

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PROGRAMS

2015-2016

## **What is the Faith Zone Workshop Rotation Model?**

The Faith Zone is St. John's Workshop Rotation Model of Education, which is based on the concepts of the Multiple Intelligence theory. All classes study the same Bible story for one month with every workshop approaching the story in a different way.

Instead of recruiting one volunteer teacher for an entire year, St. John's Christian Education Committee:

1. Designs each classroom for one specific learning experience. For example, a drama room, art room, storytelling room, movie room.
2. Recruits a teacher to teach the same workshop activity to a different class each week for one month.
3. Rotates a different class to a new workshop each week-hence the concept "rotation."
4. Uses one Biblical story for one month so that the children experience the same story through four workshops.
5. Recruits persons to act as "shepherds" for each class. The shepherds stay with the same class for the entire year providing continuity and stability to the group.

The children become engaged in the Bible story, are eager to come back because they have other rooms to look forward to and are able to remember and retell the Bible story.

We use the workshop rotation model for children in grades K-6. Our three and four-year-old classes remain in their rooms during the Faith Zone. Grade 7 has its own curriculum and meets each week in the Youth Room.

## **Contact us!**

**Phone Number: 608.325.2165**

**Fax Number: 608.325.2290**

**e-mail: [stjohnsucc@tds.net](mailto:stjohnsucc@tds.net)**

**Web Site: [www.stjohnsuccmonroe.org](http://www.stjohnsuccmonroe.org)**

**Facebook: [facebook.com/stjohnsmonroe](https://facebook.com/stjohnsmonroe)**

After normal office hours you are welcome to leave a message for a staff person by using our voice mail system.

The church office is open Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Mondays and Fridays, 8 a.m. to noon

The Christian Education Office is located on the second floor of the Christian Education Wing.

### **Our Staff at St. John's**

Rev. Todd Hackman

Senior Pastor

Rev. Tiff Bates

Interim Associate Pastor

Gary Neuenschwander

Faith Zone Director

Valerie Blum

Program Administrator

Robert Haigler

Director of Music

Kim Wilhite

Youth Director

Megan Hoinacki

Junior and Children's Choirs

Judy Hale

Accounting and Business Manager

Yvonne Tornow

Office Administrator

### **Traffic on Sunday mornings**

On Sunday mornings, 15th Street becomes one way to the west and 14th Street becomes one way to the east.

## Nursery

A **nursery** is provided during the 9 a.m. worship service. Adult care givers are recruited for each Sunday. Your child's safety and health are carefully provided for. A simple registration procedure is followed for each infant and toddler and parents are invited to drop in at any time.

The nursery is located on the upper level of the Christian Education Building.

## Junior and Children's Choir

All students in first grade and above are invited to participate in St. John's choir program. Choirs practice from 4:45 to 5:20 p.m. each Wednesday beginning Sept. 9 in the choir room and sing in worship once a month.

Megan Hoinacki is choir director. Additional information is available by calling the church office at 325-2165.

## Welcome to St. John's Faith Zone

At St. John's, the Christian Education program begins at three years of age. Infants and children up to age 3 are invited to our nursery located on the second floor of the Christian Education Building. Nursery service is offered at the 9 a.m. service only.

Children ages 3 and 4 are invited to our Preschool program located on the upper floor of the Christian Education Building. At age 5 or as a child enters kindergarten, children enter the Faith Zone which continues through the 6th grade. A separate class for 7th graders is offered on Sunday mornings in the Youth Room.

The first Sunday of the Faith Zone is Sunday, Sept. 13. Families with three and four-year-olds should take their child to the Pre-school rooms. All other children should go directly to Fellowship Hall where tables will be marked with class signs. A shepherd will be at each table to greet you and will remain with the class throughout the year. At 9 a.m., all classes will walk to the Faith Zone in the Christian Education building. Students will experience a different workshop each Sunday. Parents may pick up children in the Christian Education Building following worship. Signs at the top of each set of stairs in the Christian Education Building will direct you to the appropriate classroom.

**The Christian Education office** is located on the upper level of the Christian Education wing and a volunteer is in that office on Sunday mornings to assist visitors and Faith Zone participants.

**Faith Zone director Gary Neuenschwander (garystjohns@tds.net)** begins his morning in this office at 7 a.m. and then meets classes in Fellowship Hall. **Program administrator Valerie Blum (valstjohns@tds.net)** is available in the CE wing to greet students and answer questions.

## Faith Zone Calendar 2015 – 2016

### Faith Believers

Our Faith Zone curriculum is developed  
and written by Potter's Publishing.

This year, we begin the fifth year of a six-year curriculum.

Sept. 13	First Day of Faith Zone/Rally
Sept. 20	Bibles 3rd grade/Bible Study
Sept. 28	Special Faith Zone Sunday
Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25	Daniel
Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22	David
Nov. 29	Advent Festival
Dec. 7, 13, 20	Believers Around the World/Cbristmas
Dec. 27	NO FAITH ZONE
Jan. 3	Epiphany Celebration
Jan..10, 17, 24, 31	Esther
Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28	Paul
March 6, 13, 20	Easter
March 27	EASTER SUNDAY NO FAITH ZONE
April 3, 10, 17, 24	Jesus & Discipleship
May 1, 8, 15	Mission Project
May 22	Appreciation Breakfast
May 29	Summer Worship Option Begins

## Including Children in Worship

St. John's welcomes children in our congregational worship services because we follow Jesus Christ, who welcomed and fully accepted little children. We want our children to know that we, too, accept them as they are and desire their participation in the community of faith.

Young children come to worship with wonder and a curiosity about everything. There are several things parents can do to make their child's experience - and their own - more relaxed and worshipful:

1. Sit near the front where your child can clearly see the worship leaders.
2. Prepare your child for the different parts of the worship service and explain special events ahead of time.
3. Encourage use of the children's worship activity bulletin, available from the ushers, and invite your child to color or draw in those bulletins.
4. Allow your child to bring a favorite stuffed animal along or pick up a Bible storybook in the library to browse during worship.
5. If children are invited to participate by coming forward or giving a response, accompany them if they are hesitant and join them in responding.
6. Feel free to choose, at any time during the worship, to take your child to play in the nursery for the remainder of the service. Your movement during the worship is not disruptive.
7. If a child needs to use the bathroom, again, your quiet movement will not disrupt worship and there is a bathroom at the back of the sanctuary near the elevator entrance.

A sensitivity to the young child's abilities and needs can help make worship a more pleasant and meaningful experience. We encourage the church family to worship together.

## **Third Grade Bibles**

Each year St. John's Untied Church of Christ gives a Bible to third grade students participating in the Faith Zone. This year the Bibles will be presented during the 9 a.m. worship service on Sunday, Sept. 20. Memorial gifts are used to purchase these Bibles that are engraved with each child's name. The Christian Education Committee thanks all those who have donated money for these Bibles

## **Confirmation Class**

Youth in 8th grade are invited to participate in St. John's confirmation program. The class will begin with a retreat Sept. 25-26 and will meet on Wednesday evenings beginning on Sept. 30.

The class will be taught by Rev. Todd Hackman.

Additional information is available by calling the church office at 325-2165.

## **Safe Sanctuary Policy**

St. John's has implemented a Safe Sanctuary policy approved by the Church Council in July of 2014. A background check is required of all volunteers in the Faith Zone similar to what is required in the Monroe school system.

Copies of the policy are available in the Christian Education office. Additional information on the policy is available from Gary Neuenschwander and Val Blum.

## **Faith Zone Registration Information**

You can register online or the traditional way by printed form. To register online, go to [stjohnsuccmonroe.org](http://stjohnsuccmonroe.org) and click on the words "The Faith Zone" on the right side of the page. A screen will pop up and allow you to register both ways. If you wish to register online, click on REGISTER FOR THE FAITH ZONE and fill out the form. The form will automatically transfer into our computer system. If you want to register the traditional paper way, click on REGISTRATION FORM, download and return the completed form to the church office.

You may also use the registration form in this booklet and return it to the church office or bring it with you on Sept. 13.



## Senior High Youth Fellowship

Senior High Youth Fellowship (SHYF) meets Wednesday evening from 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Youth Room. Students are encouraged to attend when they can.

If you are interested in receiving mailings about Senior High events, please contact Youth Director Kim Wilhite at 293-1505 or the church office, 325.2165. Cell phone numbers would be appreciated!

Information on the first meeting will be mailed to all St. John's high school students.

## Mid High Youth Group

A Mid High Youth Group was formed last year with monthly activities planned.

The group is designed for students in sixth through eighth-grade. If you are interested in receiving information about Mid High activities and events, please contact the church office, 325.2165. Cell phone numbers would be appreciated!



## JOIN US AS WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR WITH A RALLY DAY CARNIVAL

- Games
- Prizes
- Dottie the Clown
- Hot dogs
- Cotton candy
- Fellowship

**Sunday, Sept. 13**

following the 9 a.m. worship service