



Hello, friends!

February 24, 2017

We have launched into our Spring semester here in our FaithKids Ministry, and there are many sweet things happening as we love our kids and live out our faith journey together. Here are a few things highlights:

Unseen: Armor of God Bible Study for kids

On Wednesdays, our 1st thru 4th grade are a couple of weeks into Priscilla Shirer's new Kids Bible Study on the Armor of God. I'm very excited about this, as it is a rich study that really engages our kids in the Word of God in a fresh way. She only just released it, so in a sense we're pioneers...no one else has tried it yet! Her women's study on the Armor of God was fantastic, and I hope that this does for our kids what that did for me.

Keeping our kids healthy

This winter has been no exception to the tummy and respiratory bugs. We want what's best for your child, as well as the other children and volunteers/staff in our FaithKids ministries. Remember, we do have people involved with fragile immune systems, so we want to love others well in this family of grace. Would you take a moment to review our well child policy? We ask in love that you please follow those guidelines. Thank you!

Kids Singing on Palm Sunday

On April 9th, Palm Sunday, our kids will sing/participate at the beginning of the worship service that Sunday before going into FaithKids programs. I'll have a CD for families that are interested in being involved that morning a couple of weeks before so kids can practice the 1-2 songs that we will do. Rehearsal will be at 9am the morning of Palm Sunday, with the worship service beginning at 10:15 as normal.

Holiday Weekends

For our Sunday mornings: on April 16th and May 28th, we historically offer nursery only (birth-3 years old) as we celebrate Easter and Memorial Day weekends.

For our Wednesday night crew: on Wednesday March 1st, all are invited to the Ash Wednesday service. There will be no children's programming that night. Also no programs on March 29th in light of Spring Break.

Some things we're excited about on the horizon...

Being only about 9 months into my first year in this role, I have to tell you that my heart and mind are always bubbling with the things we are trusting God for as we look to the future. I also recognize that this is a marathon and not a sprint, so we're trying to roll things out a bit at a time over the next couple of years. That said, some things I am excited about as we look to this spring and summer:

- training parents and volunteers in how to talk with a child about Jesus and help lead a child to Christ
- attending the Orange Conference in April with a theme of For Our Neighbors and bringing that back to you!
- celebrating our FaithKids year with kids, parents, and volunteers at a fun BBQ on May 17th
- bringing VBS back in June and trusting God with how we can utilize that to go to our community and reach out to our friends who have never encountered Christ
- figuring out a summer Sundays program for our kids

So, look for details or updates on those things in the coming months.

We have seen a lot of growth in our children's ministries over the last couple of months...even leading to a dedicated 3 year old class! I also love how our Sunday mornings are helping kids learn how to apply Scripture to everyday life in a very real way. God is doing a sweet work, and I am so thankful for your partnership in that as we love and grow our kids. Please let me know how I can pray for you/your little ones. in His grace,

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Well Child Policy: When to keep your child from FaithKids programming

We want what's best for your child, as well as the other students and volunteers/staff in our FaithKids ministries. Remember, we do have people involved with fragile immune systems, so we want to love others well in this family of grace.

Please **do not put your child in** any FaithKids programming if they have:

- Any fever of 100 degrees or greater in the previous 24 hours
- Any vomiting within the previous 24 hours
- Any diarrhea in the previous 24 hours
- Any unexplained rashes
- Runny nose (thick yellow or green mucus)
- Any signs/symptoms of a contagious disease (strep, pinkeye, impetigo, active chicken pox, measles, mumps, fifth disease, hand foot & mouth, etc)
- any head lice that has not been treated

Your **child may return** to FaithKids Programming if:

- they have had no fever (under 100 degrees) for 24 hours **WITHOUT** receiving fever reducing medication (like Tylenol) since their last recorded high temperature
- they have not thrown up for 24 hours since the last time they threw up
- they have not had diarrhea for 24 hours since the last time they had it
- they have the appropriate treatment for strep or pinkeye (ex. antibiotics or eye drops from your doctor) for at least 24 hours (a couple of doses and improvement of their symptoms)