

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

There will be **no** Sunday School on May 29, July 3, or September 4 due to holidays.

## WORSHIP HOUR

### K - 6th Grades

All K-6th grade kids will join adults in the weekly Worship Service from May 29th - September 4th. Please provide **your own** activities for your children during the service (see "Ideas for Family Worship" section).

### Birth - Pre K

There will be classes for children ages birth to Pre-K for both Sunday School and Worship Hour from May 29th - September 4th. Please note that **ALL** birth through Pre-K kids will join the worship service with their families on **June 5th** to celebrate Pentecost.

**On July 3rd and September 4th**, a nursery class for ages birth to 2 1/2 will be the only children's class offered.

Please email Libby Jensen at [libby@spartanaz.org](mailto:libby@spartanaz.org) if you would like to be added to our Children's Ministry email list.

## SUMMER ACTIVITIES

S'mores Night: June 9, 6 pm. Join us for S'mores and fun as we celebrate the end of the school year!

Jerusalem Marketplace VBS: June 13 - 17 from 6 - 8:30 pm for kids ages 4 yrs - 6th grade! Preregister today at [spartanaz.org](http://spartanaz.org).

Backwards Dinner: August 19. Kick off the school year with an exciting dinner where we do everything **BACKWARDS!**

## FALL INFORMATION

**Sunday School Kick-Off** will be September 11. Sunday School classes are: K- 1st grades, 2nd - 3rd grades, and 4th - 6th grades.

**Children's Church** resumes during our 10:30 am service on September 11th with one exciting change: we will be making a permanent shift to have all K-5th grade children be present for the beginning portion of the Worship Service. Children will be brought to the sanctuary to sit with families, then dismissed back to the Elementary Area for their own lesson. After much conversation between church staff and the Children's Ministry Leadership Team, we are excited to take this step in helping our kids understand and be involved with our church traditions and values! Please watch for more information on how we will make this transition happen!

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

*2022 Summer & Fall Information  
for all kids birth - 6th grade!*

## SUMMER SCHEDULE

**MAY 29 - SEPTEMBER 4**

Sunday School: Weekly from 9:15 - 10:15 am

Worship Hour: Weekly at 10:30 am



Sparta Nazarene  
**Children's Ministries**

665 13 Mile Rd NW  
Sparta, MI 49345

616-887-1169  
[Spartanaz.org](http://Spartanaz.org)

## THE VALUE OF FAMILY WORSHIP

### You are creating life-long habits

Proverbs 22:6 says, “Train up a child in the way he should go; when he is old he will not stray from it.” Use these summer months as a chance to exemplify the habit of church.

Show your children that church is a non-negotiable, even when it might seem “easier” to stay home.

### You are modeling behavior

The best way for children to learn how to sit in church is to sit in church! You, and those around you, are not only modeling how to sit and listen but how to worship, how to pray,

how to come to the altar, how to give offering, and how to respond to God’s prompting. Your children want to model

YOU more than anyone else; just show them how!

### You are creating ownership

Kids who attend church services know how to participate and feel a sense of ownership. When they transition to youth group, it will not be a drastic change because they will know what to expect and understand the element of reverence. Feelings of ownership and a sense of belonging will help keep your children connected to the Body of Christ well into adulthood.



### You are creating community

By bringing your children into service, you are giving them the chance to participate in inter-generational worship. From infants to elderly, we all have a place in the Body of Christ. Children are welcomed, loved, and accepted first by Christ (Matthew 19:14), then by the church family. The best way for your child to stay committed to Christ is through personal relationships with spiritual mentors. Let your kids get to know some of the older people in the church and observe them in worship.

### You are worshiping in a new way

Deuteronomy 6:6-9 says to teach the commands of the Lord to your children in everything you do. As a parent, grandparent, guardian, or mature Christian, it is your responsibility to be the spiritual leader of your home. There may be Sundays when you go home feeling like you “got nothing out of it”. Perhaps you can’t recall the sermon points, but you did something so much more important: you set the example. The enemy will seek to discourage you, but strive not to give him a foothold. Your child is not too distracting, too loud, or too wiggly. You may not feel like you benefited from this service, but rest assured that those little ears, little eyes, and that little heart did.

## IDEAS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

Create your own 'worship bag' for Sunday mornings only. Switch out a few items weekly to keep it fresh. Ideas include:

stickers	pipe cleaners with or without beads
a small snack	search and find books
library books	quiet book (homemade or purchased)
activity books	coloring utensils
fidget items	
reusable color with water activity pad	

### Additional Ideas for Sunday Mornings

- Have your kids make a card for someone sitting near them
- Encourage your children to choose a verse from the days scripture to write a few times (or a verse of their choosing)
- Lead children in worship elements such as standing to sing, praying, placing coins in the offering, etc.
- Sit with family – children create very special memories by sitting with grandparents or aunts and uncles
- Encourage your children to participate in worship through song and save their "worship bag" activities for the message.
- Sit by people you know will help and support you with your kids in service! Our congregation is very accepting of kids in service :)