



**St. Mark Lutheran Church
Children's Ministry**

Why Connect?

Isaiah 41:10 says, *"Do not fear for I am with you... I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."* Our children are our richest resource. We have a strong obligation to provide them with solid programs that will introduce them to the ideals of the Christian faith. Children's Ministry leadership is a team of committed individuals who agree to hold one another accountable; to be examples of Christ through our words, our actions and our prayers.

"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not turn from it."
(Proverbs 22:6)

Together, we want to help our children connect:

**Connect with Christ
Connect with others
Connect with the world**

We strive to provide an atmosphere where children will find acceptance and encouragement to grow in their faith and understanding of their connection with Christ on order that they come to accept God's saving grace for themselves. We will help our children build relationships with others and will motivate them to share their faith openly and give them the tools necessary to live out what they learn

As Director of Children's Ministry, it is my goal to build and develop a team of faithful and committed leaders who are willing to share the responsibility for moving the ministry toward our purpose of leading children to a personal and life long relationship with our Savior, Jesus Christ.

"So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, rooted and built up in Him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."
Colossians 2:6-7

For further information or questions, contact Wendy McManners,
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Where & When Can I Connect?

Sunday Morning

KidNation Nursery

- Children from birth – age 2.
- Help is needed during each morning service at 8:30 & 11:00 and during the Sunday school hour at 9:45. Occasionally on a Friday night for events.
- Service in the nursery is a paid position.
- Commitment: For paid positions, there is a rotating schedule. Frequency of service depends on the number of people in the rotation.
- Serving in the Nursery helps give others a well needed rest and allows families to participate in larger events with their older children.

KidNation Sunday school

- Classes for children age 3yrs. – 5th grade.
- Class time is from 9:45 – 10:45 am.
- There are 2-4 member teams in each class, this allows for an easier rotation.
- Lesson Curriculum is provided. Lesson preparation is the shared responsibility of the leader team.
- Commitment: The more leaders we have, the easier it is to put everyone on a rotating schedule.
- Serving in this area will allow you to form rewarding relationships with children while teaching them about God's grace!

KidNation Celebration (Children's Church)

- For ages 3yrs. - 5th grade.
- Services are held at 8:30 & 11:00 on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. Children will be escorted from the sanctuary at a special time during the regular Sunday service.
- There are 2-3 adult and youth member teams in each service.
- There are opportunities for children of all ages to volunteer.
- Worship guides are provided.
- Serving in this area will give you the chance to worship God through the eyes of children!
- Commitment: The more leaders we have, the easier it is to put everyone on a rotating schedule.

Caraway Street (Puppet Ministry)

- For ages 3yrs – 4th grade.
- Shows are held during the 8:30 & 11:00 services on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. Children will be escorted from the sanctuary at a special time during the regular Sunday service. (Sept. - May)
- There are 2 teams for this ministry, Team one serves on the 2nd Sunday and Team 2 serves on the 4th Sunday.
- Commitment: one Sunday a month for one year from Sept. to May.

Additional Ministries

Throughout the year, additional events are scheduled. Below is a partial list. Please note: Schedule is subject to change. Many of these events require a short term commitment for planning and/or help during the event. Watch the bulletin and newsletter for complete details. If help is needed, individual sign ups are available several weeks before the scheduled event.

October

Halloween Alternative -

An annual outreach event that serves our community. Fun activities for the whole family.

December

Parent's Night Out

A night full of fun and entertainment for children while parents finish up with Christmas shopping!

Christmas Celebration

A celebration for all of our adult and children Sunday school classes.

January-March

Walk In Movie

Families are invited to join us for a relaxing evening of video entertainment and snacks.

Parent's Night Out

A night full of fun and entertainment for children while parents spend an evening out.

April

Annual Family Picnic

An annual event for our church families and guests. Enjoy great food, music, games and more...

July

Vacation Bible School

Our largest outreach event of the year. This week long production attracts 200+ children. A team of about 60-100 volunteers are needed. A planning team begins in early spring, preregistration of children begins in May and group leader registration takes place in May and June.