

Dear Parents –

It is truly hard to believe that summer is fading and the kids are returning to school. I hope your summer was filled with much fun, laughter, and relaxation.

At church we have been extremely busy this summer doing a complete overhaul of the Sunday school. All of the classrooms have been painted, cleaned from top to bottom, supplies have been sorted through and replaced. We've purchased new tables for some rooms and repurposed some of our older tables. Carpets have been shampooed and curtains have been washed.

In addition to the physical overhaul we have also completely revamped our curriculum. Many hours were used to research which program would be the best fit for our church. The CE committee and I have worked tirelessly to bring about changes that would best benefit our students and support our teaching staff. I am proud and happy to say that we will be beginning our 2014/2015 Sunday school using the Godly Play program in our K thru 5th grade classrooms. Godly Play is a Montessori based program that will allow your child to learn bible stories and traditions through storytelling, wondering, and play. Godly Play is a onetime purchase program, once we buy the lesson we own it and can use it over and over. This will be a great savings over purchasing new curriculum every quarter for each grade. You can check out Godly Play at godlyplayfoundation.org. You can also find training videos for Godly Play stories on Youtube. Our middle schoolers are in for a treat too. The CE Committee approved the purchase of the Sparkhouse Re:form youth bible study program. This program is divided into two parts – Old Testament and New Testament. Each part consists of 15 lessons told in a fun and easy to understand dialogue. Middle schoolers will be engaged in discussion and interaction with the stories and lessons. This program is also a onetime purchase program that can be used over and over. You can check out Sparkhouse at wearesparkhouse.org. We have also formed a curriculum writing committee to add to the Sparkhouse program. It is our belief that the 6/7/8 grade class should be a precursor to the confirmation class. The lessons we create within the writing committee will be used to enhance the Sparkhouse program as well as be tailored to our church's own philosophy, traditions, and structure. The curriculum writing committee is made up of the following church members – Janet Johnson, Sue Piercy, Cori Sauzedde, Rev Zack, and myself. We will meet on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month at 12:30pm. If you are interested in joining us please do! We welcome all input, feedback, and curiosities.

Come and meet our teachers – Janet Johnson, Bethany Reek, Jonathan Zalaski, Cori Sauzedde, Courtney Reek, Becky Theriault, and Lisa Reek. No matter which curriculum or program we provide it is the teachers that meet with your child bringing the lessons to life and providing fun in the learning. They teach, guide, and support your child in their faith journey each and every week. Without their commitment we would not have a Sunday school. Please show them your support on Rally day and every Sunday.

Sunday school classes will begin this year on Rally Day Sunday Sept. 14, 2014. Our Rally Day festivities will include Sunday school teacher installation, a Blessing of Backpacks and the Chili Cook off during coffee hour. Children can bring in their school backpack for a special blessing for a wonderful school year. If you have a great chili recipe we encourage you to enter it into our Cook off. Members will get samples of each entry and vote on their favorite. All forms of chili count – traditional, white, vegetarian, chicken, turkey – whatever variety.

Registration forms are enclosed as well as the Sunday school calendar. Please fill out the reg forms and bring them in on the 14th. Over the summer we have collected classroom supplies and have overwhelmed with the response. We have more supplies than needed and are so very thankful for all of you that donated. On the 14th instead of supplies we will be collecting snack items to be used throughout the year during snack time. A list of suggested snacks is enclosed. Thanks so very much in advance for any donations you are able to share.

I look forward to another faith filled year, sharing laughter and God with your child. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns at 860-585-1417, 860-398-0751, or johnzalaski@sbcglobal.net

In His service,

Jennifer Zalaski

Suggested Sunday school snack items

Goldfish crackers - cheddar or original

Any type of cereal

Snack pack pudding

Pretzels

Fruit

Muffins

Animal crackers

Cereal bars

Cheese sticks

Gogurt

The kids LOVE Spaghetios, Mac n Cheese, or waffles but we need help preparing these items 😊

Individual snack bags - chips, cheese doodles, fritos, etc...

Juice

Please read all labels. We have a tree nut allergy, a peanut allergy, and an apple allergy.

Items such as fruit or muffins should be fresh and brought in the morning they will be served. Please let us know in advance if you plan to bring any of these items in 😊

2014/2015 TCC Sunday School calendar of events

September

14 Rally Day – bring your backpacks

21 Police Dog “Magnum” visits

October

5 Fire Prevention Sunday – fire drill
and Bible Presentations –
Kindergarten and 9th Graders

November

30 Family Worship – no Sunday
school

December

14 Practice after church for
Christmas program

17 Practice after church for
Christmas program

21 Children's Sunday - Christmas
Program

28 Family worship – no Sunday
school

January

4 Family worship – no Sunday school

February

8 Chocolate Festival during coffee
hour

March

15 Practice after church for Palm
Sunday program

22 Practice after church for Palm
Sunday program

29 Palm Sunday children's program

April

5 Easter Sunday – Egg Hunt
no Sunday school

May

17 Last day Sunday school
Children's Program

