



Nursery News

January 2019

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."
Matthew 19:14



Greetings!

O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright...

~ Hymn #151 We Three Kings



EPIPHANY

Epiphany is a Christian festival on January 6 celebrating the arrival of the Magi who came to see Jesus after he was born.

Sunday, January 6 | Epiphany falls on Sunday and is the day we return to our regular Sunday schedule of two services at 8:30 and 10:30 with Education Hour in between. **Church School, Family Matters, & Children's Church** all begin again this day.

Wednesday Night Dinner & Activities Resume 1/9

Dinner begins at 5:15, announcements are at 5:45, and choirs and activities begin at 6:00. **Parent-Child Time Together** runs from 6:00-7:00pm in the Founders' Room right next door to the Children's Music Room. We offer a focus activity each night as well as a variety of other toys and activities. Come! Play!

Moms Group Resumes 1/9

10:30-noon | Nursery

Moms with children of any age are invited to be a part of our Moms Group. We return to reading and discussing selections from *Only Love Today* by Rachel Macy Stafford. Join us! Contact Marie with questions and to RSVP.



ALL-CHURCH BOWLING

January 26 | 4-6pm

- check on-line for more info



Chinese New Year

@ Midtown Global

Market | 2/3 - 4:30-6pm

Meet us in the commons area where we'll gather over dinner (on your own) and spend some time with friends, both old and new. The Market is located at 920 East Lake Street in Minneapolis. RSVP to Marie by 1/31.

GLOBAL CHOIR

If you are a busy parent and love to sing, consider being a part of the Global Choir.

- Rehearsal after worship 1/6
- Sing at Gathered at Five 1/13

Contact Barbara Prince at bprince@wpc-mpls.org for more information.

Should you have any suggestions, comments or concerns about the Nursery, Early Childhood or Family Ministries, please contact me at mkruskop@wpc-mpls.org.

Blessings on you and yours!

~ Marie

Coordinator of Early Childhood & Family Ministries



Circle Time

This month we decided to return to using *Wee Believe - God's Word for God's People: We Belong to God*, published by PC(USA). This curriculum builds foundations to help young children learn about God's love for them which helps prepare them for Church School. January's Circle Time stories focus on the life of Jesus.

- o 1/6 - *Jesus Grew* - Luke 2:21-40
- o 1/13 - *Jesus is Baptized* - Mark 1:9-11, 14b-15
- o 1/20 - *Jesus Proclaims the Good News* - Mark 1:9-11, 14b-15
- o 1/27 - *Jesus Teaches Us to Shine* - Matthew 5:14-16

We know very little of Jesus as a child, so it can be interesting to think about what his childhood may have been like. To know that Jesus was a child and experienced life as a child is a wonderful thing for children (and their parents!) to imagine.

Baptism is the foundation of our FYC (Families, Youth and Children) Ministry. When a child is baptized here at Westminster, we, as a congregation, promise to love, encourage, and support them. (Look at the "Check Out the Check-In Window" book on the table outside the Nursery for a few suggestions on how to act on the promise with our little ones and their families.) Baptism usually happens at Westminster on the third Sunday of each month. Witness these baptisms with your children and talk about your children's baptisms, reminding them that God loves them and we are all a part of God's family. This is especially relevant this month as we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord on January 13.

The last two lessons this month focus on Jesus' ministry. Jesus proclaims the good news and teaches us about God. Further, Jesus teaches us to let our love for God be seen by others. How might we do that? By talking about our love for God and by *showing* that love to others - being kind, helpful, gentle, loving. These - and other ways you can think of - are all ways to let our light shine. Singing one of Brad's "Make a Joyful Noise" songs - "This Little Light of Mine" as another way to share the message of God's love. You can find copies of the words outside the Nursery on the Early Childhood Ministries bulletin board. "Let it shine! Let it shine! Let it shine!"



Check Out the Check-In Window Book. *It's an easy way to promote early literacy and provides a way to talk with your child about aspects of faith.*

January's book, *Welcome, Little Baby* by Alikei, depicts the love and hope parents feel when they welcome their baby to their family. Westminster feels a similar love and hope for the babies (and children and youth!) in our midst.



Make a Joyful Noise! - music & movement for the wee ones | 1-13 & 27

with Brad Ollmann, Director of Early & Middle Childhood Music

January's song of the month is *I'm Gonna Sing*.

FAMILY MATTERS - A Parent Fellowship Group

Family Matters is a place of welcome and connection for Westminster parents with children of all ages, providing both support and information about parenting in a faith-based setting. Join us in the Bates Room during Education Hour. We resume January 6.

The Parenting Journey...

The Parenting Journey is intended to give you something to consider and perhaps incorporate into your personal parenting journey. It is inspired by the book *Becoming the Parent You Want to Be* by Davis and Keyser.

Davis and Keyser note that one of the things to consider when leaving your child in a child care setting includes knowing the safety policies and procedures. Our Nursery has always had a check-in/check-out system to help ensure the safety of the children placed in our care. Read on for information from Kasey Colver, Nursery Coordinator, on a new system.

I would like to take a moment to introduce to you our new paging system we have in the nursery. When the new building opened, an anonymous donor came forward to help purchase our new system. After an intense research effort, we were able to purchase our new Kid Check System.

Our new system will be able to register children, page parents, track allergies, monitor attendance as well as provide a stronger security for child pick up.

Families should plan to preregister via computer prior to using our new system for the first time. You can find the website here <https://www.kidcheck.com/signup/>. After creating an account, you will be able to download an app from the app store either on an iPhone or Android. Once the app is downloaded, you can log in and continue to use the Kid Check System from the app.

I would like to transfer into using our new system by January 6th. If you have any questions or concerns please let Kasey, the Nursery Coordinator, know.

Kasey can be reached at kcollver@wpc-mpls.org.

Blessings! Here's to the journey!

HAPPY January BIRTHDAY!!

1-5-17 - Martin (2) * 1-22-15 - Loren (4) * 1-23-15 - Aiden (2)

1-31-15 - Kellen (4) * 1-31-15 - Victor (4)



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH