

Here's how it works:

- Classes rotate to a different workshop each week and learn the story in different ways for five weeks.
- Repetition helps memory retention and provides opportunities for in-depth exploration.
- Classrooms are transformed into customized workshops.
- Children love the variety and want to come.
- Teachers teach the same lesson for four weeks using their specific talents.
- Shepherds stay with each age group throughout the year providing warmth and welcome to the children and help for the teachers.
- The schedule is in the weekly bulletin.

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.

CrossWalks 2017-2018 Grades K-5 Bible Stories

God Calls Abraham and Sarah
Moving with Moses
Advent: Journeys and Dreams
Who is My Neighbor?
The Empty Tomb
Jesus Walks on Water
Lydia and her Purple Cloth

You can sign up to help at a link provided each week in the weekly communication, *CrossWalks Connect*. If you are not currently receiving this email, contact Cindy Merten to be added to the list.

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

Cindy Merten
Director of Christian Education
248-644-2087 x 145
cindymerten@everybodyschurch.org

Everybody's  Church

First Presbyterian Church
1669 West Maple Road
Birmingham, Michigan 48009
248.644.2040
www.everybodyschurch.org

CrossWalks

Church School

A Multi-dimensional Approach K-5th Grades 2017- 2018



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.

A whole church ministry

Our classrooms are colorful and exciting environments designed to encourage and enhance learning. This program has been described as “a whole church ministry disguised as a children’s program.” Every 4 or 5 weeks, a theme or Bible lesson is the focus for “workshops” designed to teach that lesson by engaging the children’s multiple intelligences.

Children ages three through fifth grade attend the beginning of the worship service and then Kindergarteners through 5th graders go to the chapel where they meet their “shepherds.” After gathering as a group, Kindergarteners through 5th graders head upstairs to the CrossWalks rooms. Approximately once every six weeks we all meet for family worship when the theme of worship may include what the children have studied in CrossWalks. Children learn to worship by experiencing worship, and we celebrate their presence among us.

CrossWalks meets year round. In the summertime we consolidate classes and include additional themes not covered during the school year.

The Workshops

The Oasis, Room 208

A Bedouin tent dimly lit in a silhouetted oasis provides a storyteller’s paradise and a perfect place for reflection.

A Joyful Noise, Room 210

Through musical expression and movement, the students experience the Biblical story while praising God.

Martha’s Table, Room 209

Cooking in an ancient kitchen and eating on the rooftop awaits students in this room.

Noah’s Art, Rooms 205-207

More than just a craft room, children and youth will interpret the stories through many mediums of artistic expression.

The Temple School, Room 212

Here students **actively** learn Biblical skills including geography lessons with maps painted around the room.

The Parable Place, Room 213

Puppetry and dramatic expression are a natural in this “theater in the round” set in the hills of the Galilee region.

The Workshops *(continued)*

The Red Sea Cinema

The aroma of warm popcorn, theater seats, and movies amid the parted Red Sea provide an exciting place to get an overview of the story.

Creation Station, Room 206

Computer research, games working with Legos and creative writing are done in this room filled with up-to-date equipment.

