

Worship

The regular, corporate worship of God is the center of our congregational life at FUMC. In worship we are nourished by God for a life of faith and discipleship. Through praise, confession, and forgiveness, through affirming our faith together, through hearing the biblical story read and listening to interpretation of it, through sacraments, through our rededication to Christ as disciples...in all of these ways we are refreshed and renewed for the journey. We urge youth and their families to develop a pattern of regular worship of God, both with the congregation and individually.

Learning & Service Opportunities

At FUMC we offer opportunities for families to weave in learning and service experiences in addition to our Sunday morning Sunday School classes.

Learning

Communion Instruction
Baptism Instruction

Service

Acolyte—4th Grade & up
Children's Choirs—4 years and up
Advent Giving Center
Postal Food Drive
Sunday School class service projects

Many other learning and service opportunities are announced in newsletters, bulletins and during worship throughout the year

Nursery

Nursery care is provided during worship services and church-wide events. We ask that children be 3 years of age and younger. This age limit helps us to insure a safe environment for our little ones.

The nursery is staffed through a cooperative schedule which is published every 4 months. If you utilize the nursery on a consistent basis, plan to work in the nursery 3-4 times per year.

Volunteer Staff

We encourage everyone to use the talents and spiritual gifts God has given each, so that we all may give the best of what we have to offer. We regularly schedule "Spirit Gifts", a study and reflection series to help adults discern what God is calling us each to do and be. The volunteer staff in Children's Ministry are encouraged to participate in this series so that they then can volunteer out of their giftedness and passion.

Each Sunday School class is staffed with a teaching team. Each team is made up of at least 3 adults that have committed to teaching for one academic year. Each team establishes a teaching schedule assigning teaching responsibilities on a rotating basis that works for the team. It is suggested that each team meets at least once per curriculum unit to plan out the lessons for that unit. All team members are encouraged to attend teacher orientation and 1-2 other teacher meetings held during the academic year.

We hope to have a volunteer Resource Person available during each Sunday School hour to aid the teaching staff. This person will be able to assist with everything from making additional copies to handling student concerns.

Communication

We publish a monthly church newsletter in which you will find a detailed Children's Ministry schedule. If you are not currently receiving the church newsletter, we would be happy to mail or email a copy to you. Call 223-9560 and leave a message in the voice mailbox for Ann Kemper.

Office hours for Youth and Children's Ministry fluctuate. Please call or email to set up an appointment with Pam. In all cases call 223-9560 and leave a message in the voice mailbox for Youth and Children's Ministry, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

We welcome all thoughts and concerns you may have as we strive to do God's will in and through our children's ministry.



Children's Ministry

*Journeying Together –
Discovering God's Possibilities*

Fairport United Methodist Church
31 West Church Street
Fairport, NY 14450

Telephone 223-9560
Email - pam@fairportumc.org
Website – www.fairportumc.org

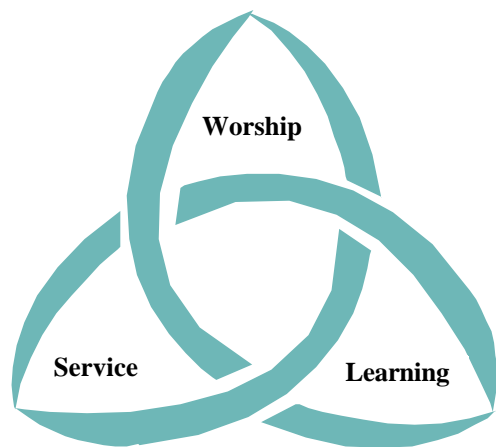
Pam Renfro
Children's & Youth Ministries
Office Hours
Call for an Appointment

**We are called to bring God's love
to all the world, and to nurture
God's people in their spiritual journeys.**

*Fairport United Methodist Church
Mission Statement*

Children's Ministry Vision

Our Children's Ministry exists to help families to live out a commitment to worship, service and learning in daily life. We believe all three are necessary in everyone's spiritual journey and want to plant this seed beginning in our Children's Ministry.



Our Commitment To Family:

We, the members of the Children's Ministry team at FUMC, see ourselves as guides, role models, mentors and a means to support families. We encourage parental involvement as we seek to become partners in the area of a child's spiritual development. We want to support what the family is currently doing in the area of spiritual development yet calling ourselves ever forward into deeper spirituality. We want to uphold the family, their healthy traditions and commitments.

Sunday School

Children's Ministry provides Sunday School classes for children age 3 through 5th grade at 9am and 10:30am on Sunday mornings. Students in the 6th Grade and older are considered to be part of Youth Ministry (see Youth Ministry brochure).

9am Sunday School

Children in the 3 Year Old through 2nd Grade classes report directly to their classrooms each Sunday morning. These classes are called together shortly after 9am for a time of singing and worship. Children in the 3rd Grade and up will follow a somewhat different schedule. On the first Sunday of each month children will remain in worship so that they may participate in the worship service and receive Holy Communion with their family. All other Sundays students will report directly to their classrooms for a full hour of learning.

10:30am Sunday School

Two to three grade levels are combined and enjoy smaller class size. The breakdown for classes is:

- 3 Year Olds through Kindergarten
- 1st-2nd Grade
- 3rd-5th Grade

Children in all grade levels will begin each Sunday morning worshipping with their family. After the children's message students will be excused to their classes; teachers for the PreK through 2nd Grade classes will meet their students in the Parlor to be escorted to their classes. Students in the 3rd grade and up will report to their classroom on their own as they do not need to be escorted to their classroom. Note: on the first Sunday of each month children 3rd Grade and older will remain in worship so that they may participate in the worship service and receive Holy Communion with their families.

Curriculum

At Fairport United Methodist Church our worship emphasis and the curriculum we use in our Sunday School classes is based on the Revised Common Lectionary (1992). The Revised Common Lectionary is a calendar and table of suggested scripture readings for a three-year cycle, following the outline of the Christian year. Its widespread use by United Methodists as well as other Christians testifies to its value in helping congregations hear the whole message of Scripture.

The resource used in our Children's Ministry Sunday School classes is titled *Seasons of the Spirit*. The heart of *Seasons of the Spirit* is the interweaving of the three vital aspects of faith: worship, learning and service. Each Sunday the scripture studied in the classroom will be the same scripture that the pastors use as the basis for their sermon. Each Sunday's worship bulletin will contain a Take Home insert which will help your family connect worship, classroom studies and home life. These inserts will offer suggestions for further study and/or conversations at home.

www.spiritseasons.com offers **Spirit Sightings**, a place to look for and celebrate the Spirit's working in the world and in our daily lives. This is a place to watch for weekly *Sightings* - current events connections with the lectionary focus accompanied by discussion questions, suggested prayer responses and actions.

Registration

Registration forms can be obtained from your child's Sunday School teacher, from the church office or online at the church website www.fairportumc.org. Having a registration filled out completely will aid us in getting acquainted with your child(ren) and her/his needs. Please fill out a separate registration form for each child. Return completed forms to Fairport United Methodist Church, 31 W. Church St., Fairport, NY 14450 or drop them in the church office attention Pam Renfro