



THE PULSE

A Monthly Look Into Ministry at CPC

Ministry Moments

Vacation Bible School is the highlight of the summer for many parents and children.

CPC's Children's Ministry begins planning the theme, activities and music at the beginning of each year. Leaders are quick to acknowledge that they couldn't make it happen without the help of a team of dedicated volunteers.

Being a part of the VBS team is as much a blessing to those who volunteer as it is to the children who attend. Foster Sqrow has served at VBS for 10 years, mostly as part of the Recreation team. "Being able to provide a fun environment for the kids while letting out a little of the kid in me has been so rewarding," he related. For the past several years, Amy Schmid has been a leader of "mini VBS," caring for two- and three-year-old children of parents and caregivers who are volunteering. "VBS was the first ministry I got involved with as a newcomer to CPC. It's a wonderful way to meet others and share the love of Jesus to our precious children," she said.

Helpers are still needed in many areas for this year's VBS, which will be each morning the week of June 6-10. *To volunteer, scan the QR code below and complete the form.*



SCAN ME



Sunday mornings in the Ignite Room (2nd and 3rd grade)

Children's Ministry Shares the Love of Jesus

by Lynn Norfleet

God tells us in the Bible to teach our children His commandments. (Deuteronomy 6:5-7) CPC's Children's Ministry comes alongside families who desire their children to not only know and obey His commandments, but to know and love God throughout their lives.

On Sunday mornings during the 9:00am service, children from age 2 through third grade fill every downstairs classroom to learn about the Bible and have fun singing and playing together. Sunday School groups are: Kindling (2 years to Pre-K); Spark (Pre-K-1st grade); and Ignite (2nd-3rd grade.)

"Our adult shepherds nurture children through age-appropriate lessons and small groups, helping them connect to God's Word and sharing the love of Jesus," said Children's Ministry Coordinator Melissa Tarantino. "Right now, we are preparing for our summer schedule, and we will be teaching about the parables."



Craft time in the 4's classroom



CPC Up Close

Mitch Penning

Mitch's family began attending CPC when he was in fifth grade in part because he and his sisters enjoyed the student ministries here. But it was soon after that, when the church served and supported them through a difficult time, that his appreciation turned to a deep love for CPC and its ministries.

After helping with Crash and KREW in summers during college and while playing professional volleyball in Europe, he returned to St. Louis. Now, he is an intern at CPC while pursuing dual degrees at Covenant Theological Seminary. He assists Crash, KREW and Kairos ministry leaders with teaching, planning activities and leading small groups.

"What I enjoyed most about coming to CPC as a student was that leaders really seemed to like me - and I was a hard kid to like at times," Mitch said. "They intentionally pursued me, one-on-one, and it's so great being able to do that now. I love getting to know the guys in my groups, hearing about their struggles and seeing how God is working in their lives."

Children's Ministry Shares the Love of Jesus (cont.)

During the 10:30am worship service, children ages 4-3rd grade are dismissed before the sermon and led downstairs for a "mini church service" designed just for them. "We follow an order of service that includes a call to worship, time for prayer and praise, and a lesson that covers important questions of faith," explained Children's Ministry Administrator Lisa Young.

In the fall and spring, the ministry also offers a Sunday PM program featuring fun games and fellowship at the same time many Lifeline groups meet at the church. Summer activities include VBS in June, a pool party in July, Bike Night in August, and a Kickoff event at the Magic House in September.

"We believe it's our purpose to create an environment where children feel treasured," Melissa added. "We want them to learn about God's great love for them and how to share it with others."



Ignite children eager to answer questions



Drawing the Bible lesson in the 4s class



CPC VBS 2022
June 6-10

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