

## Church School Classes

### **Nursery Care**

Each Sunday morning childcare is available from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. The Nursery, which accommodates infants through 3 year olds, is located in the Lexington Playcare rooms on the ground floor. Our care giving staff, led by Kathy O'Brien-Carcione, provides a consistent presence throughout the year! You may ask an usher to show you the Nursery, or follow the signs on the ground floor.



### **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd**

**Three to Six year olds** are invited to the Good Shepherd Atrium at 10 am Sundays and 3:30 pm Tuesdays. We use the Montessori-based program called the *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*. Children work with materials of their choice in response to God's word. Contact: Evelyn Hausslein 781 861-0378

**Six to Nine year olds** are invited to the True Vine Atrium at 10 am Sundays, and 3:30 pm Tuesdays. This second level of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd focuses on the moral stage of development. Parables, maxims, Eucharist presentations and the History of God's Plan of Salvation all speak to the child's curiosity about how to live as a moral being. We invite this age group to join in a Reconciliation Retreat in the spring to practice reconnecting and celebrating in Eucharist.

Contact: Linda Kukolich 781 862-1299

**Nine to Twelve year olds** meet in the Conference Room Sundays at 10 am to explore the history of the Bible, with storytelling, acting, music, and games.

Contact: Bob King 781 862-8437

## Worship Opportunities

### **Acolytes**

Young people grades six and above are invited to serve at the altar as acolytes at the 11:00 am Service. After training, students may participate by carrying the cross, the torches, and the offering plates, and by assisting clergy at the Eucharist. Acolytes also have social gatherings and cook pancakes on Shrove Tuesday!

Contact: Sharlene Begley (781) 275-2617

### **Children's Choir - Grades 3 and Up**

The Children's Choir Program seeks to give children the joy of discovering the divine in themselves, able to express all the wonder of life through music, and growing into compassionate adults, while being centered and secure in the love of God.

We employ the principles of the Royal School of Church Music – incentive, motivation and peer leadership– to cultivate both the musical and leadership potential of the children and to teach choral music of the Western liturgical, Anglican and American traditions. Tuesdays 4:00-5:30 pm  
Contact: Cheryl Duerr (781) 862-6408 or (781) 860-8893  
[Cheryduerr@aol.com](mailto:Cheryduerr@aol.com)

### **Liturgy Teams**

Children and their families are invited to serve at the 9 am Sunday service. Teams work together for one calendar month to set up the altar, welcome, read, pray, present the bread and wine and offering plates. Liturgy Teams meet the first Saturday of the month they are serving to schedule and prepare for the Sunday services.

Contact: Bob King (781) 862-8437

### **Christmas Pageant**

The Christmas Pageant is held at Four o'clock on Christmas Eve afternoon. It is designed to be inclusive for all children who wish to participate. Cast members and readers are selected from our older youth. Rehearsals are December 16 and 23, from 9-10:30 am.

Contact: the Parish Office 781 862-6408

## Youth Programs

At Redeemer we use the Journey to Adulthood program with our young people. This program keeps students and mentors together for a 2-year curriculum, which centers around an important milestone for each age-group.

### **Rite 13 (7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grades) Sunday 10:00 am**

Rite 13 works toward a Christian type of bar/bah mitzvah, celebrating a first step toward becoming young men and women in the Christian community.  
Leah Archibald 781 956-3196.

### **Journey to Adulthood (9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grades)**

**Sunday 10:00 am** J2A works towards a spiritual pilgrimage and confirmation, as continuing steps to deepen our relationship with God and the Christian community.  
Janet Needham 781 862-0591 Bill Voegel 781 863-5825

### **Young Adults in Church (11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) Sunday 5:00 pm**

YAC students gather to make and eat dinner together each week as they work towards a mission trip, a continued individual ministry, and a celebration of adulthood as they graduate from high school.  
Contact: Chris Needham 781 862-0591

### **Confirmation at Redeemer**

Young people who are active in Redeemer choir, liturgy teams, youth groups, or Diocesan youth programs are invited to consider this sacramental rite as they claim their full participation in the church. Attendance at six evening classes in April and May and a Saturday Deanery Confirmation Retreat is required.  
Please speak with the Rev. Andi Taylor

## Worshipping with Your Child

Attending to your child can be a deeply moving part of your worship. When you arrive, pick up some paper and a pack of crayons available at both entrances to the church. Sit near the center aisle so your children may see the altar clearly. If little ones need to stand on a pew, let them do so. As they grow, children will learn what is expected from observing adult behavior.

Sitting in the same general area each Sunday will give your child a sense of security and routine. Familiarize your child with special features such as banners and furnishings that mark the place in their memory.

Sometimes, despite our best efforts, children may not settle into the rhythm of the service. When this happens, you may take your child out of the service for a little while. If the weather is nice, try the front steps. Sometimes, just a little fresh air in a quiet place can do the trick. You may also try taking your child to the nursery downstairs. If nothing works and you are at wit's end, you can always try again; the church service will still be happening another Sunday.

## **Eucharistic Practices for Children**

Holy Eucharist is the family meal of Christians. All baptized children from the very youngest are invited to receive communion. Having children share in the mystery with us reminds us that no one receives because we understand, but because we are loved and accepted at Christ's table.

Eucharistic instruction is an ongoing part of our Church School program with special emphasis placed on it in 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grades. The True Vine Atrium has an annual Reconciliation Retreat, which parents play an integral part.

All children are invited to come to the altar with their parents whether they receive communion or a blessing. Children who prefer a blessing are asked to cross their hands over their chest. The priest will then give them a blessing.

## Children's Calendar 2006 - 2007

<b>September 10</b>	Registration and Picnic after 10 am Service
<b>September 17</b> <b>September 19</b>	10:00 AM Church School Classes begin <b>Tuesday</b> Atrium begins at 3:30 p.m.
<b>October 13-15</b> <b>October 22</b>	Family Retreat at Barbara C. Harris Camp Evensong
<b>November 26</b>	Advent Wreath Making
<b>December 2</b> <b>December 3</b> <b>December 16</b> <b>December 23</b> <b>December 24</b> <b>December 25</b>	Advent Procession Rehearsal 9 am Advent Procession 5:00 pm Pageant Rehearsal 9-10:30 Pageant Rehearsal 9-10:30 4:00 pm Christmas Pageant School Vacation/ No Church School
<b>December 31</b>	School Vacation/No Church School
<b>January 28</b>	Children's Activity during Annual Meeting
<b>February 20</b> <b>February 21</b>	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Ash Wednesday
<b>March 19 &amp; 26</b> <b>March 30 &amp; 31</b>	Mondays 5-7:30 pm Reconciliation Reconciliation Retreat
<b>April 1</b> <b>April 5</b> <b>April 6</b> <b>April 8</b>	Palm Sunday/Easter Gardens Maundy Thursday Supper Good Friday Children's Service 10 am Easter Sunday/No Church School
<b>May 27</b>	Pentecost Service
<b>June 17</b>	Teacher Recognition & Last Day of Church School



# Children's Ministries

2006 – 2007

## Church of Our Redeemer, Lexington

### We Welcome Your Family to Redeemer

Children have an honored place at Redeemer. They teach us about spirit, integrity, and trust, and they deserve our respect. As baptized Christians, children are full members of the church.

In this guide, you will find some helpful suggestions for how we can all help our children participate in the worship life of Redeemer. You will also find many opportunities for children to be part of this community - to learn, play, and grow with us.

### Sunday Mornings

**The Eight o'clock Service** of Holy Eucharist uses traditional Rite I language with no music.

**The Nine o'clock Service** of Holy Eucharist uses contemporary language. It is designed with children's active participation in mind as they greet, usher, light candles, lead music and present the offering with their families as part of the Liturgy Team. After Eucharist, children process with their teachers to Church School classes.

**Ten o'clock Education Hour** –Church School and Adult Education runs from 10:00 AM to 10:50 AM. Parents are always welcome to accompany children for all or part of their classes. Parents may also volunteer as class helpers!

**The Eleven o'clock Service** of Holy Eucharist also uses contemporary language in a more formal setting. The adult choir leads psalms and service music, and offers classical and contemporary anthems.

