

## About Our Children's Ministry Programs

- **Sunday School** is open to all children from three years old up to 6<sup>th</sup> grade During the 2<sup>nd</sup> service on Sunday mornings. There is also child care for infants and toddlers all morning, and youth church school and commissioning class at 10am (see youth mailing for start dates).

Our Sunday School curriculum is *We Believe*, which is developed and published by the Presbyterian Church (USA). Each week, the children will study a Bible story, do a craft or activity and in many classes share a snack. Church School is not only a time of learning cooperatively, but also a wonderful time of fellowship.

**It has become our tradition to gather all of the children together periodically throughout the year for church school chapel services.** Becky D'Angelo-Veitch and Chris Lenti work together to choose a theme, and then each class prepares one aspect of worship. We are always in awe of the wonderful music, drama, prayers and liturgy that the church school students share. Parents are welcome at church school chapel services, which are held in the chapel during the usual Sunday School timeframe. This year, our first Church School Chapel will be held on November 21.

**Another way that we help our children to have a deeper understanding of worship is to invite children in Kindergarten and older to join us in worship for the sacrament of communion** on certain communion Sundays. On these Sundays (October 3, December 5 and February 6), children will report directly to their church school classes, and then come into worship following the sermon. There is a brochure (available on our [website](#)) with some information to help families in preparing children for communion. We will also be hosting two family communion workshops for interest families at Bruegger's Bagels at Goodman and Monroe on September 26 and October 3 from 10-10:50am.

Holiday weekends are a time when we know many of our families and teachers are traveling. On these Sundays, children in first grade and younger are invited to a large group Sunday School class led by a parent or Children's Ministry Committee member (see calendar for specific dates), while older children have the opportunity to sit in worship with their families. Please let us know if you are able to help with leadership for large group Sunday school.

- **Qabats.** Qabats is our mid-week program held on Wednesday nights from 5:30-7:30pm from October to April. It is open to children in 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades. Qabats integrates Bible themed activities, music (two of our wonderful children's choirs, the Junior Choir and the Glorious Voices, rehearse as part of the Qabats program), and fellowship. Adult volunteers are an integral part of this program, and through all the activities, particularly the shared dinner time, children and adults build relationships. Ask anyone—Qabats is a load of fun!

Qabats uses the Workshop Rotation Model (WoRM). We will focus on four themes this year, with an introductory large group lesson and four workshops for each theme. Groups will rotate through each of the centers each week, so that at the end of each theme, all students will have done each center.

**The Children's Ministry Committee** oversees the Sunday School and Qabats programs, plus all of the special events for children and their families that happen throughout the year. If you are interested in joining this committee please contact Becky D'Angelo-Veitch or Griff Vinton.