus on the Family’s “How to Talk with Your Kids About Racial Differences” (www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting/how-to-talk-with-your-kids-about-racial-differences/)

Christianity Today’s “How to Talk About Racism with Your Kids” (www.christianitytoday.com/women/2017/august/how-to-talk-about-race-with-kids-racism.html) - An article that I personally found helpful as I have been processing the events happening around the nation and what my role as a non-minority parent should be.



Sunday Mornings:

What will we be learning this quarter?

Pre-K & K – Loving God and Others. This summer we will be in the Old Testament learning how we can love God and other people well.

Second Service

1st—4th grade: This summer we will continue working our way through the Bible. We will finish 1 and 2 Samuel and begin 1 Kings.

5th—6th grade: June—Share; July—My Spiritual Life; August—Service

Third Service

For the time being, there is no third service, and thus no third service children’s ministry. When third service returns at a later date, it may take a few weeks before third service children’s ministry will be up and running. Be on the look out for updates as the summer progresses.

Sermon activity bags will be available until all the normal children’s ministry programs start back up again.