

August 2023



Dear Friends,

We are very excited about God's plan this fall at Joy! and want your family to have all the information in order to participate in Kids' Adventure Klub (KAK) this year – for children 3yrs. old (by 9/1/23) through 5th grade. Classes begin on September 17th!!

In alignment with our mission and vision, we believe that God has given parents the first responsibility to make their home the faith center of spiritual growth, by walking with their children and growing faithfully together. Therefore, we see our role at Children's Ministry to partner with parents in leading their children into a lifelong relationship with Jesus.

- 1. Beginning today:** Register online on the Joy website under the "kids/youth" tab (Children & Youth Registration), Please pay the \$25 material fee, per student, via the "giving" tab on the Joy website, the tithley app, or via check beginning 9/17 at the Children's Check-in Desk in the Connections Café. If this prevents you from enrolling your children, please see Cheryl O'Neill, email Cheryl.oneill@joylutheran.org, or stop by the Children's Check-in Desk. This is an offering, which can be adjusted. Additionally, full scholarships are available.
- 2. Join us for Kickoff on September 10th at 9:45 Worship!** Bring your backpack to worship where we will bless our backpacks during the children's message. This is a time to pray for our kids, parents, and teachers. Backpack tags will be available following worship. Food, games, bounce house, and professional family photo following worship.
- 3. Classes begin on September 17th at 10:30 am: Before worship, please check in at the Children's Check-in Desk in the Connections Café.** Children will begin in worship with you and be dismissed to class following the children's message. Ages of children in classrooms will vary (depending on the numbers of children registered).

Our mission is to **Welcome...** all children to experience the love of Jesus; **Encourage...** all parents to be the faith center of their home; and to **Guide...** families to shine the light of Christ in their daily lives. Our vision is to help provide children and their family with tools to put in their "faith backpack"! This year we will explore stories where, through the Word of God, children, and volunteers, will take a journey of faith learning how God gives us tools to grow our relationship with Jesus Christ. I am so excited for the changes we have this year!!

If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl O'Neill or one of the Children's Ministry Team volunteers. Be sure to invite friends/family to join us!!

Blessings,

Cheryl

Cheryl O'Neill

Kids' Adventure Klub (KAK) Program Information



We will be offering KAK at the **10:30 service ONLY**. We will continue using Orange Curriculum for our nursery through kindergarten age children and using LIFT for our Elementary age children 1st-5th grade. Depending on registration numbers, we will have 3 classes; 3 years old through kindergarten, 1st-3rd grade, and 4th/5th grade. As we continue to grow and get more volunteers, we will be re-evaluating class sizes and consider adding KAK classes during the 9:00 service.

Both programs have the energy level of Vacation Bible School for year-round fun for our students and volunteers! It helps make the Word of God relevant, attractive and memorable to our children. The curriculum is inviting, practical, flexible, kid-pleasing, teacher-friendly, and aimed at producing Bible literacy. It uses many activities in weekly lessons so that each student, whether he/she learns best by listening or watching, creating or playing, will learn God's Word in a fun and meaningful way to help children reflect God in everyday life.

Classes begin Sept. 17th. Prior to worship, kids MUST check-in at the Children's Check-in Desk in the Connections Café. This will help us to know who is in the building and where to find them if needed. During check-in, you will receive name tags and any take home papers. Each week we will provide your family with a resource to help connect what is happening in the KAK classroom at home. **This is a tool to use in your home and will help reinforce what your child learns in the classroom... a get to...not a have to.** After check-in, the children will join you in the Worship center to worship as a family, as we know how important this is. The kids will be dismissed to class following the children's message.

If you have a child in 1st-5th grade, encourage them to bring their Bible with them to class, they will be using their Bible every Sunday! Children who are newer to Joy! who do not have a Bible will have the opportunity to receive one during worship in November (more information coming soon).

We are so excited about this new curriculum but can't pull it off without the help of amazing volunteers like...**YOU!** Would you consider being a part of this amazing adventure with us? I urge you to prayerfully consider joining this exciting and growing Ministry and help make this program effective. I invite you to step out in faith, as I did many years ago...and make a difference in the life of a child. Contact me at Cheryl.oneill@joylutheran.org to start a conversation about serving together. If you feel this is an area where God is calling you to serve, you will help our children live out Christian values such as honesty, integrity, faith, hope and love. You might be surprised, the children aren't the only ones who will be changed – you will be too!!!

Feel free to contact me at the Church office, 847-362-4569, with any questions or concerns or stop by the Children's Check-in Desk in the Connections Café.

Yours in Christ,

Cheryl O'Neill
Director of Children & Family Ministry
cheryl.oneill@joylutheran.org

