



All Saints' Church School Newsletter

Church School News - Spring/Summer 2016

Another busy year of church school is beginning to wind down for the summer! We are excited to celebrate the end of the church school year with two special events on Sunday, June 12th. First, our 10AM service will be led by the children and youth of All Saints'! Then, we invite everyone to join us for fellowship after the service at our annual Strawberry Shortcake Festival! We hope to see lots of families throughout the summer at the 9:30AM service. Don't forget to join us for the Summer Mystery Club each Sunday in August! Wishing you all a peaceful, blessed summertime!

Godly Play

It's hard to believe that we're finishing up our year in Godly Play! It's been a fun year and we have enjoyed getting to know our new first grade students. Next year will be an exciting time for our third grade Godly Play "veterans," as we have some very special activities and plans for them since they've been doing Godly Play almost exclusively since they were only three years old and are experts! Keep your eye out for information about a meeting in June to discuss our plans for third grade.

I would like to thank our Storytellers, Jen, Debbie, Vicki, and Laura, for their continued dedication to providing a high-quality, rich, and FUN church school experience for our students. I would also like to give a BIG thanks to all our Safe Church Advocate volunteers. It takes a village to raise a child, and we are SO grateful for all our villagers! If you feel called to volunteer as a SCA, a Door Person, or would consider becoming a Storyteller, please speak with me or one of our other Storytellers for more information. We would be honored to have you join our team!

In May, the students will hear stories about Pentecost, the Holy Trinity, and Paul. In June, we'll be doing some lessons on various crosses from the Christian tradition, as well as studying The Lord's Prayer. We will end with a reflection on our year, and we hope the students will share what worked for them and what they would hope to have happen next year.

It is a privilege to teach your students and we learn from them, as well. Thank you for your continued support and commitment to our classroom.

Katie LaRochelle, on behalf of Jen Dowd, Vicki Albright,
Laura Barry, and Debbie Collins

Weavers

The Weavers have spent a lovely year Weaving God's Promises and having discussions about the role our faith plays in our lives. We have practiced praying for ourselves and for others. We have studied scripture for understanding and especially to understand the significance of our liturgical calendar. We have practiced our faith in the making of crafts for a fundraiser and in the stuffing of Blessing Bags for children in need of support and prayer. We've contemplated our role as stewards of our planet's resources, residents of our world, and companions in the journey of life. Our Weavers have shared stories from their own lives that have helped to illustrate and explore our lessons. Our Weavers have posed tough questions about the juxtaposition of goodness and love and suffering and loss in our world and together we've considered God's messages in the midst of those truths. We have truly woven our way through God's messages. We look forward to continuing the journey in the coming church school year.

Peace,

The Weavers Team

Colors of Christ

Our Colors of Christ students have continued to enjoy listening to felt board stories, practicing The Lord's Prayer, and having some fun, energetic ball play out in the parish hall! We are thrilled to have Skyla Garrigan and Grace Mescall continue the Colors of Christ traditions next year as Abby, Emily, and Emma begin their college years!

The Colors of Christ Team



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Rite-13

Rite-13 is wrapping up its first year! There is no class on May 29th due to the long weekend. Our final day of class will be June 5th, as the Strawberry Festival is on June 12th and we can't miss that delicious, special event!

In last week's class we talked about possessions (material and spiritual/emotional) and the kids took a personal inventory of these: ones they need, they have, or they want. The good news is they don't want for much, (although a college degree was on everyone's want list = yay!) and they have plenty. Others are not quite so fortunate, so we've asked each child to bring in up to 5 items of clothing they (or a family member) can part with and donate to the less fortunate. We've asked them to bring their donations in on June 5th.

It's been a great year and we look forward to doing more next year!

Debbie, Sean & Karen

Journey to Adulthood

The last Sunday of Church School is June 12th- which will be Strawberry Shortcake Sunday during coffee hour- which means J2A will not be having class that day. So our remaining classes before Summer are: May 15, May 22, and June 5th (we will be taking the 29th off for Memorial Day Weekend). Please make every effort to get your young adult to class for these last three classes (let me know if you need any help with a ride, etc.).

Starting in the fall, J2A will be **MOVING our CLASS TIME**. We will meet every other Sunday in the early evening 6pm- 7:30pm. I will send you a draft schedule in August for the first semester- and working together, we will be sure that they have class at least two Sundays a month. Currently we get about 40 minutes if we are lucky on a Sunday- so this new time will help us to really take advantage of the J2A curriculum. This will allow us to have a full class, regardless of the kids service on the altar or choir or sports schedules. We are really excited about this shift- and hope it will give the class time to go deep.

Also starting in the fall will be a confirmation class. Bill will be sending out information on that soon. Look for his email and feel free to ask questions.

Save the Date!

This summer All Saints' will once again hold a Summer Mystery Club for four Sundays during the 9:30 AM service. Children of all ages are invited to join in on the fun! We will follow the clues, break the codes, and solve the mystery! Please mark your calendars for Sundays, August 7, 14, 21, & 28. Watch the website and e-bulletin for more information. We hope to see you there!

Strawberry Shortcake Festival!

Please join us Sunday, June 12th for our annual Strawberry Shortcake Festival following the 10AM service. It is an All Saints' tradition to celebrate the end of the church school program year and kick off the summer with shortcake and fellowship in the Parish Hall. **If you are able to contribute strawberries, shortcake, or whipped cream, please drop them off in the kitchen off the Parish Hall before the 10AM service the morning of the 12th.** We can't wait to see everyone there!



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A Message from our Minister of Music

Even though we are winding down one church season, I am already looking ahead to the fall. Both the Disco Penguins (our small, but mighty group) and our B# choirs welcome new members. To be a Disco Penguin, one has to be able to read words well; we take care of the rest. It is a great first introduction to singing. The B# Choir is for grades 5 and up. The groups overlap rehearsals, with the Penguins rehearsing Thursdays from 6-7pm, and the B# from 6:30-7:30pm. Our first rehearsal will be on September 15. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Yours in Christ,
Maggie Marshall

Notes from the Church School Council

As the program year draws to a close, we would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to our amazingly dedicated Church School teachers! These wonderful individuals volunteer their time, talent, and treasure throughout the year to offer our children the VERY BEST church school program possible! Thank you to our Godly Play teachers, Vicki Albright, Laura Andrews, Jen Dowd, and Katie LaRochelle; our Weavers teachers, Deb Forsberg, Paige Flick, Dina Richert, and Joan Thomas, as well as wonderful volunteers Lily Marshall and Peggy West; our Rite-13 teachers, Debbie Psilopoulos, Sean Seyffert, and Karen Garrigan; our J2A teachers, Laura Marshall and Brian and Amy Hunter; our YAC teacher, Denise Seyffert, with special help from Katie Belanger, Mike Thompson, and Sally Warren; and our Colors of Christ "new recruits" finishing up their first year, Skyla Garrigan and Grace Mescall. **We are so grateful for all you do for our youth!**

We would also like to offer a **VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU** to our graduating Colors of Christ teachers, Emily Andrews, Emma Seyffert, and Abby Warren. These three young woman have created an amazingly warm, inviting environment for our youngest church school students. We are so grateful for all you have done over the past three years and we wish you every success as you embark on the next chapter of your lives!

Finally, to all of our many volunteers who help out with special events and safe church policies, we simply cannot say thank you enough! We would not be able to run our classes smoothly or have so many special events throughout the year without your help. We are so grateful for all the wonderful parents and parishioners who make it possible to give our youth the very best church school experience week after week. Thank you for all you do!





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Holy Communion Class Update

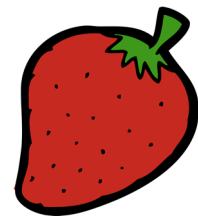


We have had many parents interested in learning more about the Holy Communion Class we offer every other year. We were hoping to make it an annual event by offering the class this year, but busy schedules prevented us from pulling it off! However, we are officially dedicated to holding the class in early 2017. If you have a child entering 1st grade through 5th grade who has not had the opportunity to take this class yet, we encourage you to be on the lookout for more information in the fall edition of our Church School Newsletter!

Important Upcoming Dates



Sunday, June 12th – 10AM Child-led Worship
Strawberry Shortcake Festival after 10AM service



Sunday, June 19th – Summer Schedule Begins!
8AM service in the chapel
9:30AM service in the main church

Sundays, August 7th, 14th, 21st, & 28th –
Summer Mystery Club for children of all ages during the 9:30AM service



Sunday, Sept. 11th – First day of Church School for 2016-2017 school year!

Thurs., Sept. 15th – First night of choir rehearsal for the '16-'17 school year!

Updates and Improvements to our Church School Space!

Do you have some great ideas or suggestions for making our church school areas more comfortable and functional? Then we need to hear your voice!

With a portion of the funds from the Living Stones Capital Campaign improving the church buildings and grounds an implementation committee has been established to recommend specific needs. The committee is seeking input on improvements to the lower church school area including the restrooms, and Tom Richert has been tasked with assembling a working group to help with this work.

If you have any interest in being part of this group, or already have some ideas for improvements to these spaces please talk to Tom at church or send him an email expressing your interest.