

## VBS Frequently Asked Questions

**What is VBS?** VBS is short for Vacation Bible School. This is an annual evangelistic outreach to children in our church and the wider community. For the whole week the church becomes completely kid-centered and focused so that we can minister to children.

**When is VBS?** June 25 – June 29, 1-4pm each day. Children can be dropped off starting at 12:45pm to check in (given a name tag) and should be picked up no later than 4:00pm.

**How much does it cost?** There is a nominal charge of \$10 per child with a maximum of \$30 per family. This amount covers the cost of a t-shirt and the fun things that your child will bring home.

**What ages are allowed to participate?** We are accepting children who have turned 4 years of age before June 1, 2018, all the way up to those who will be incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2018. Any 4 year-olds attending must have had prior preschool experience.

**Does attending GCC Sunday School count as prior preschool experience?** No. Due to the nature and length of our program, your child needs to be familiar with a regular school daytime setting.

**Do we have to belong to Gurnee Community Church to attend VBS?** No, VBS is open to the entire community.

**How do I register?** You may register online through the GCC website ([www.gcchome.org](http://www.gcchome.org)) from April 1, or sign up at the TruKids check-in desk on Sundays during May.

**When does registration close?** Registration closes Monday, June 11

**What if my child cannot attend all 5 days?** There is no obligation to attend every day although we hope that your child will be able to attend as much as possible.

**Can my child bring a friend?** Yes, we encourage kids to bring their friends. We want to reach as many kids as possible so please encourage your child to invite friends. Please make sure that the friend's parents fill in a registration form for the friend. \*We will not have "bring a friend day"

**Will a snack be provided?** Yes, every day a snack will be provided for the kids.

**If my child has food allergies, can I send a snack?** Please indicate your child's allergies on the registration form so we can be sure our leaders are aware. We will make every attempt to provide a suitable snack for children with special dietary needs, however if you wish to provide the snack, please be sure it is clearly marked with your child's first and last name.

**How can I help?** We rely on many volunteers to make our VBS program possible. Please visit our website to sign up if you are interested. We also accept financial donations to offset the costs. Please make out any checks to Gurnee Community Church and write "VBS donation" in the memo line.

**How can my teenager help?** Every year we encourage students who are just finishing 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up to help out at VBS alongside adult volunteers. Interested teens should complete the teen volunteer sign-up form available at the website.