



Kids News

CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

Did you know that Western Hills has a Children's Library? It is located in Room 105. You can come visit any time that class is not in session.

There's a wide selection of books and DVDs for kids in Pre-K through 6th grade. We have everything from Veggie Tales to Bible stories to junior novels, so there is something for everyone!

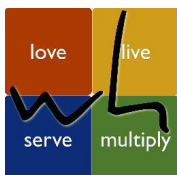
All resources are on a self-checkout basis. Simply fill out the card found in the card pocket on each item. Write down your name and the date on the card and place it in the small clear container sitting on the kiosk. Materials are checked out for a 4 week period. If you need any assistance, please contact either Janis McGlasson or Cathy Anderson. We hope you and your children enjoy using the library.

Spotlight on the 2 Year Old Class!!

The two year old class is led by director Heather Hogan, teachers Jessica and John Boose, Amanda Stice, Megan Holmes and Aiden Norton. Six to ten active youngsters are having a blast both hours each Sunday as they are loved and learning through their senses and active play.

Every Sunday, the morning begins with prayer and a story from the Bible. The children then get to relate these lessons to the world around them thru play, song, and art. Every week there are new activities and toys to keep class interesting and exciting. This is done by setting up

stations relating to our Bible lesson that the children can visit and explore. The central message conveyed thru the curriculum is that God loves us and wants us to obey Him. We have also learned about all the beautiful things He has made such as animals, the Earth, and of course us! Friends are being made with peers, and the children know that they will see the same caring teacher each Sunday as they knock on the door of their room. There are lots of giggles and the children have an awesome time. This age is learning at a high rate of speed and we are honored to share in that learning each Sunday!



Western Hills Church
2900 SW Auburn Road
Topeka, KS 66614



Western Hills' New Disability Ministry

"Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame... Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full." Luke 14:21b, 23

My heart yearns to seek out this often forgotten people group and invite them in. It is estimated that worldwide there are up to 600 million people who live with a disability; 54 million are in the United States. The majority of these people with disabilities do not attend church. It is our desire for them to come to know our loving Jesus Christ as their own personal Lord, Savior and Friend.

Joni and Friend's Studies (founder Joni Eareckson Tada) have found that less than 11% of churches do any type of intentional outreach to people affected by disability. Only 15% of families affected by disabilities are raising their children as part of a church community.

I feel that this is generally due to the fact that churches are not equipped to serve individuals with disabilities in our classrooms and activities. My hope is that Western Hills will be the place in Topeka that our friends with disabilities and their families feel safe and free to learn about the love of Jesus.

January 21st at 9:00 am, we will begin offering a **Small Group class** for individuals with disabilities ages High School – Adult. We will also begin providing **Friendship Partners** for individuals with disabilities ages toddler – middle school to assist them in their age group classroom as well as assisting ages high school – adults at other church activities they may want to attend (this will also allow their family/caregiver to attend church or another small group & activities).

OUR NEED: We are especially looking for volunteers in the role of friendship partners. We can also utilize additional class assistant and substitute teachers

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5th & 6th Grade Class Experience Christmas with a Party & a Skit!

The 5th and 6th grade class voted to name themselves the "Giant Slayers". They have enjoyed some extra curricular activities in December including a Christmas party complete with dinner, flag football and indoor games. In



addition to having fun and getting better acquainted as a class they gelled as a unit and that has really enhanced their classroom time on Sunday. Christmas Eve, they stole the show with their skit,

Christmas is Christ. Creatively, they pointed us to Christ as the reason for Christmas, not money, singing, food or presents, but Jesus himself. GREAT JOB Giant Slayers!!!



Upward basketball is in high gear with opening day of games set for Saturday, January 6 at 8:00am!

Numbers remain high, once again topping 300 participants. With that many players, we believe we have the opportunity to reach at least 2,500 people (players, siblings, parents, grandparents, friends, etc.) over the course of the season with the message of Jesus Christ.

We could really use your help! Concessions can always use more hands and feet. Referees, scorekeepers, timekeepers, etc... The opportunities to serve are endless, whether you know the game or not. Please contact Bobbi Holthaus (785-608-6804) or Dave Parker (785-565-2639) if you would like to be part of this awesome ministry!

As always, we appreciate your prayers for this ministry.