



# Children's Ministry Newsletter

## Spring 2010

Dear Parents,

Oh how I loved typing the word "Spring" at the top of this page. I look forward to the warm sunny days, spring break and Easter!

I hope you all will join us during our Lenten program. You won't have to cook and you and your children get to learn about our Lord! How can you say no to that?

After Easter we will start to put our focus towards VBS! It is never too early to volunteer! Write the dates down now on your calendar, June 21<sup>st</sup> – June 25<sup>th</sup>. We had 98 children attend last year. It takes a lot of volunteers to pull this off!

I hope your children are enjoying church school. They have wonderful dedicated teachers. Thank you so much to Megan Booth, Amara Walker and Liz Jaberg. Also, thank you so much to anyone who has volunteered this year. Volunteers are so important to help our kids learn and to keep them safe! I remember being so hesitant to volunteer with the children because I didn't feel I knew how to. Kimberly Corso helped me get over that fear when she was the director (and look at me now.) I hope I can do the same for you. If you feel working with the children is something you would like to do but are hesitant to do so please talk to me. I was once there too.

I am looking forward to spending this spring with you and your children.

In His Service,  
Tiffany Stieger

### **Lenten Dinner Programs:**

Our Lenten programs have begun. They will run every Wednesday through March 24<sup>th</sup>. Dinner is at 6:00pm and the program is from 6:45pm – 7:45 pm. The nursery will be open for birth through 3 years old.

### **1st Communion Class (kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade) led by Reverend Danielle and Mrs. Stieger**

Do this in Remembrance of Me: A Communion Class for Young Children and their parents (parents are required to attend). This program is specially designed to help young children (and their parents!) learn more about the important sacrament of Holy Eucharist. We will discuss the basic history of communion, what it symbolizes and why this sacrament is so important. In addition to the classes the children will meet on Saturday March 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am to review and prepare for a special celebration of the Eucharist. The children will celebrate their Communion during the 10:15 Easter Service on April 4<sup>th</sup>. Please let me know if your child plans on attending.

### **The Armor of God (ages 3 – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade) led by Mrs. Megan and Mrs. Liz**

Each week the children will learn about Ephesians and the different pieces of armor they are to put on to live a Christian life. They will make their armor too. Please let me know if your child plans on attending.

**Our 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders** will again join Mike Beam in the youth department program. This is a great opportunity for the kids to get to know Mike since they will soon move to the youth program.

### **Church School Lent program**

Our Lent program for Church School is from the Catechism in the Book of Common Prayer, "The Duties of a Christian."

Q. What is the duty of all Christians?

A. Their duty of all Christians is to follow Christ; to come together week by week for corporate worship; and to work, pray and give for the spread of the kingdom of God.

### **Palm Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup> – 9:30 am – 10:00 am**

Your family is invited to dye Easter eggs in Quigley Hall. Please bring one dozen hard boiled eggs if you plan to participate.

### **Family Seder Dinner & Maundy Thursday Service, April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Please join us for a family lesson and meal celebrating the Passover Seder prior to the Maundy Thursday service. The Passover Seder is the Hebrew celebration of the Passover upon which the Christian Eucharist is based. This is an excellent learning opportunity for your children. Dinner begins at 6:00 p.m. with the service following at 7:30 p.m. The Nursery will be open from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

### **Easter Sunday – Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>**

#### **Flowering of the Cross, Return Mite Boxes, and Easter Egg Hunt**

9:45 – 10:00 am – All children are invited to decorate the cross, located next to the Epistle side door. They may also deposit their mite boxes there. Please bring flowers from home (or Publix if need be!) to place on the cross. Even if you forget your flower, please bring your children to the cross as our Flower Guild will provide extras.

11:45ish - Our children's Easter Egg Hunt will follow the 10:15 service. 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will hunt in the youth room, Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will hunt on the playground, preschoolers on the toddler playground (behind Rowe Hall), and the really little ones on the grassy area in front of Rowe Hall. Remember to bring your baskets (and your cameras)!

**Reminder, we will not have Church School Easter Sunday. The nursery will be open for birth through 3 years of age and PALS will be in the room next to the nursery for preschoolers. Elementary age children will need to attend church.**

### **Children's Ministry Planning Lunch, April 11<sup>th</sup> @ 11:45 am, conference room**

I need your help planning for our children. I would love to hear all your ideas about the things we are doing and new things we could do. We will be planning for VBS and our summer events. Please mark your calendars now and RSVP by April 8<sup>th</sup> so I can plan for food.

### **Family Picnic, April 25<sup>th</sup>**

Join us at Dartmouth Park following the 10:15 service. Pack your lunch (or hit the Publix deli!) and head over to the park after coffee hour. Please be reminded, there are no restroom facilities at the park!

### **K4C end of year splash!**

#### **Sunday May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2:30 pm-4:00 pm**

We will celebrate before we send off our 5<sup>th</sup> grade members to EYC. We will also invite our upcoming 4<sup>th</sup> grade members to join the party and join K4C. What a great way to kick-off the summer! Location TBA

## VBS Sign ups

Please mark your calendars for **June 21<sup>st</sup> – June 25<sup>th</sup>**. Our theme this year is High Seas, "Exploring the Mighty Love of God." We are already looking for volunteers so please call if you would like to join the High Seas Expedition Crew! Parishioners can go ahead and sign up for VBS now! You can also register as a volunteer. Spaces are limited so sign up today! Go to:

<http://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/ez/jesus>

I will be collecting money and answering questions at coffee hour on April 18<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>. All money and forms are due no later than May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Registration is open to our families in the preschool on April 19<sup>th</sup>. We will open registration to the public on April 26<sup>th</sup>. The fees for VBS are:

Pre-School program (ages 3 (and potty-trained) – Pre K):  
Cost is \$50.00 (member) & \$60.00 (non-member)  
Elementary program (Completed kindergarten – 5<sup>th</sup> grade):  
Cost is \$25.00 (member) & \$35.00 (non-member)

### Spring Schedule:

March 3, 10, 17, 24	Lenten Dinner @ 6:00pm/Program @ 6:45pm
Sunday, March 21	K4C event
Saturday, March 27	Final Communion Class @ 10:00am
Sunday, March 28	Palm Sunday, dye Easter eggs @ 9:30 am
Sunday, April 4	Easter 9:45 – Flower the Cross & return mite boxes 11:45 – Easter Egg Hunt
Sunday, April 11	Children's Ministry Planning Lunch
Sunday, April 18	K4C event, VBS sign ups begin
Sunday, April 25	Picnic in the Park @ Dartmouth Park following the 10:15 service
Sunday, May 2	Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast
Sunday, May 23	K4C end of year party
Sunday, June 6	Last day of Church School, 5 <sup>th</sup> graders go to EYC
June 14 – June 18	VBS Set up
June 21 – June 25	VBS!

**A Prayer for the Care of Children** (from the *Book of Common Prayer*, page 829)  
Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children:  
Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up,  
that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good,  
following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ.

*Amen*

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