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## Christian Education Activities

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### Sunday School

Learning hour is between 9:15—10:15 a.m. every Sunday. We love to tell the story! Through hands-on activities children hear and experience a new story in the Bible. Children rotate through three different stations: large group opening, classroom time and mission/learning projects. Our hope is that each biblical story becomes a deeper part of our own personal stories. We want God's story to become our own; to pass it on through loving Jesus and serving others.

We are currently using the Spark Curriculum from Cokesbury. Each week leaflets are sent home with children inviting parents and caregivers to continue biblical conversations at home. We believe families are the primary nurturers of faith. As a church, we want to strengthen, equip and build up families in faith.

Recent mission projects:

- Brown bag breakfasts for the Ronald McDonald House in Iowa City
- Collect for local soldiers overseas
- Create cookbooks to raise money and collect food for the North Scott Food Pantry

### Milestone Ministry

Passing on the faith is the heartbeat of our church. We want children and families to celebrate God's presence in worship, at home, and in the world. Our milestone ministry recognizes and celebrates key events of God's activity in a child's faith journey. It's a fun and memorable way to say: "This is an important time. God is here!"

Watch for these Sunday School Milestones:

1st Grade: The Lord's Prayer

3rd Grade: Presentation of Bibles

5th Grade: 1st Communion

6th Grade: Pre-Confirmation Classes

9th Grade: Confirmation

High School Seniors: Graduation Recognition/  
Baccalaureate Service

### Sunday School Family Breakfasts

*"Serving Up God's Word and Good Food"*

We believe Jesus feeds relationships when we gather together and family meals are holy spaces where faith is nurtured. One of our main goals is to equip families to be active participants in passing on the faith to our children. We want parents, extended family and caregivers to stay for breakfast and learn alongside our children in a family-friendly environment.

Our hope is that families will contribute to these coordinated "potluck" meals by signing up to contribute either time or meal items. You may sign up on the Sunday School kiosk in the narthex area or by contacting the church office.

### Rally Days

At the beginning of the Fall and Winter sessions, we all gather together as families to enjoy a Rally Day kick off for the respective sessions. This typically includes a family breakfast with some Fellowship time as an added bonus.

### Confirmation Dinner

We also like to recognize those students who are about to be confirmed by planning a dinner for them and their parents in October. Each time we recognize a child for their accomplishments in the church is one more time that they are encouraged to continue their journey with God.

### Teacher Appreciation Brunch

We cannot forget our teachers! The time and love that they give to our children is priceless, and without them, none of this would be possible, so our committee plans a brunch in their honor every April to show them how much we appreciate all of their hard work.

### Vacation Bible School

Each summer, our committee plans a week long Vacation Bible School for the children in the community from age 4 through grade 5. During that week, the children are exposed to bible stories, crafts, games, songs, and snacks with a reoccurring theme. Some of our past themes have been "Everywhere Fun Fair: Where God's World Comes Together", "Shake It Up Café", and "Operation Overboard". We are responsible for recruiting teachers, helpers, section leaders and decorators, and generally making sure the children have a great time learning about God!

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### Children's Christmas Program

Each winter, we all begin to feel the excitement of Christmas and Christ's birth approaching. Our wonderful volunteers have put together some great programs in the past, all telling the story of Jesus' birthday in their own new and exciting ways.

### Hat and Mitten Tree

Along with the excitement of Christmas, we also try to instill in the children a sense of giving. The Christian Education Committee sets up a tree in the gathering space for all to donate hats and mittens to those less fortunate.

#### How can you help?

- Serve on the Christian Education Committee.
- Volunteer to be a Sunday school teacher or helper.
- Volunteer to be a Vacation Bible School teacher/helper/leader.
- Volunteer for the Christmas Program.
- Donate items to the Hat & Mitten Tree or to the "Mission Time" projects.

#### How can I sign up?

- Call the church office (285-4501).
- Email the church office.  
faitheldridge@netins.net
- Fill out your Time and Talent Sheet.

*Grace-Gifted  
Faith-Lifted  
Called to  
Share,  
Seek,  
And Serve  
Christ*

**Christian  
Education  
Committee**

***We are a church that . . . nurtures  
children and families in faith, to love  
Jesus and serve others.***

***He took a little child and had him  
stand among them. Taking him  
in his arms, he said to them,  
"Whoever welcomes one of these  
little children in my name  
welcomes me; and whoever  
welcomes me does not welcome  
me but the one who sent me."  
-Mark 9:36-37***

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