

Dear Shepherd Families!

I am delighted to share what's happening in Family Ministry. We found out last week we can meet inside, and we get to start Sunday School online and in person. There is a ton of information, and I ask you to please read it all.



RALLY DAY: Our fall kickoff for Bible Studies, Sunday School, and Confirmation will be held in the building Sunday, September 20.

- **Attending worship is the most important thing you can do each week to help your child grow in faith.**
 - Weather permitting and sound permit acquired, we will have an outdoor service on the backfield beginning at **8:30 am**.
 - It will be a blended service with our Worship Band playing.
 - Bring a blanket, chairs, and your voice to sing and praise God together. **What a wonderful word-together.** The 10:45 am service will be a Traditional service in the sanctuary.
 - If we cannot **be outside**, we will have our regular Sunday morning schedule with 8 am, 10:45 am Traditional in the Sanctuary, and 10:45 am Contemporary in the gym.
- Sunday School and Bible Class will open in the building after the early service.
- **Invite your friends and neighbors** so we can share the gospel out to a world who so badly needs Jesus

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- In-person and online Sunday School starts Sunday, September 20. We want you to know safety is our first concern. Information on Sunday morning in person procedures are on the other attachment in this email.
- Basic Information –
 - Start date: Sunday, September 20
 - Time: 9:30 am or after the outdoor service
- Classes are in the lower level classrooms:
 - Preschool/Kindergarten- LL-3
 - 1st – 3rd Grade – LL5
 - 4th Grade-LL1
 - 5th and 6th Grade – LL15 (science lab)
- Changes are a coming!
 - The nursery will not be open at this time.
 - Preschool-3rd Grade will use a past curriculum called “Dig In.”
 - Our theme for the year is “Learning the Heart of God.”
 - It covers the Bible in one year.
 - Focuses will be learning a character of God each week.
 - Online will have the same lessons in a new format with singing and classes in a ½ hour video.
 - 4th Grade gets an overhaul.
 - Our new curriculum is called BOLD!
 - Kids will get answers to the many questions they begin having at this age.
 - A Mystery Mission Card goes home with them each week to help them live out their faith.
 - Zoom will be available for any 4th graders at home.
 - 5th & 6th Grades will be together this year.
 - All students will be learning the New Testament.
 - An online class coving the same material will be available.
 - Pre-Confirmation folders are available on the first day or will be delivered.
 - Music is outside once a month until the weather forces us indoors.
 - Classes are in individual classrooms

- Sunday School begins with kids and parents on the field shortly after the service concludes. Our band will start us off with music, and then kids will go with one parent to check-in. There will be a short time for Jodie, our Family Ministry Director, to share our fall plans.

MILESTONES

- We will celebrate three Faith Milestones on the 20th during the outdoor service.
 - *First Bible* for 2nd Graders- Bibles will be given to parents after the service or delivered.
 - A fun Bible Scavenger Hunt will be sent to all our kids to try!
 - *Preparing for Confirmation* for 5th Graders- new catechisms will be handed out after the service or will be delivered.
 - *Blessing of the Backpack* for all youth and kids – Bag tags will be available on a table before and after the service.
 - For those at home and online, a special family blessing for all three Milestones will be available.

I am very much looking forward to this special day!

Serving you in Jesus' name,
Jodie Stoltenow