

# Mount Zion - Children's Church News

We are learning, loving and serving God together!

Our Children's Church is growing and we are blessed to have new children joining our group! We constantly pray that our teaching will have an impact on their lives and that they will know Jesus as their Lord and savior.

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	Marguerite MacDonald
Vincent Nolet	Radina Petrova

The general theme for the next several months: The Ministry of Jesus.

In the coming months we want the children to learn that we can depend on Jesus to be our Healer and our Provider.

**Underlying Concept for January, February and March:**

God sent Jesus to save us from our sins, to be our healer and provider. He is our good Shepherd.

**March's Theme: Jesus gave His life for us.**

**Underlying Concept:**

- Because Jesus died on the cross for us;
  - Our sins are forgiven
  - We have peace
  - We have eternal life in Him
- He has risen and is Alive!

## **March's Scripture Memory Verses:**

**John 10:10** "I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

**Romans 10:13** "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

## **Upcoming Dates/Events:**

**March 9:** We are excited to have **Pastor Mingardi** join us for Children's Church!

**March 30:** we are celebrating **Jeremie's** birthday!

**March 30: Cooperative games with Cathy!** We had lots of fun with Cathy last month! We learned that working together in unity is very important. The children voted to have a team name so we are called "**The Saints**"!

**1 Corinthians 12:27**

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is part of it."

## **What Parents Can Do:**

I recently read several research reports that indicated the positive impact parental involvement has on their child's education. The number one factor was talking to your child!

**Talk to your children!** It seems so simple and yet in our busy lives do we really take time to "check in" and see how things are going?

Try to create times for talking; at the dinner table, driving in the car while running errands, after school while eating a snack or when playing a sport together!

Pay attention not only to the words your child is saying but also the tone and body language.

Remember when you share you are building trust and respect. Taking time to talk shows your child you care and love them!

**See helpful hints: see next page!**

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### Helpful Hints:

#### The Power of Prayer Part 2 Praying with and for your child

Last month I introduced the topic of teaching your child to pray. I hope my message inspired you begin developing a prayerful life with your own child. Prayer is talking to the Father anytime and He is there to hear us and to answer. He wants that relationship with all of us, whether we are 2 years old or 102! Prayer was such a natural part of my household growing up that I recall always having conversations with God in my head whether I was walking to school or sitting in a chair in my backyard! My mother always encouraged us to "go have a talk with God" if we were struggling with something. Her consistent encouragement allowed me to know Abba, my Father.

#### 1Peter 5:7

*"Casting the whole of your care (all your anxieties, all your worries, all your concerns, once and for all) on him, for He cares for you affectionately and cares about you watchfully."* (Amplified bible)

This month I thought I'd give a few practical suggestions to help you pray with your child:

- Keep prayer language simple.
- At first you may want to help your child by modeling a prayer. Say a prayer and then have your child repeat it in his/her own words. (A dad can thank the Lord for helping him with a problem at work and the child might thank the Lord for helping her at school.)
- You can help by giving a sentence starter: *"I Thank the Lord for..."* *"Lord, be with me when..."* *"Lord, forgive me for..."* This also helps to teach children that there are different kinds of prayer.
- Remember that nothing is too big or too small for God. Be encouraging and supportive even if a little one prays for his pet worm! God hears all our prayers and He cares about all aspects of our lives!

If you would like further suggestions, I've read a great book that you may find useful in establishing a nightly prayer routine. The title is *"Holding your Family Together. Five simple steps to help bring your family closer to God and each other."* The author is Dr. Rich Melhiem. He shares how he prayed with his children from the time they were young into adulthood. He calls it the **FAITH5: Share, Read, Talk, Pray, Bless.** (**Share:** highs and lows of your day. **Read:** God's word. **Talk:** about how the word relates to your life. **Pray:** praying together about your highs and lows. **Bless:** speak blessings over your children.)

Ultimately the way you go about it is not what's important. What is important is that as a parent you establish a priority in your home that this is a special time for the two of you to talk to each other and to God. The precious time you give your child now will create a firm foundation for years to come.

I'd love to know your thoughts! Let me know how this is working in your home, share some ideas that you do!

Rita

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