

Newsletter for Dunnellon First Methodist Church Sunday School:

Previous information but still worth repeating:

Shortly (**meaning within the next couple of weeks!**) we will have a new check-in system in place when you bring your child to church and they will be attending SS. In the meantime, please stop at our new Sunday School Check-in Center by the Sanctuary doors in the Narthex. We will give your child a nametag and will give you a corresponding wristlet with your child's name on it. Because I am still very new, I don't always know which child goes with which adult for pickup and this is for your child's safety so we know who can pick up your child. Also, **It is very important for us to have a contact cell number on each child's name tag.** This is because we may need to get ahold of you while your child is in SS for a variety of reasons. We do not have enough volunteers to have two adults leave with your child (two needed for security reasons) and still have two left in our classroom with the rest of the children. With this information in mind, it also means that you need to have your cell phone on or at least on vibrate so you know if we are trying to reach you during the service. Thank you in advance for understanding this new policy.

****If your child has any food allergies or other allergies that we need to be aware of please let us know.**

**** the 5 Respect Guidelines that we repeat and talk briefly about each week – Besides “singing” our RESPECT Rap**

Listen to others

Respect each other and each other's things

Use kind words

Treat people the way you would like to be treated

Follow directions

New Information about check-in:

The new process will require that you initially (first time only) fill out a short form that asks for children's name, emergency contact information (parent/guardian's name and cell phone number) and any allergies and/or health issues that the teachers need to be made aware of. There will also be a Behavior Expectation Policy that will need to be signed by both parent/guardian and teacher. We are here to have fun but need to have a somewhat controlled atmosphere so all the children can learn. (That's the main reason for our RESPECT rules).

New Information about our class structure: We will be gathering as a whole group for our “Rap and Rules” and the paraphrasing of the Scripture, then breaking off into two smaller age groups. This will allow our older elementary age children to have a more in-depth scripture study and how that pertains to their everyday life. We will come back together as one group for

snack time. We will all still be in the KFC building though unless it is raining in which case we go to Harmony Preschool.

Upcoming Outline for the next several weeks – (subject to tweaking) based on the Scripture that Pastor Eddie uses for the sermon messages and his Rev. Bullywink stories; We are trying to reinforce his messages so be sure to ask your child what we did in SS.

We always start our class with our RESPECT Rap and RESPECT Rules

April 7 – 1 John 1:5-10 – Light (Communion Sunday)

- Paraphrase scripture and extend scripture to include 1 John 2:1-11
- Act out walking in darkness going towards the Light (turn off lights and “Follow” the Leader who has a lit flashlight)
- Talk about lying and the complications of that and God’s forgiveness
- Talk about mimicking Jesus

Craft – (if time allows) make paper masks – one side happy, other side frowning or “evil”

April 14 – 1 John 3:1-7 – Children of God

- Paraphrase scripture
- Read story “Because I Love You” Max Lucado
- Craft – Framed mirror (that children make) with words around it – “I know I’m Somebody ‘cause God don’t make no Junk”!

April 21 – 1 John 3:16-24 – Love One Another

- Paraphrase Scripture
- Read story – “Gifts From the Heart” Victoria Osteen
- Craft - Make hearts to give away – “Somebody Loves You” or “God Loves You”

April 28 – 1 John 4:7-18 – Love vs. Fear

- Paraphrase Scripture
- Read “The Jester Has Lost His Jingle” David Saltzman
- Scripture puzzle – 1 John 3:18 “Dear Children, let us stop just saying we love each other; let us really show it by our actions.”
 - Discuss what does this means for you today?
 - Put together other scripture puzzles

May 5 – 1 John 5:1-6 – Faith - Communion

- Paraphrase Scripture
- Scripture puzzle – John 13:34-35
- Song with movements – God Is So Good

May 12 – 1 John 5:9-13 – Assurance - Mother’s Day

- What does Assurance mean?
- Read “Personal God – Does God Care About me?” Believe Storybook pg. 20
- Read – “The Change in Zacchaeus” Believe Storybook pg. 47-51
- Song with movements – Jesus Loves Me

May 19 – Romans 8:22-27 – Pentecost

- Share story of Pentecost – Believe storybook pgs. 56-58
- Song with movements – I Have Decided To Follow Jesus
- We will be “parading” in during the LAST song of the service. Each of the children will have a helium RED balloon (tied to their wrist) to represent the flickers of flame that touched the disciples. After we have marched in the children will go to their parents/guardians

May 26 – Romans 8:12-17 – Trinity

- Who Is God? – Believe Storybook pg.12
- Pretzel explanation of Trinity
- God as Father/Jesus/Holy Spirit live in our hearts
- Song – “Down in my Heart” with movements
- Snack - pretzels

June 2 – Mark 2:23-3:6 – The Sabbath – Communion

- Paraphrase scripture - use The Complete Guide to the Bible pg. 319-321 (also 314 – How to spot a Pharisee)
- Holy day is for doing holy things like helping those in need
- Tell story of Good Samaritan and act out

June 9 – Mark 3:20-30 – Unpardonable

- Paraphrase scripture – basically the religious leaders were so afraid of Jesus and what he was teaching and doing that they said he was a follower of the devil (Satan)
- Discuss “What is sin?” Anything that separates us or takes us away from God. Satan wants to do that all the time with us. Puts bad thoughts in our heads and wanting us to do wrong things
 - o One remedy for this - Practice – breathe in “Jesus”, breathe out “sin”
- What causes us to sin? Temptation – Story of Adam and Eve – Believe Storybook pg. 29-31
- Jesus tempted by Satan in the wilderness but overcame the temptation – How? knowing scripture – Believe Storybook pg. 40-43
- Do scripture puzzles

June 16 – Mark 4:26-29 – Spiritual Growth

- Paraphrase scripture- Jesus uses parables to get the imagination working
- Difficult scripture to explain but the following book can help
- Read – “The Oak Inside the Acorn” Max Lucado
 - Grow, ask questions, ok to wonder, but be who God wants you to be. Won’t really know until you are older so be open to new adventures and trying new things!
 - Discuss fun things you like to do
 - Remember You are a precious child of God and God has given you special gifts. Use them to glorify God!
- Craft - Write down or draw picture of what you like to do or maybe want to do when you are older

June 23 – Mark 4:35-41 – Calmness

- Paraphrase scripture
- Act out story
- Snack – fish crackers

June 30 - (5th Sunday so will be one 10AM service!) – Mark 5:21-34 – Healings

- Paraphrase scripture
- Act out story
 - Jesus is NEVER too busy to not listen or hear us