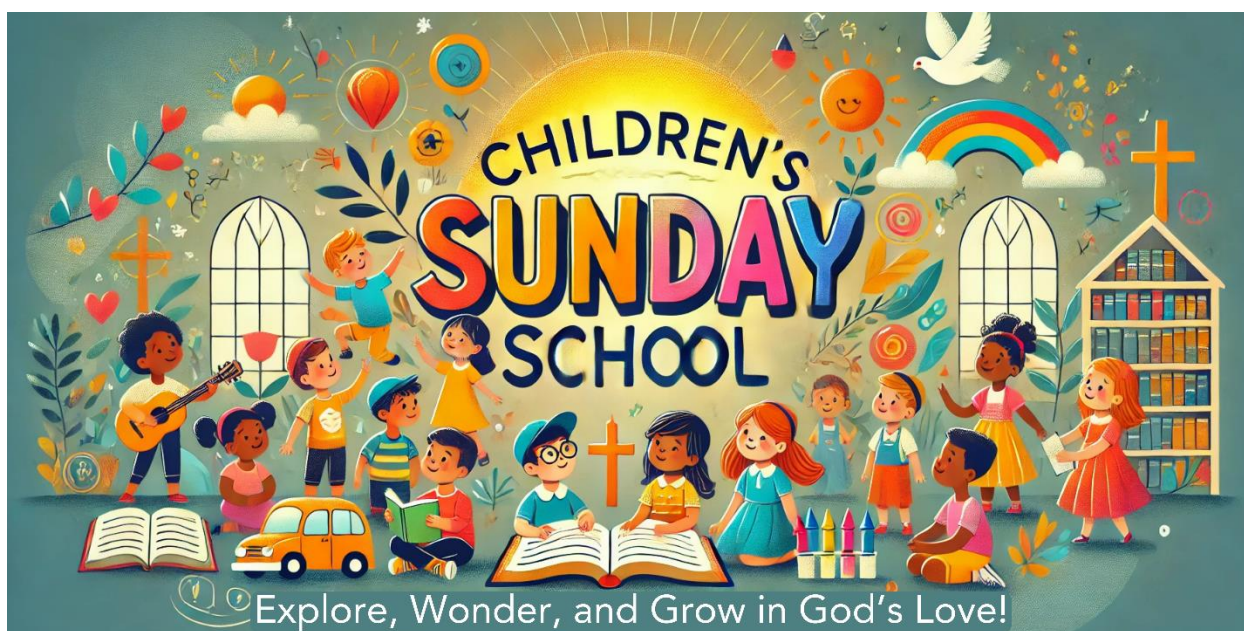




Sunday Mornings at 9:15!

Our Preschool (Age 2 to PreK 5), Younger Elementary (Kindergarten to 2nd Grade), and Older Elementary (3rd to 5th Grade) children will meet for Sunday school to explore Bible stories, engage in meaningful activities, and grow in their faith through age-appropriate lessons and hands-on learning. **The preschool class will meet in Room 305, the younger elementary class will meet in Room 214, and the older elementary class will meet in Room 212.**



GODLY PLAY

Preschool and Younger Elementary Sunday School

Preschool and Younger Elementary classes will use the Godly Play curriculum to explore Bible stories through imaginative and interactive storytelling. Classes will begin in Room 304 and end their time in their separate classrooms.

What is Godly Play?

Godly Play is a Montessori-inspired approach to children's faith formation that invites them to explore Bible stories with wonder and imagination.

How It Supports Children's Spiritual Growth:

- **Engages Through Storytelling:** Uses hands-on materials to bring Bible stories to life.
- **Encourages Reflection:** Prompts children to wonder and connect personally with God's story.
- **Fosters Spiritual Growth:** Builds foundational skills for prayer, worship, and lifelong faith.
- **Creates a Safe Space:** Provides a calm, welcoming environment for creativity and community.

Godly Play nurtures children's faith by helping them see themselves as part of God's story in a meaningful and joyful way.



Celebrating Our Older Elementary Students!

Our 3rd-5th grade students completed their New Testament study this past Sunday! Over the past several weeks, they journeyed from Matthew to Revelation using the “Colaborate” curriculum. Through stories, discussions, and hands-on activities, they deepened their understanding of Jesus' life, the early church, and God’s continuing work in the world.

We’re so proud of their curiosity and dedication. Special thanks to their amazing teachers and helpers who helped make this journey meaningful. Be sure to congratulate them and ask what their favorite part of the New Testament is!

May - Older Elementary Sunday School

To finish out the month of May, our 3rd – 5th graders will complete various service projects during the Christian Education hour. See the schedule below. Parents are welcome to join!

- **5/11/25** - UMCOR Hygiene Kits with Paul Givens
- **5/18/25** - Food Bank Scavenger Hunt - We will go to Kroger on Lascassas Pike in the church van. To participate, all students must have a 2024-2025 Glow Kids permission form on file.
- **5/25/25** - Cards for Homebound Members



Frolic Nursery: Little Steps, Big Faith

Our Nursery aged children (Birth to 1 year) will explore Frolic Nursery lessons. Drawing on brain science as well as theology,

Frolic was designed by early childhood experts to build faith through play in babies, toddlers, and young children from birth to age five. Frolic uses Bible lessons, music, and play to help build a firm Faith foundation.



Start faith formation at birth

Uses a curriculum-based on early childhood best practices to help your little ones to take little steps to big faith—starting at birth.



Focuses on learning at their level

Frolic's curriculum focuses on helping young children explore faith concepts in the way they know best— through play!



Equips caregivers to nurture faith

Equips leaders and parents to nurture faith in many ways—through storytelling, prayers, and music.



Cedar Crest Camp Summer Registration

If you have registered your child/youth for Cedar Crest Camp this summer, please click [here](#) to inform us which week they are attending. We will send camp scholarships for the students listed on this list!

Mother's Day Slideshow



EMAIL YOUR PICTURES AND
NAMES TO
PHOTOS@STMARKSTN.ORG
BY TUESDAY, MAY 6TH

Mother's Day Slideshow Pictures due TODAY

Email your Mother's Day pictures to Photos@stmarkstn.org TODAY. Please include the names of those in the picture.



VBS Registration is OPEN!

Get ready for *Road Trip VBS: On the Go with God!*
Registration is now open, and we'd love for you to join the journey.

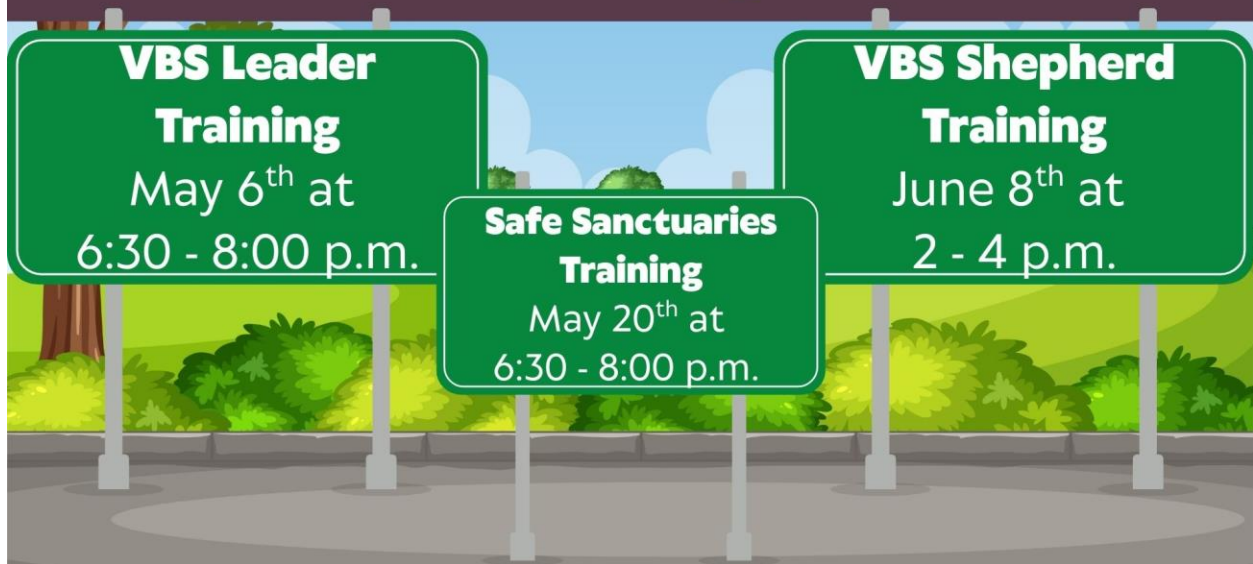
Children ages 4 through 5th grade are invited to attend. Younger children of VBS volunteers and kids enrolled in St. Mark's Preschool's Summer Fun program are also welcome.

👉 [Click here to register your child](#)

👉 [Adult and youth volunteers can register here](#)

If you feel led to serve in this ministry area, please email Hannah Pratt at hannah@stmarkstn.org.

VBS Training Dates



Important VBS Volunteer Dates!

- **Tuesday, May 6th at 6:30 – 8:00 PM in the Banquet Hall-** VBS Leader Orientation
 - **Tuesday, May 20th at 6:30-8:00 PM in Room 503/505-** Safe Sanctuaries Training for any volunteers working with children, youth, or any other vulnerable persons. New volunteers and those whose training has expired are strongly encouraged to attend. Safe Sanctuaries training must be renewed every 5 years.
- **Sunday, June 8th at 2:00 – 4:00 PM in the Banquet Hall-** VBS Orientation for Shepherds

Upcoming Events!



COKESBURY KIDS' VBS FILMING

**CHILD EXTRAS
NEEDED!**

Saturday, May 10 from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m.

RSVP for Cokesbury's VBS Recording at St. Mark's!

Cokesbury will be recording their 2026 Vacation Bible School videos at St. Mark's! This is an exciting opportunity for us, and we need your children to participate! Mark your calendars for **Saturday, May 10th from 12:30 – 3:30 p.m.**

Click [here](#) to register your child today!



Family Fun Fest on June 1st!

We are excited to partner with Moms Loving Moms to host a community wide Family Fun Fest on Sunday, June 1st from 3-6 p.m.! There will be bounce houses, characters, face painting, food trucks, music, and so much more. The event is donation-based. All St. Mark's families and friends are invited to attend.



June Little Lights and G.L.O.W. Kids Meet-Up!

Little Lights

This service/fellowship group is for families with children age birth to 2nd grade. This is a family friendly group! Adults must remain with their child throughout the duration of the event. Invite a friend! Click [here](#) for the Spring 2025 schedule.

- **Save the Date-** June 1st from 3-6 p.m. – Moms Loving Moms' Family Fun Fest at St. Mark's. All St. Mark's families are invited to attend! See information above.

G.L.O.W. Kids

This service/fellowship group is for children in 3rd – 5th grade. Invite a friend! Click [here](#) for the Spring 2025 schedule.

- **Save the Date-** June 1st from 3-6 p.m. – Moms Loving Moms' Family Fun Fest at St. Mark's.



SAFER SANCTUARIES

Nurturing Trust within Faith Communities

Help St. Mark's be a Safe Sanctuary to all people entrusted to our care!

- Keep empty rooms locked
- Sign children in and out of classrooms
- Supervise your children at all times
- Accompany your children to the Restroom

Help St. Mark's be a Safe Sanctuary to all people entrusted to our care!

Ways you can help:

- Keep empty rooms locked
- Sign children in and out of classrooms
- Supervise your children at all times
- Accompany your children to the Restroom
- Help us observe the two-adult rule at all times by serving as a Safe Sanctuaries helper
- If you see any behavior that seems abusive or inappropriate, inform a ministry leader

Please contact Hannah Pratt at hannah@stmarkstn.org if you have any questions.
Follow our St. Mark's Children's Ministry Facebook page and Instagram @stmarkstnkids for more information!

