

Hello, sweet friends,

May 2017

Wow! Can it really be May? What a wonderful year we have had in our FaithKids Ministry. Sunday mornings, Wednesday nights, Harvest Festival, kids singing/acting/dancing as part of our worship service, kids growing as they get to know Jesus, relationships built, and connections made...so many things to rejoice and praise God for.

As we head into the summer, we're looking forward to a Galactic Starveyors Camp, special days away at Covenant Pines, and playdates. But, we're also looking forward to lazy summer days—lingering time with family, friends, and sunshine. Space to breathe and enjoy the restorative nature of the season. As we look ahead to the next few months, here are some of the highlights.

FaithKids Summer Sundays starting June 11th

Summer looks a little different on Sunday mornings as we enter a summer rhythm (giving our regular volunteers a well-earned breather, and still helping meet the needs of our kids). Kids "graduate" to their next grade level as of June 11th, so the following ages/grades are based on their grade in the fall of 2017. During these few summer months please note unless otherwise indicated on the calendar...

Birth thru age 4 (please note the age extension to include 4 year olds): Their worship experience begins in the nursery at the start of the service: birth-2 years on the left side, 3s & 4s on the right side.

5 years old thru 3rd grade: Their worship experience begins in the worship center. After a time of singing and worship with the larger Faith family, they will be dismissed from the service to their FaithKids combined age Sunday program. Kids will be doing the Covenant Kids Helping Kids Peacemakers curriculum, where they'll hear stories of kids around the world.

4th and 5th grade: We're challenging you! Participate in the summer sermon note challenge or help out in the nursery.

Regular programs will kick back off in September after Labor Day!

As always, all children are welcome to be in the worship service with their families. We will have updated "kids in worship" bags this summer.

Galactic Starveyors Camp (VBS), June 12-15th

Entering Kindergarten thru 5th grade (fall '17): 9am to noon daily *PCA's welcome

Younger than Kindergarten: 11am to noon with a parent or guardian/adult

Cost of \$10 per child, which includes a t-shirt and all snacks and materials. Scholarships are available.

As kids focus their telescopes on the marvels of the sky and the galaxy, they will discover the wonder of all wonders: that the God who painted the stars is over the moon for them! Register online at

www.faithcovenant.org/galactic-starveyors-camp! Register by May 26th to guarantee your t-shirt size.

Covenant Pines Bible Camp

Be sure to check out all the wonderful grow opportunities at Covenant Pines Bible Camp. Did you know that we at Faith Covenant are part owners of this camp? There are camps for all ages all throughout the summer. Scholarships are available if the cost would keep you from going—just talk with Vicki or a staff member. We'll also be having an all church retreat there in August (more details to come on that). You can find out more at www.covenantpines.org and find the right experience for you! We also have several parents of kids who have gone to Covenant Pines who have said they would be resources if you have questions about what it's like. Ask Vicki for the names of parent reps and she'll connect you! If you are a parent who'd like to be a rep, please let her know that, too.

Go:Serve Families, June 28, 10am-2pm

GO:Serve is a service and outreach opportunity for families to learn and grow together, in a family-friendly, stretching environment. Families – come! Be Jesus' hands and feet, expand your worldview, be inspired by God's kingdom call. You'll learn to extend the hope and love of Christ in tangible, practical ways that you can continue at home. Info/registration available at: www.northwestconference.org/event/go-serve-2017

Summer Playdates

Want a low key time to just enjoy friends or make new ones? Join up with fellow Faith Covenant families at a summer playdate. Come to one or all. Grownups need to stay with their children. See the calendar for dates/locations various Wednesdays at 10am around the community.

Twin Cities 6K for Water, August 26

Join our FaithKids and Company team and make a difference in the lives of kids around the world. Walk, run, or push a stroller in this family event. Details to come later in the summer.

We tried to be thoughtful about our summer calendar in FaithKids. While there are still plenty of places to connect and hang out, things are pretty low key and relaxed for the bulk of the season. My prayer for you during this season of rest and sunshine is that you can lean into this:

“Are you tired? Worn out?...Come to me. Get away with me and you'll recover your life. I'll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won't lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you'll learn to live freely and lightly.” Matthew 11:28-30 (MSG)

I am grateful for your heart and your partnership. It's a privilege to love and serve you and your children.

Happy summer!
in His grace,



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