



Children's Ministry (3 years – 5th Grade)

Sunday School is Kingdom Kids at Holt UMC. (9:30 A.M.) Instead of traditional Sunday school with closely-graded classes, we utilize the workshop rotation model. This model is a group of loosely-graded kids, led by shepherds, that move through different workshops during a 3-4 week rotation which is focused on a particular Bible story or Christian theme. A rotation lasts 3-6 weeks and focuses on one Bible lesson and memory verse. A typical year will have 8-9 rotations from September through May.

Workshops: The workshops are led by leaders who prepare and teach the Bible lesson and hands-on activity. The children will rotate from workshop to workshop each week, but the leader stays in the same rotation for the entire rotation. The leader teaches the same materials each week with minor adjustments for various age levels.

Our designated workshop stations are: **Gold Crown Theater** (Storytelling, Drama, Videos in Youth Room 1), **Creation Station** (Art/Science in Youth Room 2), **Bible Busters** (Games in the Fellowship Hall), and the **Solid Rock Café** (Cooking in the Fellowship Hall kitchen).

Group Assignments: Children are assigned to a small group for the school year (the names of the groups are the *Fishermen, Carpenters, Weavers, Potters* and *Scribes*) under the nurturing care and guidance of shepherds who lead them through the workshops in each rotation. Group lists are posted on the dry erase board outside the chapel. New children will be assigned to a group when they arrive.

Preschoolers: Those who have not begun school will participate in the preschool section of the program. Preschoolers will not "rotate", although they will participate in a variety of hands-on activities during their class time. It is important that children at this age level feel comfortable with their environment away from mom and dad and a key factor is keeping them in the same room with as much continuity as possible. It is preferable that children be potty trained before moving from the nursery to the preschool class. Preschoolers that attend at 11:00 are combined with older children.

Children who attend the 9:30 or 11:00 service will be excused from the service at the conclusion of the children's moment. You can locate your child in the children's wing following the service.

The children's moment is the time during both the 9:30 & 11:00 services that children are welcomed to the chancel area (the platform steps) for a short message & prayer. We understand that it can be daunting for new children to make the long walk to the front! We welcome parents to join their children to assist them in becoming more comfortable. Another option is joining us in the hallway following the children's moment if that is desired.

Children's Activity Boards: Are available in the foyer outside the sanctuary for your child's use. They are clipboards with the week's children's bulletin and crayons. There are two levels of bulletins: non-readers (ages 3-6) and readers (ages 7-12) Please place boards and crayons back in the narthex at the conclusion of the service.

What happens when my child leaves the service? During the school year, children are escorted from the sanctuary to the chapel. There we divide into our small groups, recognize birthdays, discuss our monthly mission project and collect our offering. Children are taught to usher during this time. The rotation schedule and group lists are posted on the dry erase board outside the chapel. Check the board to locate which workshop your child has attended, and pick them up in that room. You will need to walk through the fellowship hall to reach the kitchen.

Kingdom Kids II is held for children during the 11:00 service; utilizing different curriculum than our rotation workshops. All children (preschool - grade 5) are in one group.

Cherub Choir is an option for children in grades K-5 at 11:00. This group meets in the chapel in the fall to prepare for the early Christmas Eve service. Watch the bulletin and Hotline (church newsletter) for more information.

Bibles: We distribute Bibles to children in the 3rd grade in the fall. During Kingdom Kids, we strive to teach our children important Bible skills, but our time is limited. Additional special events for children in grades 3-5 will be scheduled to introduce Bible skills in a fun, exciting setting. Watch your Hotline (church newsletter) for more information. We encourage and reward children for bringing their Bibles to class. We have plenty of extra Bibles on hand for those who do not own their own.

Summer & Holiday Kingdom Kids: Workshops are not held in the summer. We combine the children and volunteers lead a lesson and activity for the children at both the 9:30 & 11:00 services.

Youth in grades 6 and up currently meet in the **East Room during the 9:30 service.** They begin the service in the sanctuary, then move to the East Room at the same time as the younger children leave. Please note that youth are not to be in the East Room prior to the group's dismissal from the sanctuary; thank you for helping us keep your student safe!

Confirmation is held during the school year on the 2nd and 4th Sundays during the 9:30 service. The class is located in the conference room. For more information regarding grade and commitment requirements, please contact the church office.

Parents, your participation and questions are most welcome. We appreciate your prayers and support as we work together to bring the message of Jesus Christ to children, youth and adults.

Kathie Church

Christian Education Director