



Welcome to St. Mark's Sunday School 2009 - 2010

Welcome to a new year of growing in the love and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our hope is for the children to see His transforming power in their lives and reflect His grace and glory to others by sharing His Gospel message.

Our Sunday School program is offered during the 9am service on Sundays from September 20 through May 30, 2010 in Fellowship Hall for children in JK through Grade 6. Each week, we start by gathering the children together for a large group opening. We introduce the learning topic, sing songs and perform skits. Once a month, we share our opening with the congregation in the Sanctuary. We will let you know when this is by posting a message on the Sunday School classroom doors.

After our large group opening, the children proceed to classrooms for further exploration of the learning topic. Children are placed in classes by birth date. If you would prefer your child to be in a different class, please let us know. At the end of the 9am service, please come to the classroom to pick up your child. At times, we may hold class outside on Church property to enhance learning.



Gospel Light

We are excited to introduce a new curriculum called *Gospel Light*. The curriculum offers hand-on learning experiences with lots of games and activities. It is particularly strong in helping the children understand how to apply God's Word to their lives. It also has some great take home material that, we think, the children will love. We were impressed with the strength of *Gospel Light* as it was the highest rated Sunday School curriculum in a 2006 marketing research survey of over 500 churches in the States. Children in Grades 5/6 read from the NIV version of the Bible, children in Grades 3/4 read from the Good News version and younger grades are read stories from the curriculum material.

Again this year, the children will reach out to the world-wide community with two projects:

- In the Fall, we will create children's supply kits as part of the *Canadian Lutheran World Relief We Care Project*. This is a hands-on opportunity for the children to provide basic school supplies and hygiene items to children in refugee camps and poverty-stressed areas such as Zambia, Israel, and Mauritania.
- In the Spring, we will participate in the 'Turn on the Tap' program from *Samaritan's Purse*. This program provides safe drinking water to families around the world using Canadian technology, the BioSand Water Filter.

As well, we will have our annual favorites:

- 'Bring a Friend Day' - October 25 – An opportunity to share our faith with our friends
- Christmas Pageant - December 20 - The school-wide practice will be on December 19 at the church.
- Spring Clean-Up Day at Mineola Public School – A hands-on opportunity to care for God's creation

We are excited about this Sunday School year and teaching your child about Jesus. Jesus said "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." We certainly saw this come true last year and we look forward to another full year of seeing your child grow in Christ. Feel free to talk to any one of us. We'd love to hear from you and we welcome parents in the classroom!