

Children's Ministries at CUMC

Come to the Mountain!



Christ United Methodist Church

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January/February 2012

Happy New Year!

2012 is here! That means a whole new year of fun and educational opportunities for the children of Christ UMC! We have lots of ways for you and your family to get involved and learn. Check out



the special events and regular programming we offer. Invite your friends. Join us as we learn about Jesus Christ and his great love for us.



Dates to Remember

- JANUARY 8TH—CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING RESUMES
- JANUARY 23RD—SAFE SANCTUARIES TRAINING
- FEBRUARY 21ST—PAX CAKES DINNER
- FEBRUARY 22ND—ASH WEDNESDAY

Pax Cakes Dinner—Feb. 21st at 6pm



To start your Lenten season with your church family and enjoy learning more about why we celebrate Lent, join us for our annual Pax Cakes dinner on Tuesday, February 21st at 6 pm. Dinner includes pancakes and sausage and we'll follow that with Bingo and of course, those fun pancake races! Please bring your own spatulas for the races. We are asking everyone to bring some canned food for

the Crossroads Food Pantry as your "entry fee". Bring your friends and neighbors. Thanks!

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Children's Programming Calendar Notes:



There will be no Children's programming on Sunday, January 1st to allow our wonderful volunteers to enjoy the holiday. There will be our 3 regular worship services: 8:00 am; 9:00 am and 10:30 am. Your children are more than welcome to join you in worship that day. There are activity packets available in the baskets in the narthex for your child to enjoy during the service. The nursery will be available at the 9:00 and 10:30 am services for those children 4 years and younger. Our regular children's programming will return on Sunday, January 8th.

"Children are the hands by which we take hold of heaven."

~ Henry Ward Beecher, reverend and social activist.

Lent—It's for children too!

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (Feb. 22nd) and concludes at midnight on Easter morning (Apr. 8th). It is a time of repentance, which means recognizing our sin and making changes to become more what God created us to be. In keeping Lent with children, find ways to "engage them with God" at a new level. It is a time for them to stretch their spiritual wings, to try out new ways of praying, and to serve other in Jesus' name.

Here are some ideas for your family to try this coming Lent:

Prayer—At bedtime, try the prayer practice called *examen*. It is a simple way to think back over the day (to examine it) and talk to God about it.

Bible Reading—Select a book of Bible stories from which to read each day at bedtime or some other quiet time. Older children could read directly from the Bible. The books of Matthew and Luke in the Bible are good choices.

Missions—Share what you have. Fix, clean and package toys and clothes so they will be nice to get. Add fresh underwear to clothes. Stick new socks in shoes. And pack everything in plastic bags decorated with stickers.

Safe Sanctuaries Training—Monday, Jan. 23rd at 7 pm

If you participate as a volunteer with any of our children's or youth programming here at Christ UMC, we ask that you complete our Safe Sanctuaries training and screening. It is our goal to provide a safe place where our children and youth can learn about and experience God's love. This training helps all of us prevent abuse and improve the ways we relate to our children and youth. If you have any questions, please contact Vanitta Conrad at 801-486-5473 ext. 12 or vconrad@mindspring.com.



Join our Chorister's Choir!

The choir is open to all kids in kindergarten through sixth grade. We practice once a week, Sunday afternoons from 3:30-4:30PM. During our practices we take a ten minute break to play in the gym, and on performance Sundays we have a small snack. We sing once a month in church, as well as on Christmas Eve. We sing a nice mix of religious and secular songs. Parents are always welcome to observe practice. If your child likes to sing, this is the place for them! E-mail Katie Lay with questions at Layk1@aol.com.

Praise Mountain—Sundays at 9:00 am

We offer Children's Church at 9:00 am for ages 3 years through 6th grade in Room 201. This will be a worship service with music, learning and prayer designed for kids. Our curriculum is called "Kids Own Worship" and is filled with great lessons and songs.

~~~~We are still in need of 2-3 volunteers who will rotate leading this service each week. We can plan the teaching schedule to meet your needs. If you would be interested in leading or helping with this program, please contact Vanitta Conrad, DCE. *It's easy and fun!!!~~~~*

## ***Miracle Mountain—Sundays at 10:30 am***

At the 10:30 hour we feature our rotation format Sunday School for ages Kindergarten through 6th grade. All the children gather in Room 201 for our opening, then they are accompanied by their shepherds to various workshops to learn the Bible story. These workshops include *Loaves & Fishes* (cooking), *Creation Station* (arts & crafts), *The Sermon on the Mount* (drama & storytelling) and many more. Our upcoming themes are:

**January—Jesus is Baptized & February—Jesus & The Children**

If you would be interested in being a workshop leader, please see Vanitta.



For our **3 & 4 year old children at 10:30** we will offer a traditional Sunday School class with some new, fun curriculum called **Buzz**. This will be a relaxed, safe environment for our youngest to begin their Sunday morning experience.

### ***Sunday Morning Nursery***

Loving childcare is provided for newborns through 2 years old in our bright, friendly nursery located in the north hallway Room 102. Our fully trained staff uses *Play-n-Worship* a fun music-focused, baby centered curriculum that helps infants discover and learn about God and their great big world.

## **Tween Flicks**

Sundays, January 8th & February 12th from 5-7 pm in Room 201.

Tween Flicks is for all 5th and 6th graders and their friends. We'll watch a movie and eat popcorn and pizza. While an RSVP is not required, it will be helpful so that we have enough food! Please contact Jon Jolley ([801-557-6075](tel:801-557-6075)) to RSVP. Parents are also needed to help.



*Tell it to your children, and let your children tell it to their children, and their children to the next generation.*

*Joel 1:3 (NIV)*





## ***Come to the Mountain***

Christ United Methodist Church

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Here at Christ United Methodist Church we welcome all children. We strive to be a place where everyone can come to learn about Jesus Christ and develop a personal relationship with our Lord. If you ever have any questions or concerns about our programming, please feel free to contact me at the addresses or phone listed here. We look forward to a great 2012!

Blessings, *Vanitta Conrad*, Director of Christian Education

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Visit our Children's Ministries page at our website: [www.ChristUMCUtah.net](http://www.ChristUMCUtah.net)

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### **Ash Wednesday Services**



Join us on **Wednesday, February 22nd** for a special service to commemorate the beginning of Lent. Children are welcome to attend this service with you and receive the ashes on their forehead. Service times will be announced at a later date.



### ***Vacation Bible School 2012***

Mark your calendars now for our fun, exciting annual Vacation Bible School which will be held July 23rd–27th, 2012. Our theme this year is: *Sky: Everything Is Possible with God*. It will be for children ages 3 years–6th grade (Fall 2012). As always we'll need lots of volunteers to make it a success. Plan now to join us!

### **Special Announcements**

Regular Children's Programming—Praise Mountain, Miracle Mountain & Buzz—returns on Sunday, January 8th at the regular times.

We will be recruiting workshop leaders for our February–May Miracle Mountain Workshops beginning in mid-January. Watch for the chart at coffee time!