



Covenant Presbyterian Church

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Kids in the Pew? What should WE do?

Jesus taught us, "Let the children come." *Luke 18:16-17*
We believe God's love has the run of the house.

Jesus taught us, "These children are the kingdom's pride and joy." *Luke 18:16-17*
We believe God loves the enthusiasm, questions, and joyful noise of children.

Jesus taught us we must enter God's kingdom like children. *Luke 18:16-17*
We believe children teach their elders how to approach God.

Proverbs 22:6 tells us, "Train a child in the way they should go; when they are old they will not turn from it."
As God directs, the Covenant community aspires to intentionally cultivate our children and youth to be followers of Jesus.

**As an intergenerational community of believers,
what should WE do with kids in the pew?
Love one another! Appreciate one another!
Learn from one another! Worship TOGETHER!**

Parents/guardians, you may want to:

- Pick up resources at the children's table in the Narthex (inside the Route 30 sanctuary entrance) to help children (and adults) focus and participate in worship. You will find:
 - children's bulletins to explore today's scripture/sermon
 - relevant coloring pages to use while listening
 - notes page to record thoughts from today's worship time
 - A Children's Guide to Worship (for EVERYONE)
 - and more!
- Sit toward the front where children can see and hear the activity of worship leaders.
- Prepare for worship by finding and bookmarking hymns and scripture.
- Use the bulletin to participate in the service and identify parts of worship. Mark when the congregation will stand, the CHILDREN'S MESSAGE, and meaningful announcements.
- Invite your child to sign the pew pad.
- As Presbyterians, we welcome everyone who comes to the table to participate in communion. Whether or not you wish your children to partake in the elements, please know they are invited to walk forward with you to the table.
- Sit, stand, pace! God gave children the wiggles. There is no need to still them.
- Sing, pray, whisper! Answer your child's questions. There is no need to hush them.
- Please accompany your child if he/she needs to leave the sanctuary for any reason (restroom, drink, or other). Please return with your child. Your presence is important to our community.
- After worship, introduce your child to others in the congregation.

Adult church members and visitors, please:

- Introduce yourself to parents/guardians and children. Share your name. Learn their names.
- Experience the wonder and excitement of children while modeling worship practices.
- During the service, share an encouraging smile with children and their parents/guardians.
- After worship, ask children about their children's bulletins, coloring pages, and notes.
- Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way children will respond to church, to God, and to others. Thank you for being a part of our church family and worshipping God TOGETHER!

