

FFUMC Kids

Growing in God.

Experiencing God's Love. Responding to God's Grace.

Check out What's Happening



JUMP RIGHT INTO SUMMER!

Luke and Stella Stevens (with a little help from their mom and dad, Rebecca and JR) are hosting FFUMC Kids for a pool party on Pentecost Sunday, June 5 from 2 - 4 p.m. Snacks and drinks will be provided. PreK-4 through 5th graders and their families are invited to join us as we celebrate the birthday of the church. Bring your floaties or favorite pool toys.

Contact Pastor Allyson with questions.

Scavenger Hunts and Summer Movie Fun

Meet at 8 p.m. on the green at the City Center Park.

Flicks on the Green



Disney
ENCANTO

JUNE 17
City Center Park

FFUMC KIDS Scavenger Hunt with Prizes!
Movie begins at Sundown

Flicks on the Green



Disney · PIXAR
TURNING RED

July 8
City Center Park

FFUMC KIDS Scavenger Hunt with Prizes!
Movie begins at Sundown



Summer Lunch Packing Events

9:30 a.m.

PreK-4 through 5th Grades

Join these family friendly mission days. Parents welcome!

June 7: After serving together we'll head over to **Anthony's** for lunch and return to the church by 12:30 p.m. Bring \$5 per person for lunch at Anthony's Pizzeria.

June 28: After serving we will load up the church vans and go to **Noah's Ark Animal Sanctuary in Locust Grove**. Noah's Ark is a place for abused, unwanted, and neglected animals. We will tour the Welcome Center, enjoy a picnic, walk around the paved pathways and be home by 3:30 p.m. Noah's Ark Animal Sanctuary is this year's VBS mission focus. Come learn more about how we can help take care of all of God's creations.

**Get creative and
learn fun leadership skills
this summer!**

CREATE Camp participants dive deeper into the adventures of our VBS Bible stories as they explore ways to develop their own personal leadership skills.

Campers will learn music and dances, how to create and build set designs, and have fun with traditional camp crafts and games.

[Register today at fayettevillefirst.com!](http://fayettevillefirst.com)

\$10/camper



Join the VBS fun!

Explorers find their way around an enchanted island with help from a Lighthouse Keeper and Beacon the Puffin.

The Quest:

Find five mysterious Infinity Lanterns.

Secret Tips:

Search the Reference Book to find clues to help you discover each Infinity Lantern. BIG hints are hidden in the ancient stories of how God's light shines!

[Register today at fayettevillefirst.com!](http://fayettevillefirst.com)

Parent Corner

Did you know...?

Helping our children grow in their understanding and love of God is an important goal of FFUMC Kids Ministries. We intentionally offer opportunities for children to be active participants in the life of the church, learn stories from the Bible, and explore daily practices that help guide their spiritual journeys. One of the pathways we use to help children in this endeavor is our “iRespond to God’s Grace” series. When you see a logo, like our iServe logo associated with our Summer Lunch mission work, you know that event is structured in a way to help your child respond to God’s grace through service. Other iRespond touch-points include: iLove (worship), iPray (prayer), iLead (witness), iGive (gifts). Be sure to be on the look out for these logos and help your child experience these important ways to grow in their faith.

Sunday School:

During the month of June, our summer Sunday school series, will introduce our children to Pentecost and how people in the early church experienced the Holy Spirit. In July they will learn more about how, and why, early believers praised God. Each lesson has a take-home sheet that summarizes the Bible story and includes a family spiritual practice activity. Ask your child what they learned each Sunday morning and experience the joy of growing in faith together.

Save the Date:

Promotion Sunday is August 7 - that’s when kids move up to the next grade level and when 5th graders officially move up to FFUMC youth. We will celebrate with a Kickball Kick-Off that afternoon so be sure to save the date!

Rise Against Hunger is August 21 - this church-wide event is a great mission for the entire family to serve side-by-side to help stop hunger around the world.

Parenting Resources

Parenting can be hard but you don’t have to do it alone. Beginning in September, FFUMC will offer resources for parents to help address two important challenges: Parenting with Mental Health in Mind and Parenting in a Tech World. More information on how you can tap into these valuable resources will be coming soon.

Check out the last two pages of this newsletter for tips on helping your child along their faith journey.

Children’s Ministry Exploration Phase

Recently, you might have received an email from Dr. Royce Anderson. Royce has agreed to help canvass the interests and desires of our children's ministries’ parents, leaders, and the children themselves. This ongoing effort began in early 2022 and has already brought forth valuable information. If you haven't received an introductory email from Royce and would like to offer your feedback, please contact him at toroyce@gmail.com. FFUMC Kids Ministry is extremely grateful for his efforts to help us better understand the best way to serve each of you this coming year.

CELEBRATE WONDER Celebration Chart

Place this chart on your refrigerator, kitchen table, or in an easy-to-access place. Throughout the week, have your child mark a space each time he or she completes an item on the chart. When a vertical, horizontal, or diagonal line is completed, celebrate together!

CELEBRATE				
<i>I made peace after a fight.</i>	<i>I tried to see someone else's view.</i>	<i>I showed peace.</i>	<i>I prayed for peace.</i>	<i>I was kind to a family member.</i>
<i>I wondered about something.</i>	<i>I noticed awe in nature.</i>	<i>I asked a hard question.</i>	<i>I saw God working in the world.</i>	<i>I learned something new.</i>
<i>I trusted God.</i>	<i>I was trustworthy today.</i>	<i>Free Celebration!</i>	<i>I shared something important with a friend or family member.</i>	<i>I trusted in God's love.</i>
<i>I prayed.</i>	<i>I spent time with my Bible.</i>	<i>I wondered about a Bible story.</i>	<i>I talked about a Bible story.</i>	<i>I learned a new Bible story.</i>
<i>I played with a new friend.</i>	<i>I went outside.</i>	<i>I cooked something.</i>	<i>I saw God in a friend.</i>	<i>I helped someone in my family.</i>

PARENT GUILT: The Problem With Perfection

I participated in a wonderful youth group when I was in high school. My youth leader talked about the importance of praying every day, reading Scripture, and living a moral life. I began setting my alarm 20 minutes early so that I could start my day off right. I'd pray and read the Bible. Unfortunately, this time quickly turned into the newest way I wasn't good enough. I would oversleep 10 minutes and beat myself up all through the remaining 10 minutes. I resented these practices and I resented myself for not being a better person.

I have battled the pervasiveness of perfectionism for a long time. Our culture constantly pushes us to be the best. It's hard to imagine that God isn't looking for us to be perfect when it seems like everything else implicitly teaches us that, in order to be worthy people, we must be perfect people. One of the things I have to remind myself of when I get caught in the cycle of perfectionism is this: I don't have to do things perfectly to be a good, deserving person. In fact, striving to be perfect distracts from a true relationship with God and with God's people.

As a children's minister and mom, I have talked with several parents about this very thing showing up in our parenting. We feel guilty for all the ways we aren't "perfect" at helping our kids be good people of faith. Have you fallen prey to this perfectionism? Take a breath and remember the following things:

1. There is no one right way to be a teacher of faith for your child. Free yourself from the example you have in your mind about how raising your child to be a disciple of Christ should look. The first image of God a child has is based on your care of him or her. Hold, listen, play, read, and be present with your child. This act of being together creates a strong, loving, God-filled experience for you both.

2. There is not a specific amount of time you are required to "do faith." Susanna Wesley, the mother of John and Charles Wesley (the founders of the Methodist movement), believed that God was present in everything. She washed dishes and was with God. She cooked food and was with God. Instead of worrying about setting aside a special time, be attentive to the love that surrounds your family all the time. Use your time at the kitchen table, in the car, at bath time, and at bedtime for prayers and stories and fellowship.

3. You can say you don't know. There are no right answers to the many questions and wonderings faith brings. I encourage your family to embrace the mystery of God. Saying, "I don't know; let's learn about it together" is one of the greatest gifts you can give your child. It encourages imagination and opens your child to discovering how God is moving in the world.