CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

<u>Committee Changes:</u> The Christian Education Committee expresses a deep and heartfelt *THANK YOU to JENN WALTER* for serving as our Chair for the last almost two years. We are very grateful for all the hard work and leadership. Thank you, Jenn! Candace Crist and Emily Lykins are currently serving as co-chairs of Christian Education.

Adult Christian Ed (aka ACE): We are joining forces this fall with the Myrtle Collaboration Team and hope to see many members participate in this valuable effort!

Acolytes: Many of our children help on Sundays by lighting the altar candles. Every month, a youngster walks in with the choir and pastors and brings light into the sanctuary. Look for an upcoming article in one of this month's issues of *The Voice*, which will feature our acolytes!

<u>Sunday School:</u> We have people lined up to teach Sunday school through the entire 2019-20 year! Thank you to all the wonderful folks who volunteered! We are grateful to: Sarah Miller and Deb Sayers (grades K-2) and Bill Fisher, Carol Richmond, Emily Lykins, Carla Blackmar Rice, Mary Shinn, Jenn Walter, Debbie DeGennaro, Amy Bartel, and Cameron Hay-Rollins (grades 3-5).

We are also excited about our new curriculum: *Frolic* for preschoolers and *Whirl* for 3-5.

Sunday Preschoolers and K-1-2:

OPC has a group of regular preschoolers including Oran, Lola, Eloise, and Claire. The children climb onto their chairs and listen to the day's bible story, enthusiastically interjecting with questions.



OPC also has a great group of Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd graders, taught by Deb Sayers and Sarah Miller. They recently made a trip downstairs to see the rose window and were inspired by shapes and colors. The photo (on the photo page) shows Anthony and Emilia making stained glass window "Live in the Light" cards for church members on the prayer list. The K-1-2 class makes cards each month for our friends who are ill, shut-in, or in nursing homes.





New Youth Team!

OPC has a new Youth Team! Created to assist with youth ministry during the absence of a Youth Director (and beyond), this group is led by Pastor Marc. Team members include Candace Crist, Tom Holmes, Emily Lykins, Mary Shinn, Leanne Staley, and Molly Todd. The team has met twice and things are already in place for fall youth programming through December. Youth gatherings will occur on Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8:00 PM and will include food, service activities, lessons, and fun events. Having this Youth Team in place allows OPC time to find and select the best match for the Youth Director. And when the new director is hired and begins, the team will continue to support and assist with youth ministry and programming.

Candace Crist for the Christian Education Committee

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