



Cypress Lake United Methodist Children's Ministry
Spring 2016 Wednesday Night Programs

In Romans 12:16 it says that "we all have gifts that differ according to the grace given us."

Nothing pleases God more than to see God's children use their gifts and talents in worship. We want the children to understand that they are precious in the sight of God, and that their service is important. To children, our church is a picture of the Kingdom of God. We trust that every time they come to **this** place, they will be reminded that they are part of a bigger Kingdom and in the presence of the King of Kings. The goal is to have children more visible, serving in worship, which reminds the congregation that all people were made in God's image, and gives adults some real life examples of childlike faith.

According to UMC Discipleship Ministries, Children remember ten percent of what they are told, sixty percent of what they see, and ninety percent of what they do. Television and computers have made us a people dependent on visual stimulation. These facts help to justify the inclusion of the arts in worship and religious education. If our faith, heritage, and value systems are to be perpetuated, they must be internalized in ways that will succeed in an experiential world. The arts answer this need, illuminating and illustrating our faith stories, Scriptures, and moral teaching as the child participates in the production of dances, dramas, or visual arts.

The arts give children, youth, and adults experiences that become ends in themselves. They learn to praise, pray to, and worship God through the arts.

On Wednesday nights children will have the choice to discover and participate in different areas:

- Sacred Dance
- Liturgical Art
- Music/Instruments
- Acolyte Training
- Worship Training



Music Time with Ms. Karen,

Director of Music and Traditional Worship

Karen Shafer has a degree in sacred music from Perkins School of Theology/SMU, where she attended with her husband—who is also on the staff at CLUMC. She has taught music on all levels from preschool to college.

- Music
- Instruments
- Chimes/Hand bells
- Drama

Sacred Dance with Ms. Nicole

Nicole Anderson (Julia and Olivia's Mom and Greg's wife) will be leading our children and youth sacred dance team. The Andersons are members of CLUMC. Ms. Nicole also oversees the garden at Bright Beginnings.

Ms. Nicole has danced for 20 years, and was a musical theater major at Columbia College Chicago. She has served with children's ministry programs for over 10 years!



Acolyte and Worship Training with Ms. Angie

Angie Zavoico (Maks and Exa's Mom— and Nic's wife!) will be heading up our Acolyte and Worship Training. One of Ms. Angie's favorite childhood memories is being an acolyte in the UMC church that she grew up in. She looks forward to sharing this ministry with her church family here at Cypress Lake UMC. Ms. Angie is also on the Bright Beginnings board as the recording secretary.

- Acolyte Training
- Serving of Communion
- Greeting/Usher Training

Liturgical Art with Mr. Jay

Jay Montgomery has been a member of Cypress Lake UMC since 1982. He is the facilities superintendent, and very active in the creative side with the children's ministry. Most of the children know him as Mr. Super Jay! Mr. Jay is an Art and Art History major with an emphasis in sculpture. You will see the Montgomery family here on Sundays, along their daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren!

One month the children might make a banner to hang in the sanctuary, an unique processional cross using mixed media or an alterscape to bring the scripture to life! We look forward to seeing where the freedom of art takes them.



