

CGS Children’s K-3 Formation 2015-16: Please return to Rachael Thames’ box in the church office, or scan & send to her at rmthames@gmail.com.

Please check the box to say, “Yes – I want my child to participate in this unit and my family will prioritize attendance on these days!”

If YOU (parent) would like to *join* Rachael and the children for a whole unit or on specific Sundays, please indicate that in the margins.

Fall Unit: Moses and the Exodus – Children learn the story of the liberation of the Hebrew people and the meaning of Passover. This story is the foundation for understanding the Eucharist and the meaning of Christ as being our Passover as Christians. Formation classes will be Sept. 27, Oct. 4, Oct. 18.

Advent/Christmas: Children will review the story of Jesus’s birth and then prepare to share it with the congregation. In addition to formation classes, we will have a few [intergenerational learning activities](#) after church, including Advent Wreath making on Nov. 29. Formation classes will be Nov. 14, Nov. 22, Dec. 13, and Dec. 20 (Pageant!)

Epiphany Season: Children will learn that God created and loves all people. They will celebrate the diversity of humanity. In addition to formation classes, we will have an [intergenerational event](#) on this theme after church on Jan. 17. Formation classes will be Jan. 24 and Jan. 3.

Communion Sunday preparation: While some of their friends are preparing for First Communion in other churches, our children will be deepening their understanding of Holy Communion and preparing for a special celebration of their participation in it on April 24!

Formation classes will be Feb. 21, Feb. 28, and April 10.

Children preparing for Communion Sunday should also plan to come to a special, [age-appropriate observance of Good Friday, 4:00-5:00 pm on March 25.](#)

Communion Sunday: April 24!

[Plans for May: we’re going to wait to plan this... Maybe a service project, maybe a talent show & brunch, maybe ??. We want the children to have a voice in planning this piece of their formation!]

Your name: _____

Child(ren)’s name(s): _____

Age of child(ren) on Sept. 13, 2015: _____

Church of the Good Shepherd – 4th – 7th grader Sunday AM Opportunities

Jaclyn Ford coordinates formation for this age group. Formation classes meet during the 1st half of worship services on Sundays, with the youth returning to worship for the Eucharist. On the Sundays when formation does not meet, the youth are in worship for the whole service and serve in a variety of ministries: as lectors, vergers, greeters, acolytes and musicians (indicated below as "ministries"). For more information, contact Jaclyn at jaclyneford@gmail.com.

Sept. 13: Blessing of the Backpacks (outdoor worship ☺)

Sep. 20: Family Eucharist (ministries)

Sept. 27: Formation (1st half of worship)
"Who wrote the Bible, God or humans?"

Oct. 4: Formation (1st half of worship) "Is the Bible true?"

Oct. 11: Formation (1st half of worship)
"Why are there lots of versions of the Bible?"

Oct. 18: Family Eucharist (ministries)

Oct. 25: Formation (1st half of worship) Topic TBD by you!

Nov. 1: Family Eucharist - All Saints Day (ministries)

Nov. 8: Work on writing Christmas Pageant OR be in worship

Nov. 15: Work on writing Christmas Pageant OR be in worship

[Nov. 20-22: Diocesan Middle School Retreat, The Camp, New Hampshire](#)

Nov. 22: (If you're not on the retreat) Help with young kids' formation OR be in church

Nov. 29: Family Eucharist (ministries) + Advent Wreath making after church

Dec. 6: Formation (1st half of worship) "Was Jesus God?"

Dec. 13: Rehearse Pageant

Dec. 20: pageant!

Thursday, Dec. 24 –Christmas Eve! (ministries)