

MAY 2024



# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

---

## Youth Group:

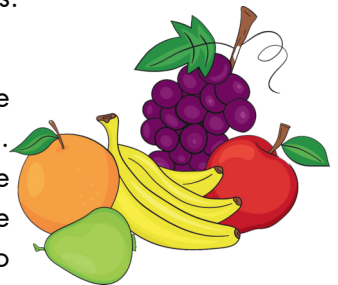
**30 Hour Famine:** On May 4th our youth will be fasting for 30 hours. This is an program put on by World Vision that serves the poor in developing countries around the world. This is an opportunity for our youth to learn about poverty and serve their community. They will raise funds that will go towards World Vision's mission programs.

## Wrestling with doubt

We all wrestle with doubt. Sadly in faith communities we often wrestle with our doubts alone. Our youth naturally have doubts about faith. It is part of the journey. Our fearless youth leader, Dokoda, is guiding our students in their doubts. He has been giving them space to journal about their faith with thought provoking prompts. Adolescents are still developing a faith that they can call their own. They are still discovering what church is all about and how they fit into church. We as adults in the church have a role in being models in sharing our faith. As models we don't have to have it all figured out. Actually it is best that we don't present ourselves as if we do. Our youth would benefit from your story of doubts and brokenness.

## Kingdom Kids:

Fruits of the Spirit through the month of May the kids will be learning the fruits of the Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self-control. These fruits of the spirit are vital character traits that we hope our Kingdom Kids receive from God and learn to act them out. Parents, grandparents, and caregivers, you have the ability to model these fruits in your own life so that your kids have someone to emulate. May they see Jesus in you.



**Prayer group:** We changed the time to 1pm with the hope that it will be a better time for folks. We invite you to a simple time of lifting others up in prayer. Everyone is invited. There is not pressure to pray out loud. Come and enjoy the peace that comes in praying with others.



## LIBRARY

Our library acts as a meeting room. It acts as a entryway into the kitchen. It also has shelves of books. I remember when I came to church here the library was in the midst of being renovated. I thank Diana Rochowiak for leading that. Recently I have enjoyed the work that Sylvia Welke and Ashley Parent have had in organizing the kids book in the library. I urge you to take a look at the detailed and thoughtful organization on their part. Ashley is also beginning to work on cataloging the books in our library. Dream with us on we can best use our library.

## VERSE OF THE MONTH

"The Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. The Lord does not look at the things people look at. People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." -1 Samuel 16:7



## VBS

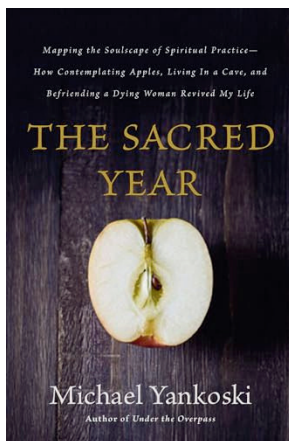
Scuba is the VBS theme this year. The Christian Education team is thrilled to put together an amazing VBS for children in the community. VBS is a great way of connecting with young families. I encourage you to invite every kid you know. As always, we will depend on the church for donations and volunteers. We appreciate all your help. VBS will run from **June 23-26 (6-8:30pm)**. Stay tuned for further updates.

**Scan the QR code to register a child or as a volunteer:**



## Shout Out!

Annalee has been my hero that has saved me on numerous occasions when I was in a pinch. She is a great Kingdom Kids teacher. She has recently helped out in the nursery. She is also the chair of the Christian Education Team. She leads with such positive energy. I appreciate her immensely. Annalee is also a wonderful mother to Owen and Harrison, two of our beloved teenage boys.



### Retreats: May 23 9am-4pm

On May 23 we will explore the spiritual practice of gratitude. This is a practice you may be familiar with. We can all be more grateful. We have wired our brains to focus on what is wrong and that has its own benefits but practicing intentional gratitude rewires our brain to also see the good that is around us. Come gather with others and give yourself the retreat you need. You will be grateful that you came. Books are available.

### Serving Opportunities:

There is place and role for everyone to serve. We just started worshiping in the gym and could use help in setting up and tearing down. We could use help in hospitality. Would you like to serve as a greeter? Can you make coffee and set out snacks and treats? Do you have any interest in technology? We can always use more people to help. Fill out a communication card and check the box that you are interested in serving opportunities.

## NEXT STEPS

- Join a Small Group
- Volunteer to serve at VBS
- attend the next Spiritual Retreat
- Come worship in the gym on Sunday mornings
- pray for the church and people's needs

## LOOK OUT

- May 2 National Day of Prayer
- May 4-5 30 Hour Famine
- May 5 Blessing of the Pets
- May 12 Mother's Day
- May 19 Pentecost Sunday
- May 30-June 1 Annual Conference