

Calendar of Family Events & Milestones

Milestone Events for Families and Children

August 28th - 10-11:30 a.m. Celebrating Our Baptism Milestone - Infant Faith Chests

September 10th - 5- 7 p.m. 4s & Y5 Learning Together Milestone together with 1st Grade Worshipping Together Milestone

October 10th - 9:30 a.m. Bible Sunday 9:30 a.m. service Milestone for 3rd graders 11 a.m. Milestone presentation

January 9th, 16th & 23th - 11 a.m. "We are Made in the Image of God" Milestone for 4th/5th graders & parents (6 week "Amazing Stuff" class concurrent with parents)

Feb 6th, 13th, 20th - cont'. Amazing Stuff Milestone

February 19th - 10-11:30 am Celebrating our Baptism Milestone- Infant Faith Chests

March 12th - 10:30 am Exploring the Sacrament of Baptism- 2nd Grade

April 9th - 11 a.m., Exploring the Sacrament of Communion Milestone- Kindergarten

All of May - 11 a.m., Reaching Out in Mission Milestone- 5th Grade

Family Events

October 8 - Art Open house with Joel Schoon-Tanis

November 20 - Advent Happening

December 19 - Nativity Service

January 6 or 7 - Epiphany Celebration potluck

February 5 - Game Night

March 5 - Peeps & Pizza & more

April 17 - Easter

May 7 - Mother's Day brunch

June 18 - Father's Day brunch

Sunday Morning Opportunities

9:15am - 12:15am Childcare available for Infant through Pre School

9:30 - 10:30am Worship for all (Worship Lab approx 9:55-10:15am)

10:30 - 10:55am Children's Choir

11:00 - 11:55am Faith Formation for All Ages



Questions?

Learn more about Children's Education & Family Ministries by contacting Beca Torres-Davenport at 662-4466, ext. 342, or btorres-davenport@firstpresbyterian.org.



FIRST
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Ann Arbor | Michigan

Children's Education & Family Ministries



www.firstpresbyterian.org

Faith Formation at First Presbyterian

We believe in a faith that grows in people of all ages and connects people to one another. Faith that encompasses the head, heart, and mind—it enriches our everyday life as part of a shared journey with others in Christian fellowship.

Purpose

In our Children and Family Ministries, we hope to love, nurture, support, and guide children, families, and volunteers to build and strengthen their relationship with God and one another. We seek to provide a loving and safe environment where all children and families are welcome to be a part of the body of Christ. We do this by:

- Establishing unique opportunities and moments for children to learn about and follow Christ through actions and words
- Offering fellowship and support to parents and caregivers in nurturing their faith journey
- Guiding volunteers & teachers to explore and share their faith alongside God's children



Sunday Mornings at First Pres

On Sunday mornings we provide rich faith formation opportunities. Children – infancy through preschool – are invited into a loving space with constant caregivers each Sunday. Children and families build relationships with caregivers to give them that first glimmer of God's love in a safe and caring environment at church. Families are also welcome to keep their children with them to experience worship together as a family.



Preschool through 5th grade children are offered an age-appropriate Faith Formation experience that helps them understand the spiritual practices of worship, learn important Bible stories, and have engaging conversations with their teachers and peers to learn what it means to be a Disciple of Christ. (Prior to Faith Formation, children are invited to explore creative ways to worship through music and art, while parents enjoy Coffee Hour and conversation.)

Worship Lab is a hands-on experience where children can ask questions and dig deeper into the various parts of Presbyterian Worship. Children will learn what they have to offer to worship as they discover and understand their place in the Body of Christ on Sunday mornings.

Faith Formation Classes – Preschool through Fifth Grade

Fall classes will be held Sunday mornings at 11:00 a.m. For families wishing to stay home, a Zoom link to Growing in God's love class will be provided.

Pre-School (ages 2-4)

God Loves Me – short story, song and prayer

4's - Kindergarten

Worship Centers (Following Jesus)

1st - 5th Grade

Growing in God's Love – families will be loaned a Growing in God's Love Bible to keep at home.

Teachers

We provide curriculum, training and support to our teachers who are members and friends of First Presbyterian and are willing to explore and share their faith. Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds can have the gift of working with children. Our goal is to partner with teaching volunteers to form well thought-out approaches to teaching and curriculum that will best meet the needs of children and families.

First Presbyterian has adopted a Child and Volunteer Safety Policy for the protection of children and adults.

Milestone Ministries

The Milestone Ministry program recognizes meaningful moments in our children's lives and helps families mark and honor them as milestones in their faith journey. We celebrate Milestones such as our child's Baptism, entering the church school program, worshipping with our families, partaking of communion, receiving Bibles as third graders, and participating in service activities.



This ministry is family focused. We recognize that home is the primary place for faith formation. To assist parents, each family is given resources to guide their children as they journey with God. For each of these Milestones we have a family celebration at church centered on the specific milestone, a special gift to mark the milestone, and a guide for parents to use at home.

Families at First Pres

At First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor we know faith starts at home with the family, but families flourish when the whole congregation— and community of faith— is there to support them.

We celebrate faith and the family by finding new and innovative ways to encourage the children in worship participation, faith practices at home, and continuation of annual traditions (such as Advent & Lent festivals, Summer vacation opportunities, Family Sunday Celebrations, and Milestones) despite our new circumstances.

Not ready to come back in person, or join the zoom class? We have a special curriculum opportunity just for your family! Please contact Beca Torres-Davenport for more information.

