



# Nursery News

August 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!

"Help. Thanks. Wow."

~ Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers by Anne Lamott

## Summer Sunday Worship

Through the Labor Day weekend we have one service on Sunday mornings at 10:00am. The Nursery is open 9:45-11:00am. On September 8, we return to two services at 8:30 and 10:30 with Education Hour in between.



## Izzy's Ice Cream

– an FYC Family Fellowship Event –

August 11 @ 4:00pm  
1100 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

After getting ice cream at Izzy's, join us at nearby Gold Medal Park for our final FYC family fellowship event of the summer. Please **RSVP at** [mkruskop@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:mkruskop@wpc-mpls.org) by **Thursday, August 8** so I know who to look for. Hope to see you there!



## Attention! Parents of 3-Year-Olds!

Children who will be 3 years old by September 1 and who plan to begin attending Church School are invited, along with their families, to join us for a special 3-Year-Old Church School Welcome and Orientation on Sunday, August 25 following worship. Look for more details in the FYC email. Contact Marie at [mkruskop@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:mkruskop@wpc-mpls.org) with questions.



## Summertime Daytime Playtime! for kids of all ages

Please note that the Playtime scheduled for

August 28 has been *cancelled*.

## Coming Together Sunday

is September 8! Look for more details later this month in the FYC email and in next month's Westminster NEWS. Not getting the FYC email? Contact Mahin at [mhamilton@wpc-mpls.org](mailto:mhamilton@wpc-mpls.org) to get signed up!

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

*Blessings on you and yours!*

~ Marie

Coordinator of Early Childhood & Family Ministries



## Circle Time

Circle Time stories come from *Wee Children at Church – God's Word for God's Youngest People* published by PC(USA). This curriculum is designed to introduce our youngest to the love and grace of God; each story is adapted from the Bible in age-appropriate ways. The theme this month is **I See God's Love at Church**.

- **8/4 – Hannah Prays to God – 1 Samuel 1**  
**1 Samuel 1:10a** – *She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord...*  
**Main idea:** When we are distressed or sad, we can pray, or talk, to God.  
- In this story, Hannah experiences a range of emotions – from sad to happy, which provides an opportunity for you to talk about feelings – and how to express them in appropriate ways – with your children. The idea of praying – as simple as talking to God about how we are feeling and why – can also be talked about with or modeled for your little ones.
- **8/11 – Jesus Goes to the Temple – Luke 2:41-52**  
**Luke 2:46** – *... they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.*  
**Main idea:** In this story we learn that Jesus loved to go to church with his family. The scripture verse tells us that Jesus learned by listening to his teachers and by asking them questions. It is our hope that Westminster is a place where our children, no matter their age, will learn both by listening to others and by asking questions. You can model this for your little ones by asking them to tell you about the stories they hear in Circle Time and listening to what they have to say.
- **8/18 – Jesus Told Stories – Mark 1:9-11, 14b-15**  
**Mark 1:14b** – *... Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God...*  
**Main idea:** Jesus often taught by telling stories.  
- Stories can be a powerful way to teach – and to learn. The stories Jesus shared told of God's love for everyone – friends, children, everyone! Among the lessons he taught were to love God, to be kind to one another, to follow him. What do the stories you tell teach your children? What do their stories teach you?
- **8/25 – God Made Me – Genesis 1:17-28a; 1 John 3:1**  
**Genesis 1:27a** – *So God created humankind in his image, in the image of God he created them...*  
**Main idea:** God made us in God's image.  
- This week's story celebrates God's creation of humankind, all of us children of God. The story card points out many of the wonderful features of our bodies – our arms, eyes, and ears, all the way down to our feet and back to our hearts! This story can lead to conversations about our body parts, how amazing they are, and all the things we can do with them. And... this story provides the perfect opportunity to sing "Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes!"
- **9/1 – We Pray – Luke 11:1-4**  
**Luke 11:1b** – *... one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray..."*  
**Main idea:** We can pray in many ways.  
- This week's story describes many ways in which we can pray as well as why, when and where we might pray. Anne Lamott simplified the idea of prayer into three basic categories: help, thanks, wow. Those three words can serve as a primer on prayer. What do you need help with? What are you thankful for? What amazed you today?



**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.*

This month's book is *Y is for Yum, Yum, Yum!* by Anna W. Bardaus and designed by Janie Smith. Encourage a healthy diet and celebrate God's bounty – then visit Westminster's Farmers Market on Sundays from 9am-1pm!

## FAMILY MATTERS – A Parent Fellowship Group

**Please note:** Family Matters is on hiatus and will resume in mid-September.

## 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.

This edition of the *Nursery News* is arriving a bit later than usual. I was on a family vacation for a couple of weeks and then Mahin, who sends this to you, was also out of the office. Summer in Minnesota has a different "feel" to it, a certain quality we don't always experience at other times of the year. As we move into this final month of summer, here are some suggestions on how you might savor every last drop of summer (*Aha! Parenting*, 7-25-19, Dr. Laura Markham).

1. **Find one simple, fun thing to do with your child (most) every day for the rest of the summer.** Nothing fancy – the point is to relax... and enjoy your child.
2. **Print out all (some) of your summer photos.** Frame the best ones, letting your kids choose one for their rooms. Consider making an album of some sort. Again, nothing fancy – the point is to capture memories and enjoy your child.
3. **Have a little family celebration on the final summer weekend.** As "official" summer winds down, take time to look at your pictures and talk about the favorite parts of the summer with your family members. You may be creating a new family tradition!

Please remember, though, that quality time can happen with your children at any time and in any season. Davis and Keyser broaden the definition of quality time to include any time a parent and child make a significant connection; this frees us up to have much more realistic and dynamic relationships with our children.

*Blessings! Here's to the journey!*

## HAPPY August BIRTHDAY!!

8-3-15 – Royce (4) \* 8-12-16 – Crosby (3) \* 8-12-17 – Aubrey (2) \* 8-19-16 – Samuel (3)

