

Good News!

Youth and Family Ministries at Christ Church, Georgetown

Welcome to *Good News!* This is the Youth and Family Ministries Committee newsletter, where Christ Church parents can find calendar highlights, notes, information about new programs, and tools to help families take home what they've learned or prayed in church.

There are signs of spring everywhere, reminders of the rewarding challenges and opportunities of Lent and the glorious celebrations of Easter that follow. -- Molly Peacock, Craig Stouffer



Way to go mission participants, who made and sold 200 quarts of chili to support their journey and work in Appalachia this summer!

Packing up for Lent... in the Chapel

It is that time of the year again, when we strip away the layers of pomp and spectacle and return to reflecting and preparing for the celebrations and awakenings that come with Easter and the arrival of spring. On Sundays during Lent beginning March 10, the children of Christ Church will dive into those traditions with the clergy as part of a five-part homily series entitled *Packing Our Suitcases: What we put away during Lent and why*. Each Sunday during the 9 a.m. service, the children will help with "packing away" one element of daily or liturgical life.

NOTE: This Lent, the Children's Homily takes place in the Chapel of Saint Jude. Parents and other adults will remain in the nave for a traditional homily.

Hear about the Lenten All-In on March 10, 2019

On March 10, at 10:00a.m., the first Sunday in Lent, all Sunday School students and Youth Group members, their families and parishioners of all ages enjoyed an experiential and interactive introduction to the Stations of the Cross, an ancient devotion which recalls a series of events at the end of Jesus' life, from his condemnation to his burial. These "All-Ins" are intended to help parishioners of all ages enter more deeply into our journey as Christians; in March we explored the meaning of season of Lent, the drama and challenge of Holy Week, and the joy of Easter.

"Even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning." Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity. Joel 2:11-14

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 9 through April 7: Lenten Children's Homily series, *Packing our Suitcases: What we put away during Lent*, 9 a.m. Eucharist

Sunday, April 14: Palm Sunday procession and Passion Reading, 9 a.m. Eucharist. *No Sunday School This Sunday.*

Friday, April 19: Stations of the Cross, 4 p.m.

Sunday, April 21: Easter services – Holy Eucharist at 8 a.m., Festival Choral Eucharist at 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m., Choral Evensong at 5 p.m., and Holy Eucharist at 6 p.m. *No Sunday School This Sunday.*

No Sunday School on Palm Sunday or Easter, but Yes Sunday School the rest of April and much of May

Notes and Updates:

Palm Sunday Children's Procession and Passion Reading

Sunday, April 14, 9 a.m. Eucharist

The liturgy of the Passion Sunday, commonly called Palm Sunday, is the joining together of two distinct liturgical traditions. This combination of the festive procession with palms and the more somber Passion gospel reading can sometimes be confusing. That is why it is so important to include children in both parts. This powerful and important day marks a shift for all Christians which is why emphasizing the voices of our children make both – the palm procession and the Passion reading – that much more meaningful. We hope you will join us.

Stations of the Cross

Friday, April 19, 4 p.m.

The traditional Good Friday Stations of the Cross are a set of reflections, offered at different stations, that relay and depict the story of Jesus' final hours. The stations are particularly designed to make the events of Good Friday accessible to the younger members of the parish.

Mission Trip Preparation Continues

Christ Church's youth group members are continuing preparation for their trip in June with the Appalachia Service Project, a Christian ministry engaged in home repair and home building for the people of Appalachia.

The Christ Church kitchen was busy in January as kids chopped, peeled, and stirred their way to some 200 quarts of Super Bowl chili. The missionaries returned the first weekend in March for the annual C.H.O.P. – the Church House of Pancakes. All of the proceeds from their efforts support this summer's trip.

The missionaries will get hands-on preparation for their summer activities with a construction skills workshop. Christ Church parishioner Greg Carlsen, a D.C. contractor, will lead a session on basic tool skills and safety in early April.

Meet the Teachers:

Katherine Brown (2nd & 3rd)

Mrs. Brown has moved up this year after enjoying 1st and 2nd graders in years past. When she isn't focus on her full-time professional career and her family of 5, she's part of the Youth and Family Ministries Committee and has been developing Sunday School curriculum and teacher training. Her classroom skills are also a beauty to behold. Here are 4 fun facts about Mrs. Brown: (1) Favorite Movie: Sense and Sensibility; (2) Favorite ice cream: Pistachio; (3) Three items she'd take if she were stranded on a desert island: A satellite phone, a good book, matches; (4) Favorite Bible quote: Miriam's song from Exodus 15:21: "Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea."



Christ Church's amazing group of Sunday School students pose at assembly, where they gather each Sunday prior to departing to their individual classes.

When you fast, do not look somber as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces to show others they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, so that it will not be obvious to others that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. Matthew 6:16-18.