

First Congregational Church of Southington

37 Main St, Southington CT 06489

860/628-6958

Love - Open - Vibrant - Encouraging



Welcome to the 2016/2017 Church School Year!

Where is my child's class?

9:30 am	9:30 am	11:15 am	11:15 am
Birth to age 2	Infant Nursery	Birth to age 2	Infant Nursery
Preschool / Kindergarten / 1 st grade	Village Green Nursery School	Preschool / Kindergarten / 1 st grade	Village Green Nursery School
2 nd - 4 th grades	Room 204	2 nd - 4 th grades	Room 204
		5 th & 6 th grades	Room 205
5 th - 8 th grades	Room 201/202	7 th & 8 th grades	Room 201/202

† Registration Form

~ Please complete a Registration Form. If you need to share any additional information please complete The "Student Learning Style Inventory"

† Parent Participation

~ Our program succeeds because of the high level of cooperation among the parent/guardians, leaders, and children. This means we need your assistance during the church school year. Bringing your child(ren) to church school regularly is one way of showing that you recognize the importance of spirituality and faith development. Working with the Christian Education Program demonstrates by example that you value the program and its goals. If you are not involved in our youth ministry program and would like to experience the joy of watching a child's faith grow, let us know. There is always a place for you to use your special gifts.

† Safe Conduct

~ Our church is a safe haven for your children. All youth workers and staff members are Safe Conduct trained, and have had their backgrounds & references checked.

~ There will be one **fire drill** each year during the church school year. For your safety, **please do not go into the church for your child**; you can pick them up in the parking lot after you've exited.

~ To ensure the safety of your child we have the following **security systems** in place.

~ **Nursery**: when you drop off your child you will be given a label. The large section of the label goes on the back of your child, the small section on any personal belongings, & you keep the backing. Please present this when you pick up your child.

~ **Preschool, Kindergarten, & 1st Grade**: the first time you drop off your child we will take a photo, which will be ready the next week. Then, each time you drop off your child, you will be given the photo and when you come to pick up your child, we will trade you your child for the photo.

† Parent Newsletter

~ To keep you informed about what your child is learning each week, we will e-mail you the Parent Newsletter every Tuesday; if you don't wish to receive it please let us know.

† **Storm Closing Notification**

~ In case of extreme bad weather this winter check WFSB channel 3, NBC 30, or News Channel 8/My TV 9 to see if church school will be held; if church school is cancelled the infant nursery will also be closed.

† **Curriculum**

~ Our church school uses *Seasons of the Spirit* (a lectionary based curriculum) at all services; with all classes learning the same lesson each week (www.seasonsonline.ca)

† **Schedule** (check the signs throughout the church for each Sunday’s schedule)

~ Most Sundays the **children start in church** and are dismissed to church school after the Children’s Sermon; except for the **class in the VGNS room** which always starts in their classroom.

~ Church school classes are **dismissed** at: 10:45 am (9:30 service), 12:30 pm (11:15 service). Children in grades preschool through 1st grade should be picked up at their classrooms.

~ **Chapel Sundays** (does not apply for the class in the VGNS room): On the first Sunday of the month, the children start in the chapel for a brief worship/communion service. To make our children familiar with different communion styles we will alternate between passing the tray and intinction.

~ If your child would be interested in helping with our chapel service by playing an instrument, reading part of the service, acting in skits, etc. please contact Karlene.

† **Classrooms**

~ All of our classes are taught by **teaching teams**. Please take the time to introduce yourself to your child’s teachers.

† **Step Program**

~ Each year, children in grades preschool – 7th grade are given **memory verses** to work on in their classes. When they have completed all verses they are given a certificate & their name is placed on a plaque near the Christian Education Office. Please let us know if you would like a copy of the steps to work with your child at home.

† **Bibles**

~ October 23rd is Bible Sunday when we present a children’s Bible to our **2nd graders** and a teen study Bible to our **5th graders**. The parents of the 5th graders are invited to join their child in church school for a special Bible Workshop.

~ If you would like to **donate a Bible** to your child, or any other student, please talk to Karlene or Carole. The Bibles cost \$20 each and will be inscribed with your name.

† **Children’s Day** **May 21, 2017 @ 10:00 am**

~ We celebrate our children as they lead us in worship

Directors of Christian Education:

Karlene Archambeault
karlene@fccsouthington.org

Carole Lantz
carole@fccsouthington.org

We have each completed the ACE (Associate of Christian Education) course at Hartford Seminary, our church’s Safe Conduct Training, and we each have 20+ years of Christian Education experience.

Christian Education Board: Anne McCarty (chair), Dan Budnik, Kate Budnik, Kristine Cassan, Dan Green, Dave Hagen, Heather Kowalewski, Doreen Murray