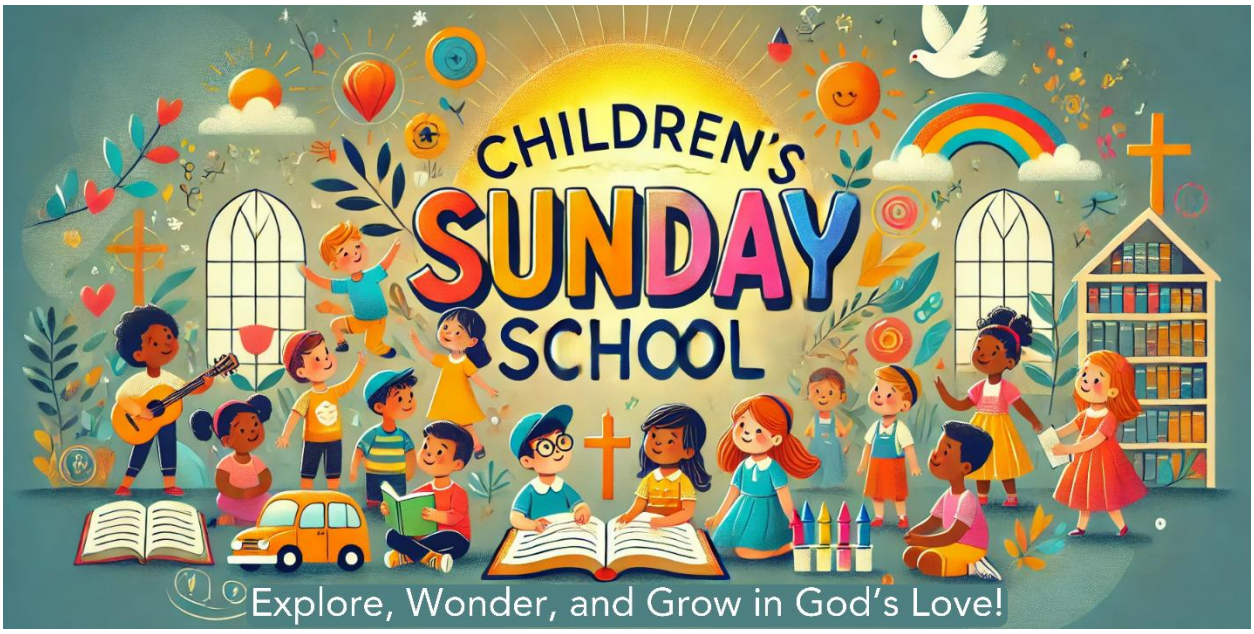

Children's Sunday School!

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.

Older Elementary Sunday School

Our Older Elementary (3rd Grade to 5th Grade) children will meet for Sunday school to explore Spark: Activate Faith lessons. An activity-filled Sunday school curriculum that follows the salvation story from start to finish, helping kids explore key Bible stories from both the Old and New Testaments. **The older elementary class will meet in Room 212.**

Spark helps kids learn at their level

Interact with the Bible in every lesson, helping kids navigate the story and begin to compare what they learn to their own life.

Focus on hands-on learning

Engage kids in the Bible story with lessons packed with activities, interactive games, and creative crafts.

Experience the Salvation Story arc

Help kids experience the Salvation story each year by exploring the Old Testament in the fall, and the New Testament in the winter and spring.

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.

Kids Connection is this Wednesday!

Need a break from a hectic week? Don’t feel like cooking? Searching for community? Bring your family to Wednesday Night Together! Children will meet from 6:00-7:00 for a time of connection, fun and games, and life application in Room 202.

Thank you to Our Incredible Volunteers!

To all our amazing volunteers, thank you for the time, love, and support you invested into this year's Fall Festival. The Children's and Family Ministry teams and I are so grateful. Your servant hearts are a gift to this ministry, and we appreciate each one of you.

Thank you for the ways you faithfully serve God and others!

Grace,

Hannah Underwood

Upcoming Events!

Parents' Night Out is Sunday, November 23rd!

Need a night to Christmas shop, prepare for the upcoming season, or relax? Bring your child to Parent' Night Out on Sunday, November 23 from 4-7 p.m.! For $10 per child ($25 cap for families with 3+ children), your child will enjoy pizza, games, a movie, and more!

This is a fundraiser for MTSU Wesley. All proceeds will go to support our local campus ministry and the important work they do within our community. RSVP to Hannah by Wednesday, November 19!

Family Advent Event is Sunday, November 30th!

All children and families are invited to begin preparing for the birth of Jesus by participating in Advent stations on Sunday, November 30th, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the Banquet Hall. To ensure we have enough supplies, please RSVP to Hannah by Sunday, November 23rd.

Little Lights and G.L.O.W. Kids!

<u>Little Lights</u>

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 Fall 2025 schedule.

- **November 9th @ 4-5 p.m.** – Children and their families will pack food boxes for St. Mark's food bank. Meet in Room 407/409. Enter through the double doors near the office and RSVP to Hillary by this Wednesday.

<u>G.L.O.W. Kids</u>

This service/fellowship group is for children in 3rd – 5th grade. Invite a friend! Click here for the Fall 2025 schedule.

- **November 24th at 11 a.m. – 1 p.m.-** GLOW Kids will serve a meal at Journey Home. We will meet at the

church van at 11:00 then depart for Journey Home. Please RSVP to Hannah by November 17th.

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 Underwood 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!

ST. MARK'S KIDS