



KING OF GLORY

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Parent Handbook
2021-2022

Get ready for a **fun** and **exciting year** at KOG!

Register for ALL Children's Ministry programs at **kingofglory.com**

- Preschool Sunday School (2s - K)
- Younger Elementary Sunday School (1st and 2nd)
- Older Elementary Sunday School (3rd-5th)

We strive to offer developmentally appropriate learning for all of our preschool classes. Generally speaking, children attend the class for the age they are on Sept. 1. Sometimes parents know in advance that their child will not be attending Kindergarten the year they are 5 on Sept. 1. In this case, we recommend that children be placed with the class with which they will enter Kindergarten.

Photo Permission Information

In House: Children's Ministry takes photos to use for bulletin boards, class projects and our weekly newsletter.

Social Media: On occasion, we post photos on our King of Glory Family Ministry Facebook page. We will not print your child's name or tag any photos.

If you would like to not have your child's photo used for either in-house projects or social media, please be sure to register and let us know.

Food Allergies

We strive to create an inclusive environment for all children. If your child has food allergies, we will work with you to find a comparable alternative during special snacks. All Children's Ministry programs and areas are NUT FREE. All snacks must be pre-approved by Rainey Smith. Please ask before bringing snacks to share. Register your child and provide your child's food allergy information.

Would a little extra support help your child fully participate?

Because children learn differently and have different needs, all of our preschool and elementary classrooms include:

- "Fidgets" for children who need something to do with their hands in order to self-calm or to help with focus
- Visual schedules with pictures of the day's activities
- Sensory cushions provide active seating for wigglers while improving focus.

If there is something more we can do to support your child, please include that information on your child's registration form or contact Rainey Smith.

Sunday Morning

- 8:30 am** Traditional Worship Service
9:45 am Sunday School and Adult Education
11:00 am Traditional Worship Service

Children sometimes find it difficult to sit through the entire worship service without wiggling, fidgeting and losing interest. In order to help children and parents make the most of the worship experience, Children's Ministry offers these resources:

Nursery - for children through kindergarten age during all worship services.

Sensory Room - an extension of our sanctuary for members and guests to retreat to when participating in a group setting becomes overwhelming. This room is for our disabled community only.

Cry Room - located in the Nursery Hallway in Rm #140. Both worship services are streamed live on a large screen for families with sad infants and/or enthusiastic toddlers.

Fidgets - These are not intended as toys for every child, but are provided for children who need a little something extra to do with their hands during worship. Please return "fidgets" at the end of worship.

Children's Sermon – an age appropriate learning experience for children ages 4 through 3rd grade with Rainey Smith, Children's Ministry Coordinator, during the sermon at the 11:00 worship only.

Children's Bibles – Children's Bibles ranging from easy to older readers are available for Children to borrow during worship. Located on a table in the Narthex.

Nursery Information: Rm 142

Children are always welcome in worship. If parents prefer the nursery, it is open during all worship services and Sunday School classes for infants through Kindergarten. The nursery is also available during most special congregational events. **Contact Rainey Smith, Children's Ministry Coordinator, for details at rsmith@kingofglory.com.**

- It is important that we know if your child has food allergies or special needs. Please let the Nursery Supervisor know because we offer children a snack during their visit.
- If your child is potty training, please bring an extra set of clothes.
- Labeled sippy cups are helpful if your child cannot drink from a Dixie cup.
- We do play outside if the weather is nice except when children are wearing special occasion clothing.

We understand some families are not ready to come back and prefer to remain socially distanced at home. We understand some leaders/shepherds are also not ready to come back. We will start small and as the need grows, expand our classrooms. This may result in certain grades moving into a different classroom, so we can maintain CDC guidelines for 3 ft. social distancing.

Preschool

For children age 2 by September 1 through Kindergarten

- Children go directly to their classroom at 9:45 am and are picked up there by 10:50 am **Please sign your child in and out of their classroom.**
- Children not picked up by 10:50 am will need to be picked up in the nursery Rm 142. This allows their Sunday School leaders and shepherds to prepare for worship.
- Children may go directly from class to nursery if you register them in the nursery IN ADVANCE and make note on the Sunday school and nursery sign-in forms.
- During the school year we choose one of King of Glory's ministry partners to collect donations each Sunday. Needed items will be in the weekly Children's Ministry email. Offerings should be brought to your child's classroom.
- Please visit the restroom with your child before class.

Preschool: **Rm 143**

Elementary

1st — 5th Grade

Children will explore the weekly Bible story. The children are in groups depending on their grade level.

- Sunday School children will explore the Bible story through art, drama, movement, brain challenges, science and music.
- All children go directly to their Sunday School room.
- Children in K — 3, must be picked up from their classrooms by 10:50 am unless they are participating in choir.
- Children in grades 4th and 5th will be released at 10:45 am unless a parent/guardian request otherwise.
- During the school year we choose one of King of Glory's ministry partners to collect donations each Sunday. Needed items will be in the weekly Children's Ministry email. Offerings should be brought to your child's classroom.

1st and 2nd: **Rm 213** | 3rd - 5th: **Rm 215**

Children's Choir will use Biblically-based songs and great hymns of faith, incorporating a variety of techniques, including play and movement to enhance creative growth in addition to musical growth.

Alleluia Choir is for children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade. Children in Alleluia choir will be escorted from their Sunday School rooms to their choir room (**Rm 115**) at 10:45 am. They will stay in choir until after the Sermon. Children who attended the 8:30 worship will be released to their adult. Children staying for the 11:00 worship will be escorted back to the Sanctuary. Please keep a look out for your child, if you are not sitting in your usual pew.

Laudate Choir is for children in 3rd – 5th grade. Children in Laudate will meet on Wednesday Nights for Destination KoG, when it resumes.

For the comfort and safety of your children, it is important for parents to remain in the building while their children are in Sunday School and the nursery. If you should be needed, it is a great help to be able to contact you immediately.

Faith Stepping Stones

These are times when your child “steps” from one developmental stage to the next. As they step forward physically, mentally, emotionally and educationally, our goal is that they step forward spiritually as well.

Each Faith Stepping Stone includes four elements:

Naming: *We identify and recognize the event to give it holy significance.*

Equipping: *Adults and children (as they are able) learn stories, skills and habits that encourage growth in faith appropriate to the event.*

Celebrating: *In worship, community and at home through liturgy and time together, the congregation recognizes the new faith stage.*

Giftng: *The child receives a tangible symbol of the event as a reminder of its holy significance.*

- **Into God's Family**

Baptism Orientation for parents.
Contact KOG Main Office to schedule.

- **Into Education**

2 year olds, beginning Sunday School, will receive a Beginner's Bible to take home and read together with their family.

- **Into Worship - August**

Children entering 1st grade will meet with Miss Rainey to explore worship from an age appropriate perspective. The children will receive an Into Worship Lanyard and be recognized during worship.

- **Into Communion - January**

Communion Education is for second graders and older. Children will decorate a white stole keepsake.

- **Into the Bible - October**

2 workshops for 3rd graders and older on how to navigate through the Bible. Children are presented with a Children's Bible and decorate a Bible cover.

- **Into Confirmation - September**

Youth entering 6th Grade will begin confirmation classes. Youth will receive a Lutheran Study Bible at their preferred worship service.

- **Out in Faith - October**

Youth will celebrate their Confirmation on Reformation Sunday.

- **Into the World - May**

On Mother's Day, graduating High School Seniors participate with their families in a Flanket Ceremony.

2021–2022 Stepping Stones Details and Dates

Into the Bible – in Fall

Bible Education: 3rd grade and older

Children will receive a children's Bible during worship. During Sunday School, children will personalize those Bibles, explore the different parts, learn how to find specific passages, and to use the "helps" that are provided. The goal of the workshops is for children to feel comfortable using their Bibles and be encouraged to use them regularly.

Oct. 3: Presentation of Bibles at 8:30 am and 11:00 am worship services.

Oct 3 & 10: Into the Bible Workshops during the Sunday School hour in **Rm 211**.

Into Communion – January & February

Communion Education & First Communion: 2nd grade and older

At King of Glory, the age at which children begin communion is a family decision. We acknowledge that children mature at different ages and that some parents have strong preferences as to the appropriate age for children to begin. Each year we offer a multi week Communion Education class for children in second grade and above whose parents have determined that their child is ready. This year, the Communion Education series will be offered on Sundays in January and February. Children will explore communion as instituted by Jesus at the Last Supper and the meaning of communion from a Lutheran perspective. Keep a lookout (in our weekly newsletter) for the specific dates this November/December.

- Into Communion Brunch with the Pastor during the Sunday School hour. Parents will meet to discuss the topic "Is Your Child Ready for Communion?"
- Communion Education Workshops during the Sunday School hour in **Rm 211**.
- Celebration Breakfast during the Sunday School hour followed by First Communion Celebration during the 11:00 am worship service only.

1,2,3, Go!



A fellowship group for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders. Each event will provide an opportunity for children to meet new friends and deepen existing friendships. Friends are always welcome. For more information contact Rainey Smith (rsmith@kingofglory.com)

1,2,3, Go! Schedule 2021-2022

All events are on Sunday from 12:15 pm- 2:00 pm unless otherwise noted.

September (Saturday Event)

Welcome Back

October

Halloween Party

January

Board Games

February

Movie and Snacks
(during the Annual Meeting)

March

Messy Art

May

End of the Year Party

*Links to RSVP will be in our Children's Ministry weekly newsletter. It is important to respond so that we can plan for food and supplies. A "yes", "no", or "maybe" is a huge help! **We need at least 5 participants to RSVP or the event will be cancelled.** Not receiving our newsletter? Instructions for receiving our weekly newsletter can be found on the back page of this handbook.*

Club 4/5



4th and 5th graders are ready for fun and fellowship. Events for this year are listed below. Friends are always welcome! For more information contact Rainey Smith (rsmith@kingofglory.com).

Club 4/5 Schedule 2021–2022

All events are on Sunday from 12:15 pm - 2:00 pm unless otherwise noted.

September

Welcome Back

October

Halloween Party

January

Board Games

February

Movie and Snacks
(during the Annual Meeting)

April

Family Easter Egg Hunt
Volunteer Opportunities
for 4th and 5th graders

May

Interactive Event with Jr. High

*Links to RSVP will be in our Children's Ministry weekly newsletter. It is important to respond so that we can plan for food and supplies. A "yes", "no", or "maybe" is a huge help! **We need at least 5 participants to RSVP or the event will be cancelled.** Not receiving our newsletter? Instructions for receiving our weekly newsletter can be found on the back page of this handbook.*

For both, 1,2,3, Go! and Club 4/5, we frequently play active games, closed-toed shoes are highly recommended.

More Events for Children

December: Christmas Celebration *Children have the opportunity to audition and be a part of the Christmas Story.*

December 24: Family Friendly Christmas Eve Worship *at 3:00 pm*

Everyone is welcome (this includes babies and toddlers) to this service of joyful celebration. The Pastor will deliver the Children's Sermon at the altar. A gift will be presented to the children! The nursery will be closed during this service.

April 17, 2022 Old Fashioned Easter Egg Hunt *at 10:00 am– Noon*

Families and friends are invited to come for an old-fashioned Easter Egg Hunt. In addition to egg hunting, join us for Family Stations of the Cross, crafts, face painting, Easter tattoos, bounce houses, and much more!



Vacation Bible School

Summer 2022, 9:00 am to Noon

For children ages 2 (by Sept. 1, 2021) through 5th Grade. *Ready to cook up some fun?*

Cokesbury's Food Truck Party VBS invites children of all ages to get on a roll with God as a parade of Food Trucks rolls into their neighborhood for the summer's biggest party!

This VBS invites children to pray as Jesus teaches us in Matthew 6:11; "Give us this day our daily bread." These words serve as a reminder that everything we have comes from God — and that it's by turning to God in prayer that all of our daily needs are met.

At the center of the Food Truck Party is a special food truck called "On a Roll." Here, Kids (or "Chefs") will learn from the food truck's Top Chef, along with DJ Cupcake (an adorable cupcake puppet), about the Daily Specials (Daily Learnings), which are lines from the well-loved prayer that teaches us to turn to God to meet our needs.

Covid Policies and Procedures

We will follow CDC guidelines for indoor activities.

What we can do:

- All classrooms will be sanitized before and after class.
- Social distancing at tables.
- No shared supplies - every child will have their own.
- Wash hands immediately upon entering the classroom.
- Masks will be worn at all times.
- Notify parents/leaders/shepherds/KoG staff within 24 hours, if a positive test result occurs in your child's class.

What you can do:

Stay home if you or your child is not feeling well or has any of the following symptoms:

- Fever (temperature 100.4 °F or higher)
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (for a child with chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, see if there is a change from their usual cough)
- Diarrhea, vomiting, or stomachache
- New onset of severe headache, especially with a fever

Where can I get the **latest information** about Children's Ministry **programs and events**?

Answer:



The weekly Family Ministry email arrives Thursdays.

KING OF GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH

The KOG weekly update email with highlights of coming Sunday and special events arrives Fridays.

How to subscribe:

Visit www.kingofglory.com and click on the **Sign Up** link under "Get Weekly Updates" on the home page. If you choose to receive several emails from King of Glory, but then decide to unsubscribe to one of those emails, please note that by doing so you will unsubscribe to ALL emails and must then go back through the sign up process and only click on the emails you wish to receive.



Children's Ministry would like to send you short text messages regarding changes in Sunday morning schedules (i.e. No Sunday School) or reminders for special events (i.e. Children's Choirs singing during worship). When you register your child for Sunday School, you will have the opportunity to sign-up for Remind.

Rainey Smith

Children's Ministry Coordinator

rsmith@kingofglory.com

972-661-9435

No Sunday School on the following dates:

November 28, 2021

December 19, 2021

December 26, 2021

January 2, 2022

April 17, 2022