



Redeemer Kids at 11.15



Welcome to Our Children's Programme

Welcome to our second year (or is it really our third?) of *11.15 Redeemer Kids*. We are delighted to offer a place for the youngest members of our community and their families within the 11.15 service and will begin classes on September 19.

For our wee members, Jaleh is in the nursery on the lower level.

From Junior Kindergarten through tween years our one-room school house is a place where we blend worship and learning.

We have found it works well to gather at a little table in the worship space for the first part of the service and then have our own time of story and learning (with a craft, of course!) on the lower level before rejoining the whole community for bread

and wine. Look for us at the little table in the worship space. Over the course of last year we found ways to include the children in leadership roles—greeting at the door, helping to set up for coffee time and being part of the liturgy. We intend to expand on that this year. The response from the wider community to the presence of the children has been very positive and nurturing. We can't wait to welcome you on the 19th.



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Who's Who!

This year, Ann will continue to co-ordinate our program but won't be in the teaching line up

quite as often. She'll still be around each Sunday to say hello. Last year's circle of

trusted adults—Anna, Carol, Jesse, and Judy—will be back again this autumn and we will

be looking for a few more folks to join us.

We gather together...

It is probably helpful to be reminded of our gathering pattern. Each Sunday morning we invite the children to gather at the small table in the worship space. One of the trusted adults will be there to welcome you. The children are invited to help the greeters hand out hymn books if they arrive early.

We stay in the worship space for the **Gathering** part of the service. There will be quiet activities to

engage the imagination, open up some ideas about who God is in our lives, and help us all settle into our time together. We are

surrounded by the sights and sounds of the liturgy. This is an important part of our formation as members of this community.

Together, we hear the songs sung (and are invited to sing, too), we are nurtured by the words of prayer and scripture; we are immersed in the pattern of the liturgical year. After the Gospel reading we go downstairs for our own time of story.

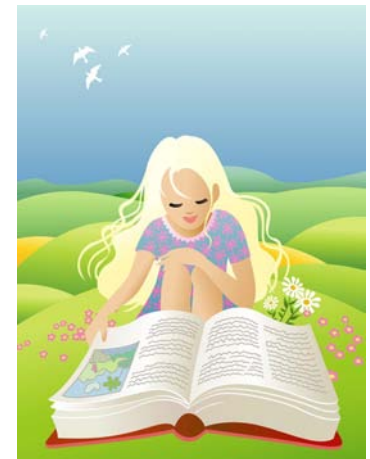


Tell me the stories of faith...

While the grown-ups listen to the sermon, we move downstairs to the board room to hear a story from the bible. In these **Story times** we will open up opportunities for the children to discover their own sense of who God is and how they know God loves them. We will also provide opportunities for creative

activity. Sometimes we just need to shake our sillies out and this will be the time we do that! With this pattern of **Gathering** and **Story** we mirror for the children the pattern of worship the adults are engaged in.

At the Peace we will return to our families for the Eucharist.



Bread and Wine...

When we come back upstairs from our story time, the children join their family members for the **Eucharist**.

The prayers said during this part of the service remind



We share
Bread for our journey and
the Cup of Joy

us of the many stories in the bible. Receiving the bread and the wine reminds us of how much God loves us. We encourage you to engage your child in active listening

and watching what happens during this prayer. Together we share in the bread for our journey and the cup of joy.

And sometimes we shake things up!

As with last year there will be times that our gathering will follow a different pattern. Sometimes the 9.30 church school families will need the lower level and we'll move to the third floor for our time together. And other times we will join the 9.30 kids for the activities they are engaged in following that service. There are times in the liturgical year that provide us with opportunities to be part of the season and so we will gather in a different way. For example, last year during Advent the chil-

dren shared in lighting the Advent candles and then went to class and on Palm Sunday - for the first time ever at an 11.15 service! - we had children as part of the procession. For special services such as Maundy Thursday there are opportunities to be part of the service as well. We will give you notice of the dates that we are going to shake things up a bit so that you can plan your arrival time accordingly.



We are leaders too...

One of the things that was our greatest joy to discover last year was how much the children loved to be part of the worship leadership and how much the community welcomed that leadership. We will be building on that this year in a variety of ways and hope that



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it will continue to be another place of nurture for the children. The greeters welcome pint-sized members helping hand out hymn books so if you arrive early, check in with them if your child can join the team until the beginning of church.

We will continue to invite the children to bring the gifts of money forward (always with a trusted adult accompanying

them) as we did last year.

The after service coffee teams are also used to having help putting out the platters of food. During the last hymn we ask the coffee team if they would like a bit of help.

In addition there will be opportunities offered to be part of the worship leadership team as reader, prayer leader or sub-deacon on special occasions.

An Invitation to Family Members

We invite you to share in the leadership of our children's program: Would you consider signing up for one Sunday as the trusted adult? Everything you need for the lesson is ready and waiting for you—no prep necessary! Really!! All you have to do

is show up and while the kids engage in quiet activity at the beginning, you can read through the background notes for the lesson and be ready to go.

Perhaps you will join us for events for all church school families like Mardi Gras or the

St. Nick feast! When we have a special event like Ash Wednesday release day, we can always use one more adult to help with crafts or lunch or sitting with the kids in church. Let us know if you'd like to help!



Our Calendar until Christmas



September 19	Our first class together—Lesson: Unlikely Leaders
September 26	Lesson: Protected People
October 3	Lesson: Doubting Travelers
October 10	<i>Thanksgiving</i> - resources will be available on the theme of saying thanks
October 17	Lesson: Loyal Followers
October 24	Lesson: Praying Believers
October 31	Lesson: Brothers* *may be a church school event scheduled instead—details to follow
November 7	Lesson: All Saints
November 14	Lesson: Sisters
November 21	<i>Reign of Christ</i> —today is our patronal festival. Children will be part of the worship leadership. *may be a church school event in addition to this—details to follow
November 28	<i>Advent 1</i> —we share in the lighting of the Advent wreath and then go to class.
December 5	<i>Advent 2</i> —same as Advent 1
December 12	<i>Advent 3</i> —same as Advent 1
December 19	<i>Advent 4</i> —same as Advent 1
Friday December 24	<i>Christmas Eve</i> —the worship service at 5 p.m. is led by the children
December 26	<i>Christmas I</i> —Lesson: The Nativity
January 2	No class —there will be resources available for use in church

