

JAPANESE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Mission Statement:

**We seek to create a community that supports parents/families to raise their children
to know God,
grow in Christ, and
go into the world empowered by the Holy Spirit,
so that others will know the life found in Jesus Christ.**

Vision/Values/Goals:

“We seek to create a community that supports parents/families to raise their children”

- Establish a safe, non-threatening environment
- Recognize parents as the primary influencers of their children
- Encourage and support parent classes/groups.
- Value relational ministry and therefore encourage fellowship opportunities (i.e. Popsicles in the Park, Presby Playdates, Home Fellowship group involvement)
- Recruit, train and support children's program volunteers (Sunday School, KFC, King's Kids, etc.)
- Recognize teamwork as essential whether with parents, among parents, or with volunteers
- Encourage the congregation in intergenerational experiences together.

“To know God”

- The Bible, the Word of God, is integral in knowing and following God.
- All experiences in children's programming should reflect who God/Jesus is to us as believers.

“Grow in Christ”

- Spiritual formation begins in the Nursery and is a life-long journey. Children can have a deep and growing relationship with God.
- Children's ministry is NOT childcare, and we avoid using the word “childcare” to describe any children's programming at Presby.
- We value the differences in each child and adult, and believe “We are God's masterpiece. He created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago” (Ephesians 2:10).
- Experience of God is primary in our Sunday School groups, and academics is secondary.

“Go into the world empowered by the Holy Spirit”

- Children can be filled by the Holy Spirit and should be encouraged to serve as a part of the greater Body of Christ.
- We must continue to show the children how God is working in the world near and far and how they can respond to God's invitation to them to join Him.

“So that others will know the life found in Jesus Christ”

- Outreach events (i.e., Easter Eggstravaganza, Carpenter's Workshop, Popsicles in the Park, Presby Playdates)