

## Here's how it works:

- The 3 and 4 year-olds begin the hour in worship and are dismissed to their classes following The Time with the Younger Church.
- The Storyteller leads the children in preparation for worship.
- One story is told for four weeks using wooden figures and a scripted story.
- The children work with the story and respond to it through art and other activities.
- The Storyteller prepares the feast and the children say a prayer of thanksgiving and enjoy the feast.
- The story is read from a children's Bible.
- A blessing is given.
- The Storyteller changes each month, but a Shepherd is there throughout the program year to provide warmth and welcome to the children and help for the storyteller.

*The purpose of Children & Family Ministries is to provide educational, social and mission opportunities to connect all children and their families with Jesus Christ and our church community.*

## Worship Wonder 2013-2014 3 & 4 Year-Olds Bible Stories

### Orientation to Worship Wonder/Creation

Abram and Sarai

### The Most Important Commandment

The Way to Bethlehem

Baby Jesus is Presented to God

Jesus is Baptized

Jesus and the Children

Jesus and the Bartimaeus

Noah

Parable of the Mustard Seed

Follow Me

Daniel and the Lion's Den

If you are interested in teaching or assisting with a workshop, contact:

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Everybody's  Church

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# Worship Wonder

Church School

A 3 & 4 Year-Old  
Approach to Worship  
2013 - 2014

Everybody's  Church  
First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham

*The Vision of First Presbyterian Church*  
As Everybody's Church, we commit ourselves to serving Christ by cultivating mission, inclusion, and community.

## Worship Wonder

Children learn at a very young age to worship by experiencing worship. The flow of the Worship Wonder class is modeled after a worship service and the tone is set with preparation for worship as the children enter the room. They are reminded to walk more slowly, talk softly and sit quietly in this special place. Why do we come to this place? We come to worship, to hear stories of God and pray.

The goal is to teach children the art of using religious language as they experience parable, sacred story, silence and liturgical action. Through experiential worship, multi-sensory storytelling methods and “wondering” questions, children learn the



language of worship. It enables them to bring their lived experiences into dialogue with God through the biblical stories. They become more fully aware of the mystery of God’s presence in their lives.

This program was originally created in the Montessori tradition.



The repetition of the story for four weeks enables the children to really learn it and respond to it in different ways.

The wooden story figures were primarily made by members of our congregation. The stories used are from Jerome Berryman and Sonya Stewart’s books *Young Children in Worship, Following Jesus* and other resources.

