



5252 S. Lindbergh Blvd.
Saint Louis, MO 63128
314.631.0304
www.cmstl.org

The logo for Christ Memorial Children & Family, featuring a teal square icon with a white cross to the left of the text "christ memorial" in a teal sans-serif font, with "Children & Family" in a larger, blue serif font below it.

christ memorial Children & Family

2017-2018 Ministries Packet

Welcome!

Please take a few minutes to read through the Information Packet regarding programs and activities for children from birth to grade 6.

Online Registration will open August 1st, 2017,

Please consider how you can help partner in faith with Christ Memorial. We try to create opportunities that are easy to commit to and can fit into busy schedules.

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Daniel Meyer
Director of Youth Ministry
Daniel.meyer@cmstl.org

Angie Walston
Children and Family Ministry
Families@cmstl.org

Wilma Griffith
Sunday School Coordinator
Wilma.griffith@cmstl.org

Welcome!

Mission/Vision

As families of CMLC we believe we are LOVED and SENT in Christ. We desire to nurture children who know, are changed by, and are able to tell the story of God. We are then sent to serve as witnesses to the people around us.

We believe this happens through:

- Engaging in family discipleship and relational connection in the home
- Connecting with our church through worship and faith building opportunities
- Serving the schools and communities in which we learn and live

At Christ Memorial, we strive to simplify faith development and empower parents to disciple their children as they grow.

Christ Memorial Lutheran Church

- Welcomes children to worship together with their families
- Welcomes children to feel they belong to a community of people
- Welcomes and encourages children to explore their gifts in worship and service
- Welcomes children in loving relationships with each other and our world

Worship Opportunities

South County Campus (Christ Memorial)

Time	Worship	Connections
5:00 pm Saturday	Traditional	
7:45 am	Traditional	
9:00 am	Traditional	Bible Study and Sunday School
10:00 am		Bible Study and Sunday School
10:45 am	Contemporary	

Mid-Town Campus (Reliant)

Time	Worship	Connections
10:45		Children's "Jesus Time" Adult Fellowship
11:15	Blended/Acoustic	

Partnering with Parents

Christ Memorial is working to re-instate, re-educate and re-equip family as primary disciple makers.

Tools we will provide to support Households

- **Connections for parents as a resource to lead faith in their home.** This is more consistent with Biblical models of faith formation (Deut. 6) and our Lutheran Heritage (the Small Catechism was written for families to use in the home).
- **Table Talk emails and web resources** A quarterly email/web resource will be delivered with tools and ideas for family discussion, engagement and activities.
- **Community Groups.** All members are encouraged to join a community group. These multigenerational groups can become the “spiritual family” with whom you do life together. Eat. Study. Pray. Serve.
- **Adult Bible Study.** We will be offering weekly Women’s Bible study and expanded parenting groups beginning Summer 2017 to support your own spiritual growth and connection to other parents. We will look to expand and support these opportunities.
- **Family Resource Table and Library.** There will be a Weekly Family Resource table with tools both for during the worship service and books and ideas for you to take home, read and share.
- **Family Support Team.** We are developing a family support team who will help provide prayer, connection and referrals for families during all life stages.
- **Loved + Sent University (launching 2018).** This would take place on Wednesday nights in a semester format, and provide in-depth study, teaching, training, and equipping for children and parents.

“Take Ten”

Take ten minutes every day to:

- Share your highs and lows
- Read scripture, Bible story or family devotion
- Pray

Parenting is one of the most rewarding and challenging jobs in the world. We help our children with their homework, make sure they practice their music and sport skills but when it comes to “faith homework” sometimes we feel unprepared. Studies show that parents have the greatest influence on their child’s life...what you say and do impacts how your child feels about their faith. Praying at bedtime, before meals, reading Bible stories and sharing faith stories are easy ways to incorporate faith into your everyday life.

Families in Worship

Starting this fall, we are launching new service times to eliminate the conflict between Children's Sunday School and Worship. What this means for our families is we will all be in worship together! We know this can be a challenge, but are here to walk with each of our families to support you in this endeavor.

At Christ Memorial, we want you to feel at home. First, please relax and enjoy your time here. Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it. Your children are welcome in our midst.

To make it a bit easier on your family, please dare to sit toward the front where your children can easily see the service, note the colors, hear the music, smell the candles, watch the pastors, wonder about those heads on the lectern and embrace the action at the altar. What Jesus does here promises to engage them.

As we go, softly explain the Liturgy (order of worship) to your children, encouraging them to chime in on their parts: Amen! Hear our prayer! I believe! Our Father! All of that belongs to them too. Be sure to sing and say and pray your parts too as you participate in the service. Your children learn by following your lead.

If you and your child must leave, please hurry back. Like Jesus, we want your children in the service, not out. We want your children here so much that we don't have a designated nursery. If you are a nursing mother, you are welcomed to feed your baby in the service. Would you like a changing table or quiet place? We have a Cry Room just outside the front right door of the Worship Center. There are also changing tables in our rest rooms.

Worship Resources

Family Support Team

If you need a little help, we are here to assist. We have Family Support team members here who will lend you a hand, sit with you, bring a little one to the bathroom or offer a hug or word of encouragement.

Support Team members will be available near the Family Resource Table during services.

Family Resource Table

You will also find a Family Resource table when you enter our worship center. Feel free to grab a children's worship bag, a little snack and scribble sheets and worship guides for your children who can read and write.

Children's Worship Space

Alongside the table there will also be a space for "wiggle room", child sized tables and chairs to allow for a retreat for parents and children while still being a part of the worshiping community. If a parent needs assistance they can simply walk back to this area, family support team members will either join the family in their seats OR take turns holding a baby or walking with/engaging a toddler in the children's space for a time.

Please know that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus' words, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Luke 18:16). We know that your children are a gift to the Church, so we will do our best to welcome, smile, encourage, help and bless you all.

Connections- Sunday School Program

Connections the basis for our Sunday morning discipleship program that will focus on connection and discussion centered around God's Word. Children, youth and adults of all ages, will have opportunity to track and study the bible together. The basis of our children and parents Sunday School curriculum will be CPH's "Cross Explorations" studies. There will be a ratio of 1 adult leader to every 6-10 children allowing for mentoring and relationships to form in small groups. A Parent/Caregiver group will also study the same topics and give ideas and tips for how to bring it home the following week.

Bring your Bibles

We would encourage EVERY FAMILY to consider purchasing/locating a bible for family members as we start this fall. If you need help with bibles, please let us know! Suggested bibles below:

- Read and Share Bible (gifted to all 2 year olds at CM)
- Concordia Story Bible (great for families to use in the home)
- Spark Story Bible (good for Pre-K-K pre-readers)
- Jesus Storybook Bible (wonderful gospel narrative bible for home)
- Faith Alive Study Bible (good for age 8+ study bible, gifted to all 2nd graders at CM))
- Spark Study Bible (good for age 8+ study bible)

We encourage children and adults ages 1st grade and up to consider bringing bibles with them on Sunday morning as we dig into the bible together! We will also have classroom bibles available to share.

Where do I belong?

Connection	Age/Grade	Time	Location
Tots (Parent and Child)	Ages 0-3	10:00	Family Room
Junior Sunday School	Ages 3-4	10:00 9:00**	Sunday School Classrooms TBA
	Ages 4-6		
Sunday School	Grades 1-2	10:00 9:00**	Sunday School Classrooms TBA
	Grades 3-4		
	Grades 5-6		
Parents		10:00	Fireside Café

9:00 sessions will be dependent on registration and enrollment. We will plan one Lower Grade and one Upper grade connections following the early service as requested. These sessions will be for early service attendees.

Sunday School Calendar

September 10th	New Connections/Worship Launch
September 17	God Creates the World
September 24	Sin Enters the World
October 1	Noah and the Flood
October 8	No Sunday School-Unified Service
October 15	God's Covenant with Abram
October 22	Abraham and Isaac
October 29	Reformation Walk 9:00 – 11:00
November 5	Jacob and Esau
November 12	Jacob's Family and Forgiveness
November 19	Joseph and His Brothers
November 26	Joseph in Egypt
December 3	The Birth of John & Jesus Foretold
December 10	Mary's Visit/John's Birth
December 17	An Angel Visits Joseph
December 24	No Sunday school -Christmas Break
December 31	
January 7	Visit of the Wise Men
January 14	Jesus in the Temple
January 21	John Prepares the Way
January 28	Baptism of Jesus
February 4	Temptation of Jesus
February 11	Jesus Preaches on the Mount
February 18	Jesus Teaches About Trust
February 25	Jesus is Anointed
March 4	Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand
March 11	The Good Samaritan
March 18	The Good Shepherd
March 25	Journey to the Cross (Palm Sunday)
April 1	EASTER
April 8	The Birth of Moses
April 15	Moses and the Burning Bush
April 22	Moses and the Plagues
April 29	The Passover –Intergenerational Event
May 13	The Desert- God Provides
May 20	The Ten Commandments
May 27	Connections Celebration

Family Events Calendar

Quarter 1	
August 6th	College Send off in Services
August 13th	Backpack Blessings in Services Green Park Ice Cream Social
August 20th	Sunday School Rally Party/ 2 nd grade Bibles in Services
October 7 th	Loved/Sent Servant Event
October 8th	Unified Service
October 29	Reformation Walk
Quarter 2	
December 6, 13, 20	Family Advent Services (Weds 5:15 pm)
December 2 nd	Breakfast with Santa
December 10 th	S.S. Christmas Program
Quarter 3	
Feb 14 th – March 20th	Family Lent Services (Weds 5:15pm)
March TBA	Community Easter Egg Hunt
March 25th	Journey to the Cross
May 27 th	Connections Celebration Picnic

Lent/Advent Family Services

During Advent and Lent a 5:15 pm Services on Wednesday evenings is targeted to families with school age and younger children. This shortened service helps draw families into the church season and provides take home tools for the week to follow.

In addition, ministry teams provide a meal after the service from 5:30pm – 6:30pm.

Other Ministry Opportunities

Wednesday Nights at CM

Praise Kids

Children grades K – 8 are welcomed to join our multi-age Praise Kids Choir under the direction of Mrs. Dianne Mueller. It's a wonderful way for children to participate in the worship and learn more about music ministries!

It's appreciated when children who participate in choir are consistent in their attendance both at rehearsals and singing in worship. We miss their wonderful voices if they are not present!

Praise Kids registration and schedule will be available early Fall.

PK Players

Children grades K-8 are welcomed to join our PK Players Drama Ministry under the direction of Mrs. Dianne Mueller. It's a wonderful way for children to be introduced to drama ministries and serve in worship and other children's ministry events! No experience is necessary.

PK Players registration and schedule will be available early Fall.

5/6th Grade Pre-Confirmation

A special pre-confirmation/bible literacy education program is offered on Wednesday evenings for 6th graders who do not currently attend Green Park Lutheran School. For more information on schedule, please contact Daniel Meyer, Director of Youth Ministry.

Lutheran Education Ministry

Christ Memorial Child Care Center

Christ Memorial Child Care Center is a ministry of Christ Memorial Lutheran Church that provides an opportunity for all children to be loved, nurtured, and cared for as God loves, nurtures, and cares for us.

At Christ Memorial Child Care, we believe that children are unique creations of God with individual patterns of growth which affect their development, and that children have a natural desire to learn. We also believe young children's play experiences provide an important vehicle for learning. Through play, children are actively engaged in their learning, develop their creativity and language skills, and move from concrete to abstract thinking. Our activities and environment are geared to meet the needs and interests of the individual child.

A number of full time and part time options are available for children 8 weeks to 5 years old, and we welcome children ages 5-9 into our summer camp. We invite you to learn more about Christ Memorial Child Care Center by visiting the program's website.

Green Park Lutheran School

Green Park Lutheran School is a ministry owned and operated by Christ Memorial, Gethsemane, Peace and Resurrection Lutheran Churches. For more than 50 years, Green Park has offered excellence in K-8 Christian education through academic rigor and a Christ-centered approach.

Christ Memorial and Green Park invite you to explore the vibrant educational community that makes Green Park a place that alumni send their own children. As Christians, we are blessed to have a school that can minister to the entire child – speaking openly of Christ, teaching children to lead a life of sound morals, and providing an opportunity for spiritual growth. Green Park paves the way for students' academic futures by preparing them for life in high school and beyond.

Green Park Lutheran School
4248 Green Park Road
St. Louis, MO 63125

314.544.4248