

Mount Zion - Children's Church News

We are learning, loving and serving God together!

December is a time to praise God for bringing Jesus into the world for our redemption!

The children have been working hard on a video presentation that we will show at our **Church Christmas Dinner, Saturday, December 7**. We hope to see all the families there enjoying a time of wonderful fellowship.

The children are also looking forward to our **Happy Birthday Jesus party on Sunday, December 22**.

I want to thank the parents for their diligence in bringing their children to church and honouring our 10:40 start time.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to speak with me or email me (address below).

Rita Cardarelli (Children's Church Director)

Children's Church Workers:

Grace Castro-Nolet	Liliane Mingardi
Luisa Thuswaldner	Vincent Nolet
Steve Thuswaldner	Radina Petrova

The general theme for the next several months: **Jesus - His Birth and Ministry**.

December's Theme

God Loves Me and Sent Jesus

We continue to learn about the birth of Jesus.

Underlying Concepts:

- God loves us and sent His son Jesus
- Jesus is our Saviour: (saves us/rescues us)
- God kept His promise to send Jesus

December's Scripture Memory Verses

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, so that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Luke 2: 10 and 11 "The angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."

Upcoming Dates/Events

Dec. 7 - Church Banquet with children's video presentation

Dec. 15 – Scripture Memory recitation & prizes

Dec. 22- Happy Birthday Jesus celebration!

What Parents Can Do

Did you know that it takes about 30 days to form a habit? Why don't you start a good habit of memorizing scriptures with your children every day! You will be blessed!

Helpful hints on next page!

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Helpful Hints

The Gift of Time

The Christmas season is probably one of the busiest times of the year for parents! Rushing around shopping for presents, planning special meals, going to parties, decorating the house... the list goes on and on. Children are especially excited at this time, thinking about the presents they will receive, making their lists. However let's try to take time to remember why we celebrate! As the saying goes, "**Jesus is the reason for the Season!**"

I would like to propose an experiment! What if as a family you commit to slowing things down this season and really focus on what's important: building relationships! To build a solid foundation of love with your family you have to **set a priority** to spend **quality and quantity time** with each other. Ultimately it shouldn't be about presents and festivities but about showing your love towards others.

An interesting study revealed that when 1,500 school children were asked the question, "**What do you think makes a happy family?**" the most frequent answer was "**doing things together.**" Many other research studies show the benefits of sharing a powerful bond with the people you love. It builds resilience, boosts happiness, reduces anxiety and reinforces feelings of closeness. All things we want for our children!

As an adult when I reflect on my past, I rarely remember the things that were given to me as gifts. What I remember are all the happy family times, cooking with my mother, playing with my siblings, cuddling with my dad as he told me a story, Sunday dinners with all my aunts, uncles and cousins! There is no price tag on the love, security and sense of belonging that I received because of the time loved ones spent with me. When children know the love of their parents they can relate much more easily to the love of God, the Father.

Parents, I hope you take up the challenge to spend more time with your child; it is the greatest legacy you can leave. I know you and your child will be blessed!

I'm always available to help out and welcome your feedback!

On behalf of all the workers and myself we wish all the families a wonderful Christmas Season.

Rita

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