

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY HANDBOOK

Purpose

The purpose of the children's ministry is to provide a quality atmosphere of growth and development for children of all ages by:

1. Providing positive role models.
2. Offering exciting opportunities for instruction in God's Word.
3. Conducting monthly activities, seasonal outings, and special events.
4. Training adults to lead, disciple, teach, and counsel children.
5. Mobilizing children for world mission involvement.

Children's Ministry

The purpose of the children's ministry is to provide quality programs and activities that will instill biblical principles into the whole life of the child. For more information, contact the director of children's ministry.

Sunday School

Classes for children in preschool (K3-K5) through fifth grade are provided during the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services. These programs provide an intimate environment for children to learn basic principles from Scripture in a more traditional Sunday school environment. These classes are:

Grand Central Station (Grades one through five)

This exciting grade-school program incorporates all the child's senses using puppets and unique characters to teach life principles from God's Word. Meeting on Sunday mornings at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., children from first to fifth grades learn how to reach out to their community~

Noah's Ark (K3 through K5)

This fast-paced preschool program takes children to a place where "Noah," a weathered seaman, lives with a host of animals and Oakly, a talking tree. Through various situations, the animals learn how God wants them to live. This program is held Sundays at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Evenings

The Wednesday night program for grade-school students operates on a quarterly schedule. Two quarters serve as "practice night" for the spring and Christmas musicals. The other quarters include special training and worship classes with the children's pastor.

Preschool is a fully structured classroom program for preschool students. It meets Wednesday evenings and includes singing, crafts, games, and Bible stories.

Nursery Program

Nursery programs are available during all Sunday services and Wednesday evening services. Nursery rooms are located on the first floor of the west wing next to the sanctuary.

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Special Programs

Puppet/Drama Team

This group of adults and teens uses its talents and gifts to perform for children's church and other special outreach programs throughout the year for Grand Central Station and Noah's Ark. A specialized group of puppeteers comprises "Puppet Express," our puppet outreach team that performs in schools, neighborhoods, and nursing homes.

Super Saturdays

During the school year, first through fifth graders take monthly trips to places like Scitrek, Zoo Atlanta, and Stone Mountain. These trips provide opportunities for both children and adults to build lasting relationships. Super Saturdays are really "super" times for moms and dads to get involved with what their children are doing.

Super Tuesdays

During the summer months, kids of all ages (including preschool) take bimonthly trips for fun, recreation, learning, and fellowship.

Vacation Bible School

Each year, Super Kids Week provides an opportunity for the children of the church to reach out to surrounding communities. A series of high-energy rallies are planned and the children compete in the Bible Bowl program. Preschool classes are also offered in the traditional Vacation Bible School format.

Hallowed Be Thy Name Festival

This event is an alternative to Halloween and invites the community to join the church in celebrating Christ using a festival format. There are rides, games, music, food, and fun for children of all ages.

Children's Musicals

Each spring and at Christmas, the first through fifth graders have the opportunity to share their gifts in a full-scale musical production performed for the entire church. The preschool choir also performs three to four times a year. Both age groups use Wednesday evenings as rehearsal times.

Summer Camp

Children in first through fifth grades are given an opportunity to participate in a weeklong camping experience featuring various recreational activities (swimming, canoeing, archery, puppets, and camp crafts). Christian fellowship and personal development are the results of this event.