

## Worship Enrichment Opportunities

Offered during 9:30 & 11:00 Services

All children are welcome in the sanctuary with their parent or guardian during the entire worship service. We also offer the following opportunities for children 3-4th grade. Children attending worship may leave the sanctuary following the scripture reading for these age-appropriate activities.

**Worship Folders:** Located in the Narthex, these folders contain activities that reflect the daily worship service. The folders also have colors, a pencil, and pipe cleaners. Please ask an usher for helping finding these useful worship tools.

Ages: all ages

**Extended Care:** Led by our children's ministry intern, this program introduces young children to the important aspects of worship, including scripture, prayer, liturgy, and sacraments. The children return to the sanctuary to participate in Holy communion on the first Sunday of every month. All other Sundays children are to be picked up in the classroom.

Ages:3-5

**Musikgarten:** A music curriculum that uses Bible stories as central themes. The stories are told through creative movement, dramatic play and song. This program does not meet during the first Sunday of every month when the children are asked to remain in the sanctuary to receive Holy Communion.

Ages: Kindergarten and 1st grade

**Children in Worship:** This program is designed to help older children continue in worship through age-appropriate discussion and activities related to the sermon theme. This program does not meet on the first Sunday of every month when the children are asked to remain in the sanctuary to receive Holy Communion.

Ages: 2nd-4th grade

## Sunday Morning Opportunities

**Nursery:** 8:30- 12:15 every Sunday morning.  
Ages: Birth-approx. 12 months

**Toddler Care:** 8:30-12:15 every Sunday morning.  
Ages: Approx. 13-23 months

**9:30 and 11:00 Sunday School:** Using Methodist curriculum, these hour long classes use various activities including stories and crafts to engage your child in the stories of the Bible. Please see a list of classrooms posted in hallways for locations.  
Ages: 2yrs-5th grade

**Third Grade Bible Program:** Six week program offered every Fall at 9:30 for 3rd graders. This short-term class uses Methodist Curriculum to help our third graders learn about the Bible. Children are presented with a Bible of their own at a scheduled 11:00 worship service and are honored with a reception in their honor that same day after the service. A bible breakfast is also held in the fall.

Ages: 3rd Grade

## Tarrytown United Methodist Church

### A Guide to Children's Ministry



### Children's Ministry Staff

Tanya Eustace-Director of Children's Ministry

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# Seasonal and Special Opportunities

## January

**Epiphany Feast:** The church celebrates the arrival of the Wise Men to visit the baby Jesus at this intergenerational event held in early January. Children have an opportunity to recreate the manger scene and the visit of the Magi. We celebrate with dinner, song and King's cake.

Ages: All

**Created by God:** This seminar deals with the basics of human growth and sexual development in a framework of positive human relationships using scripture as a guide (offered every two years)

Ages: 4th-6th grade

## February- April

**Mardi Gras Party:** Children participate in fun activities that help to celebrate Shrove Tuesday and the last day before Lent. A time is set aside to explain the meaning of this special time in the church year. We conclude with a parade through the church building. This event is held in conjunction with the annual pancake supper.

Ages: 2 yrs. -5th grade

**Lenten activities:** Lenten symbol packets/calendars are available to families to enhance the meaning of Lent.

Ages: 2 years– 5th grade

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Held on the church lawn the weekend before Easter. Children hunt eggs, a short chapel service is offered, and families enjoy time together as they eat refreshments on the church lawn.

Ages: All ages

## Summer

**Vacation Bible School:** A week of fun is planned each summer for children to participate in this Christian-based, theme-filled event. Storytelling, crafts, games, music and special attractions are the draw for this very popular event!

Ages: 4 years-5th grade

**District Pre-teen Camp:** A 3-day overnight camp for children who have completed 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades. This district wide camp is held in June at Mt. Wesley in Kerrville, Texas.

## December

**Advent Activities:** Packets for families of children wishing to bring a fuller understanding of advent through the making of advent symbols at home. Ornament kits and Advent wreaths are provided at a nominal charge. Packets contain materials for arranging an advent wreath in the home, complete with an advent worship booklet for children and adults.

Ages: 2yrs-5th grade

**Family Advent Festival:** An evening set aside for slowing down the hectic holiday pace and focusing on what Christmas is really about.

Ages: Families with children 3 years– 5th grade.

**Birthday Party for Jesus:** Each year this celebration of Christ's birth is held for all children Sunday School classes, Children watch a Christmas video, act out the manger story, make crafts, and eat birthday cake.

Ages: 3 years-5th grade

# Other Age Appropriate Opportunities

- All ages- Baptism
- birth-5th grade: TUMC offers child care for most events at the church- call church office to RSVP for a specific event.
- Birth-5 years: Children's Day Out- a part-time preschool beginning in late August through mid May. Hours are 9 a.m.- 2 p.m. Space in this program is limited. Contact the Director for more information.
- 3 yrs and older- Children encouraged to attend an hour of worship with their parents (participating in worship enrichment opportunities) and an hour of Sunday School.
- 2 yrs-5th grade: During Advent children Sunday School classes will create decorations for the Fellowship Hall Christmas Tree
- 3yrs-5th grade: Music team visits Sunday School classes during the first Sunday of the month
- 4th grade- Acolyte during worship service
- 5th grade- Scripture Reader and/or Usher during worship service
- 4th-5th grade: Missions and Madness (M&M's): an outreach program for 4th and 5th graders that meets monthly on Friday night. We also offer an annual M&M's mini camp during the summer.