



## Our Workshop Rotation Sunday School

9:00 and 10:30 Sunday morning\*

Our Workshop Rotation Sunday School provides a wonderful approach to growing our children's faith and expanding their knowledge of the most important Bible stories and themes. However, rotation Sunday school can be a bit intimidating or confusing for first-time parents (the kids usually catch on right away!) If you are unfamiliar with the way that a rotation program works, please take a few minutes to read the following. Or better yet, stop down some morning and check it out for yourself! All classrooms are in the lower level in the far north hallway.

Our rotation Sunday school is designed for children in **kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade**. In the rotation program, children are in a different room (workshop) each Sunday exploring a particular Bible story or theme in a different way. One rotation lasts five weeks, which corresponds to our five different rooms (workshops). We try to cover most of the major Bible stories over a 6-year period.

### **The 5 Workshops:**

**See It:** The children watch a movie about the selected Bible story.

**Hear It:** The children work on an art project while they or their teacher reads the selected story to them directly from the Bible.

**Know It:** The children's understanding of the story is tested and reinforced by games.

**Feel It:** Most Bible stories relate to powerful feelings within us that we must learn to recognize and manage. In this workshop, the children focus on the particular feeling, attitude, or emotion associated with the selected Bible story.

**Share It:** The selected Bible story forms the foundation for some sort of outreach project for our children. This may include outreach to each other, outreach to other members of our church, outreach to the community, or outreach beyond. Recently, for example, our children participated in Operation Christmas Child, performed acts of kindness in our butterfly “Kindness Campaign,” collected money to purchase two goats for hungry families in Tanzania, and collected food for local food pantries in Milwaukee.

Each child, if they attend Sunday school regularly, will spend 5 weeks on each of these stories, spending one week in each of the 5 different rooms (workshops). Colored flags, marked with each grade, hang on the doors outside each classroom. The children know to look for their particular flag to determine which classroom they are in.

### **A word about the Scripture Raffle, Bible Trivia, and Attendance Prizes:**

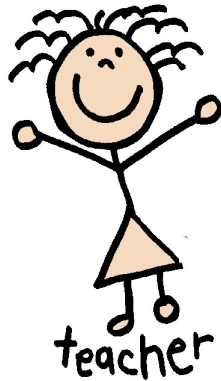
**Scripture Raffle:** To help our children learn some important Bible verses, we select a Bible verse to complement each rotation. The kids practice that particular verse with their teachers for the 5 weeks of the rotation. We also offer sheets with the verse to those who want to practice at home. On the fifth Sunday, the children have the opportunity to recite the verse for the teacher. If they recite it correctly (or close enough), they earn a raffle ticket that we put into our Scripture Raffle jug. On the final day of Sunday school in May, we hold our Scripture Raffle. We draw tickets from our jug and award some very nice prizes to the winners!

**Bible Trivia:** For some children the best part of Sunday school is “Bible Trivia.” As I go from room to room checking attendance and collecting offering, I ask the kids questions relating to the Bible and what they have learned. Those who answer correctly get a **small** piece of candy. I am amazed at both their enthusiasm for these questions and their ability to recall what they have learned.

**Attendance Prizes:** On the last day of Sunday school each year, we award attendance prizes to all of our children. Those with the greatest number of Sundays in attendance have the opportunity to select their prizes first. EVERYONE earns a prize.

\*Children begin worship with their families and then go downstairs for Sunday school after the Junior Sermon—about 15 minutes into the service.

# Teaching in Workshop Rotation Sunday School



**Our Sunday school program is a parent cooperative. If you have a child who is attending Rotation Sunday School—kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade—we ask that you volunteer to teach one, 4-week rotation at either the 9:00 or 10:30 service.** (The 5<sup>th</sup> week is a movie that is staffed separately.) If one 4-week block won't work for your schedule, you may also choose to split two, 4-week rotation blocks with another parent. Or, you may choose to sign up for 4 movie or "Special" Sundays.

Our program is very large, and we found that trying to enlist volunteers was not an efficient or effective way to staff our classrooms. We also discovered that the children are proud and benefit from having their parents as teachers. Most parents say that their teaching was far easier and far more rewarding than they had imagined it would be.

Teacher sign-up for each year begins in May, with a large sign-up board located at the entrance to Sunday school in the lower level at the foot of the main staircase. We fill up very quickly, but are always looking to fill a few remaining slots. Please call Julie if you would like to help with any openings.

Julie Schlifske writes the curriculum that you will be using, purchases the supplies you will need, and sets everything up in your classroom for Sunday morning. She will also call you to remind you of your upcoming teaching slot and to orient you on the material.

You don't need teaching experience or a command of the Bible. Don't worry: all you need to bring with you is your enthusiasm and your commitment to share your faith with your child and others.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can call Julie at 262-238-1682 or email her at [julie@foxpointchurch.org](mailto:julie@foxpointchurch.org)

\*If you have a preschooler as well as an elementary-age child, we expect you to help out **only** in the preschool program.



## Preschool Sunday School

9:00 and 10:30 Sunday morning

Our preschool Sunday school program is for your 3- or 4-year-old child. We have designed our program to begin to build a foundation in Christian education and values. But most important, we simply want your preschooler to become comfortable at church and interested in learning more about God.

Our preschool class meets in the lower level of the church in the large room at the far south end. This is the same room that houses our daily preschool, so it is well equipped for this age group. In fact, it is sometimes difficult for parents to get their children to leave!

Children are invited to attend either the 9:00 or 10:30 program. They stay with their parents for the first part of the worship service upstairs and then their parent(s) take them down to their classroom after the junior sermon—about 15 minutes into the service. We ask that you pick your child up in their classroom at the end of the service.

Please don't worry about sporadic attendance—we understand the unpredictable life of the preschooler and are happy that your child attends when they can.

Like the Sunday school program for our older children, our preschool program is a parent-child cooperative. Our program is taught entirely by our parents and cannot survive without them. The commitment is small, but the rewards great. We ask that you teach or serve as the teacher's helper for a total of about 4 Sundays throughout the year. At the beginning of the school year, we mail you a schedule that we have randomly created for the entire year. If you can't teach on your assigned day, you can swap Sundays with another parent.

Diane Knapp writes the curriculum for this age group, and she creates activities, crafts, and games that are truly exceptional.

You do not need to be a member to join our preschool class. Please call the church office for more information. If you are a member, you will receive more information in the mail at the end of the summer.



## First Communion

Fox Point Lutheran offers First Communion to our **5<sup>th</sup> grade class**. We usually hold our instruction for Communion on a Saturday morning in mid-January because we have found that this is a time when most families are available to participate.

Our Saturday morning instruction takes place in a very special bread-baking class. With the help of some of our church's more talented bakers and several parent-volunteers, our 5<sup>th</sup> graders make, from scratch, the bread that they will use the next morning in their own First Communion. While they are making their bread--and waiting for it to rise--they learn about the meaning of Communion in small discussion groups with the pastors. They also get to take a much-anticipated tour up to the top of the church steeple with Pastor Bill!

First Communion instruction provides a wonderful way for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders to explore their faith more deeply and to get to know one another much better.

First Communion follows on the next Sunday morning at both the 9:00 and 10:30 services.

If you have a 5<sup>th</sup> grader, you will receive more information about First Communion and this special workshop in the mail in late fall. If you have a child who is older and wishes to take First Communion, please contact the church office for more information.

**\*Confirmation classes** are held on Wednesday evenings for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Led by our pastors, confirmation is a holistic approach to faith formation that includes worship, fellowship, small groups, service, family opportunities, mentoring, and retreats. Students are confirmed in May of 8<sup>th</sup> grade.



## Children's Outreach Projects

We believe that it is important to share what we have with others and to develop this habit of giving in our children.

One project we participate in every year is "Operation Christmas Child." Early in the fall, we collect shoe boxes, wrapping paper, small toys, school supplies, and personal care items, including toothpaste and toothbrushes. Then in November, we pack our shoe boxes and send them to needy children all over the world. When we introduced this project to the church a decade ago, we packed about 50 boxes. Last year, we were able to ship 1,255 boxes!

Our Sunday school curriculum also includes one outreach project for each rotation unit. These special outreach projects are designed for children who may not be able to participate in other church outreach. They are also tied thematically to the particular Bible story we are studying. In recent years, the Sunday school has collected food for local food pantries, collected money to purchase chickens and goats for families in Tanzania, collected change for rice for children in orphanages, and participated in an "Acts of Kindness" campaign.

All of the kids in Sunday school also receive their own box of offering envelopes at the beginning of the Sunday school year in September. Part of their offering goes towards helping others in our community and throughout the world.

The children of our church, of course, are also invited to participate in all-church outreach projects, including our annual Service Day.



## Children and Family Special Events and Programs

**Celebration Sunday:** Join us on the first Sunday after the Labor Day weekend as we welcome in the new Sunday school year. The kids enjoy a huge inflatable slide and bouncer while the adults enjoy fellowship inside and out.

**Pageant in a Bag:** Our all-family, all-church Christmas Pageant. No dress rehearsals, no lines-- just grab a bag with your mini-costume and play your part!

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner:** We begin our Lenten season with an all-church casual dinner, complete with delicious pancakes and games for the children.

**Good Friday Children's Service:** Our 10:00 Good Friday service is geared for our families with younger children. Through an interactive program, our children learn the story and the wonderful message of Easter. Last year we held an Easter egg hunt on our front lawn, with each egg revealing a piece of the Easter story.

**Vacation Bible School:** We hold a morning Vacation Bible School for one week in early August. This special week of faith and fellowship is for children who will be entering K5 through 4<sup>th</sup> grades.

**Little Lambs Vacation Bible School:** A vacation Bible school experience for our youngest "little lambs." This preschool program is organized and run by our preschool teachers and parent volunteers and is usually held at the same time as our regular Vacation Bible School. Children who are 3 by August 1 through those who will be entering a K4 program in the fall are invited to attend.



Our nursery cares for our youngest members—those under 3 years old—so that their parents may fully participate in and enjoy worship.

The nursery is located on the lower level and just a few steps up to the right as you come down the main staircase from the sanctuary. Currently, our nursery is staffed by the same two young women every Sunday morning. Kelly and Angie Forbes are sisters, who though now in their twenties, have cared for the church's children since they were in high school. Kelly and Angie are both wonderful with kids, and the consistency of seeing the same two faces each Sunday morning is great for children who may be dealing with the anxiety of a new place and separation from mom and dad.

As testimony of this consistency and the girls' ability with children, one of our member's children asked their parents if they would be going to Kelly and Angie's house (church) on Sunday morning!

You can also take one of our silent pagers for additional peace of mind.

*You might also be interested in our fellowship group for mothers:*

### ***Mom to Mom***

This group is a gathering for married moms and single moms, to share the joys and frustrations of motherhood and to explore the purposes and promises God gives to parents. To learn more about this program, please visit [momtomom.org](http://momtomom.org)

For registration information, please contact Mary Beth Scalise at [marybethandboys@yahoo.com](mailto:marybethandboys@yahoo.com)







Our Children's Ministries Committee is made up of individuals who would like to help the development of children's programming in our church. We seek help, advice, criticism, and encouragement from our members so that we can ensure the best programs for our kids.

If you have creative ideas or energy that you would like to share, please consider joining us. Contact Julie Schlifske for more information.

**Other contacts in children's ministries at Fox Point:**

For questions about Sunday school, preschool Sunday school, nursery, vacation Bible schools, or other special events:

Julie Schlifske  
Director of Children's Ministries  
[julie@foxpointchurch.org](mailto:julie@foxpointchurch.org)

For questions about teaching in the preschool Sunday school:

Preschool Sunday school director:  
Diane Knapp  
[Diane@foxpointchurch.org](mailto:Diane@foxpointchurch.org)

For questions about our children's music:

Debra Bailey  
[deb@foxpointchurch.org](mailto:deb@foxpointchurch.org)

For questions about Fox Point Lutheran Preschool:

Preschool Administrator  
Tanya Naas  
414-352-8990



Welcome to Fox Point Lutheran Church! We are happy you are here and invite you to become a part of our church family.

We hope you will take some time to learn a little bit about the programs we offer to the children of our church. For more information about our other programs, please check our website: [www.foxpointchurch.org](http://www.foxpointchurch.org). You can also call the church office at 414-352-8990.

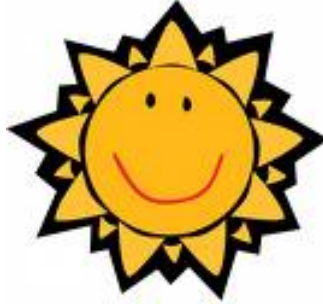
Please know that you do not need to be a member to participate in any of our children's programs. We welcome all at any time.

What we teach our children and what drives all of our programs are these core beliefs:

- **We believe that God created everything in our world. We should thank Him always.**
- **We believe that God sent his son, Jesus, to help us learn more about Him and to help us learn how to live with Him forever.**
- **We believe that God loves us and always forgives us, even when we do wrong.**
- **We believe that God wants us to share His love and our love with others.**

We also believe that the roots of faith need to take root early if they are to remain strong throughout your child's lifetime.

**There is no greater gift you can give your child than the gift of an enduring and healthy faith.** We look forward to spending time with your child!



## **Summer Sunday School**

Summer Sunday begins on the Sunday after the Memorial Day weekend and concludes on the Sunday before the Labor Day weekend.

Summer Sunday school welcomes children ages 3 through those entering 4<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall. It meets following the junior sermon at the 9:00 and 10:30 services.

Preschool program: Those children who are 3 through those entering K5 in the fall are part of our preschool Sunday school and meet in the large preschool classroom, which is at the far south end of our lower level.

Elementary program: Those children who are entering 1<sup>st</sup> grade in the fall through those who are entering 4<sup>th</sup> grade are part of our elementary program. This program meets in the Sunday school hallway at the north end of the lower level.

Each summer we pick a different Bible theme to explore through games, crafts, stories, and video clips. Recent summer themes have included, "How to Be a Good Christian," "Getting to Know the Bible," "The Fruits of the Spirit," and "The Disciples."