

# Mount Zion - Children's Church News

We are learning, loving and serving God together!

During the month of November the children and their teacher prepare a little presentation to share at our annual **Christmas Dinner on December 5**. This takes time and we would appreciate it if parents would make the commitment to have their children here every Sunday. We appreciate your effort!

On **December 13** we will have a Christmas celebration for all the children; they are welcome to bring a friend to join in the festivities!

If you have 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
Radina Petrova	Maria Makuch
Cathy Harris	

## Nov.'s Theme: Jesus Lights Up Our Lives!

### Underlying Concepts:

- When Jesus said he was the "Light of the World" he meant that he was the answer to all our problems. Through Him, we find happiness, love, peace, wisdom, and the good life.
- When you have Jesus in your heart, He gives you His light. You become more and more like Jesus! You can shine just like Him!

## Nov. Scripture Memory Verse:

John 12:46

I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness.

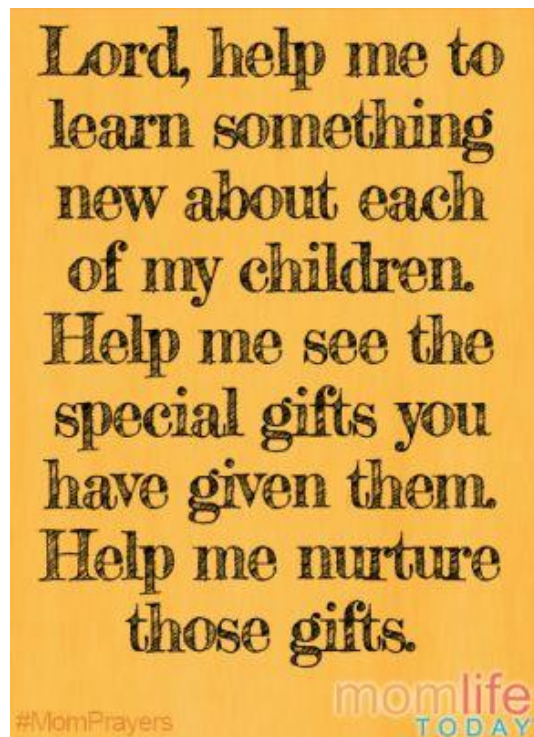
## Upcoming Dates/Events:

**Dec. 5:** Christmas Supper Celebration!

**Dec.13:** Children's Celebration!

We have two events coming up in December. Please, encourage your children to bring a friend to church!

## What Parents Can Do:



See helpful hints: see next page!

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## Helpful Hints

### Developing your Child's Unique Gifts and Talents

**Psalm 139:13-16** *"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. Your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."*

It is awesome to think that God knows each one of us intimately and better than we know ourselves. He has created us with gifts and talents and has a specific purpose for our life. This thought can be a bit overwhelming to a parent. How can you help your children to find their gifts? How can you foster their talents? How can you guide them to fulfill God's plans for their life?

You do it with prayer and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. You do it by helping them to find their passions. You do it by the following strategies:

- **Observation:** The first thing you should do is simply observe what your children do! What do they gravitate towards? Do they love music and start to dance every time they hear a good beat? Do they love to draw and paint? Is kicking a ball around their favorite pastime? These are clues that may help you to identify a gift to encourage.
- **Exploration:** Although your children may love sports and be involved in playing on various teams, it's also important to allow them to experience many other different types of activities. When you open up your children's world to other possibilities, they may discover things they did not know that they liked. Take them to a ballet, enroll them in cooking classes or bring them to music concerts. Provide a rich environment that allows them to explore and read about many topics. You don't know what hidden talent may emerge!
- **Commitment:** I always give parents one recommendation when they sign their children up for any kind of lesson—"Teach them commitment." This means that your children should commit to the lessons for the duration of the session. Sometimes a skill or passion takes time to develop. Learning patience, perseverance and responsibility are important life lessons!
- **Practice:** Once your children have found their passion it's important to support them. This means encouraging consistent practice! If you ask famous musicians or athletes, they will tell you that although they may have had a natural talent, they got to where they are through a lot of hard work and daily training. For this reason, you should create a routine for them so they keep learning and improving and you should praise their efforts to keep them motivated.
- **Purpose:** Teach your children that their talents are a special gift from God. Teach them that their talents reveal the plan that God has for their life. Help them to see that they feel especially fulfilled and satisfied when we use their God-given talents because they please God.

With your support and encouragement, your children will find their talents and will have a satisfying and purposeful life!

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