



Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to minister to your children. We appreciate any comments or questions regarding our programs and their content.

Peter Earhart
Director of Children's Ministry

Children's Ministry happens through volunteers!

Volunteer Opportunities

There are a variety of volunteer opportunities with our children here at Northminster. We are always in need of caring, helping hands to participate in our ministries. Those who volunteer in our programs find their service to God is as valuable and rewarding to themselves as it is to the children. If you would like more information or are available to assist in any area of Children's Ministries please contact Sheila Yamanaka at 327-7121 ext. 222 or syamanaka@npctucson.org.

Contact us: 327-7121

- Director of Children's Ministry:** Peter Earhart ext 237 or pearhart@npctucson.org
Assistant Director: Katie Mayes ext 247 or kmkayes@npctucson.org
Administrative Assistant: Sheila Yamanaka ext 222 or syamanaka@npctucson.org
Christian School Director: Mary Krongaard ext 237 or mkrongaard@npctucson.org
Nursery Coordinator...Sue Brobeck please contact church office.



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You Should Know

Even the youngest children should learn about Jesus and his love for us. Through interactive, engaging programs like Worship & Wonder, Bible BLAST!, and Midweek Friends, children learn while having fun. In Children's Ministry, we create a safe and enjoyable environment for kids to grow in faith and become strong, confident disciples of Jesus Christ.

Age level

Children's Ministry serves all children from birth through fifth grade. Our individual programs are designed to meet the needs of specific age or grade groups. Therefore, each program has a minimum and a maximum age or grade level for children participating in the program. In addition, each program has a date by which children must reach the specified age or grade level for the program. We ask that you please follow our age or grade level guidelines and not advance your child without discussing the situation with the Director of Children's Ministry.

Pick Up/ Drop Off

All children must be escorted to and from class by an adult. Children will not be allowed to leave the Children's Courtyard alone or with an older sibling unless prior arrangements have been made with the Director of Children's Ministry. We encourage all students to use the restroom before class begins.

Playground Equipment

The playground equipment in the Children's Courtyard is not supervised on Sunday mornings. Because safety is very important to us, we ask that you please supervise your children when they are using this equipment. Please do not permit your children to walk along the raised wall in the Children's Courtyard.

Stewardship

A wonderful part of learning in Children's Ministry is learning how to give. For many years, through Compassion International, we have been sponsoring Misgana Bekele Amende, a young girl from Ethiopia. Offerings are collected weekly and then sent to Misgana and her family to support her growth and development. Your child's offering will help Misgana receive the assistance she needs to live a happy and healthy life. Please keep Misgana in your prayers and thank you for supporting her.

Vacation Bible School

4 years through 5th grade

Vacation Bible School is held in June each year. All children are invited for a fun filled week of learning about God and making new friends. We'll eat great snacks, play fun games, make exciting crafts, sing upbeat music, and more! Each year our VBS follows a different theme to engage kids in learning about God and his word. *Children must be age 4 by June 1 of the current year to attend Vacation Bible School.*

K.O.N.A. (Kids Out 'N About)

Children entering 3rd, 4th and 5th grades

KONA is a summer program of service and fun for children entering 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades where everyday is an outdoor adventure. Kids will visit and learn about organizations in Tucson like the Gospel Rescue Mission who are carrying out God's command to help our neighbors in need. They will also enjoy daily fun activities like bowling, the zoo, and Breakers Water Park. Kona is a great bring-a-friend program and every activity will help kids stay cool in the hot summer.

Fine Arts Camp

Age 4 - 5th grade

The purpose of Fine Arts Camp is to provide a safe, fun, friendly, and God-centered place where children can be creative and learn about different forms of art. Children will discover and learn about the spiritual gifts that God has given them. The camp follows a Biblical theme and introduces children to people that do great things for God. Preschool and kindergarten children enjoy activities like studio art, music/dance, and fun foods in a classroom environment. Elementary children travel to different workshops where they have an opportunity to explore the biblical theme while learning artistic skills like sewing, cooking, studio art, music, computer art, and creative science.

Northminster Christian School

Northminster Christian School benefits the young minds, bodies and spirits of Tucson's children. The school offers a classic experience of art, music, social development, emotional growth, as well as math and language readiness skills, in a bright facility enriched by an atmosphere of Christian values and love.

Classes are offered for children ages 2^{1/2}-5 years in a variety of class options. Classes are held daily from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. An enrichment program is offered Monday - Thursday Noon - 1:15 p.m. to extend the day with organized social time for students.

Contact our School Director at 327-7121 ext. 227 for more information on class schedules and tuition rates.

Celebrations and Events

Northminster provides weekday and summer opportunities for children to come and learn about Jesus Christ in a safe and creative environment beyond our Sunday schedule. In these programs, we want children to interact with the teachings of Scripture and apply them to their lives. Information and registration forms for individual activities are available in the Church Office.

Fun for the whole family!

Throughout the year several celebrations of faith and fun are planned for children at Northminster. All children age 3 through grade 5 are invited, however, we ask that parents accompany preschool children to the events. Watch the church bulletins for event announcements.

Some events include:

- * **Reformation Weekend:** a fall event celebrating our Reformation heritage with fun, food, games planned for school-age children.
- * **Christmas Party;** an annual event where children come together to celebrate Jesus' birth. Include games, food and fun!
- * **Easter Celebration;** This party includes egg-citment, the Easter story, games and refreshments.
- * **All Church Picnic:** All of Northminster is invited to attend this annual Spring picnic full of fun and fellowship.

Keep and eye out for additional exciting and fun children's events throughout the year!

Children's Midweek

Age 4-5th Grade Wednesdays 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Fall Session: Sept. - Nov. Spring Session: Jan. - Mar.

Midweek Friends at Northminster is "fun with a purpose" for children age 4 - 5th Grades! The evening begins with fun and laughs followed by dinner. After dinner we'll take a look into the Bible through games, projects and other fun surprises. Packed with fun times and great Bible learning, Midweek Friends is a great place for kids to bring a friend! *Please note:* Children must turn age 4 by August 31 of the current year to participate in this program.

Enrollment

A registration form must be completed by a parent or guardian for each child attending one of our Children's Ministry programs. Forms are available in the Church Office or any room in the Children's Ministry Education building. The information on these forms is kept strictly within Northminster Presbyterian Church.

Snacks and Allergies

A small snack is occasionally provided during our programs and events. Please inform the Children's Ministry staff of any food allergies your child may have. Parents are welcome to provide a snack for their own child.

Nametags

To promote community and fellowship we encourage children and their families to wear a nametag during all programs and events. Northminster nametags are free of charge and available through our Church Office.

Bible Study

Bible BLAST

Age 2 through grade 5

Sunday morning 9:30 a.m.

Bible BLAST! is an exciting Sunday morning Christian education experience for kids age 2 through 5th grade. Two-year-olds hear a Bible story and do an art activity in the nursery. Preschool children meet in a classroom with teachers who lead them through a variety of Bible-based, multi-dimensional leaning activities designed to help them grow in their understanding of God's love for them. Kindergarten and elementary children participate in a classroom-based, workshop rotation model of Christian education. They learn biblical concepts by studying a Bible story for four consecutive weeks using different multi-dimensional, integrated, and active learning experiences. These learning experiences are presented through different workshops, including but not limited to computers, art, drama, music, games, video, and cooking. These workshops take place within a child's age-graded classroom and are taught by committed teachers who lead the same class for the entire year.

Location

Bible BLAST is held in the Christian Education Building on the northwest side of our church campus.



Worship & Wonder

Ages 4 -2nd grade

Sunday morning 8:00 and 11:00 a.m.

Worship & Wonder is a worship service designed to help children learn about God as they experience God. Children begin by accompanying their parents or guardian into the sanctuary for worship. After the Children's Sermon, they are escorted to Room 9 of the Christian Education Building by a worship leader. There they participate in liturgical worship through music, prayer, Scripture reading, and Bible stories. They hear Bible stories in a way that allows them to enter into the stories and form responses out of their own life experiences. Worship & Wonder helps to prepare children for full participation in worship services in the sanctuary. If a child is attending Worship & Wonder for the first time, we ask that a parent or guardian come with them. Children remain in Worship & Wonder until they are picked up by their parents or guardian after the worship service.

Location

Worship & Wonder is held in the Christian Education Building Room 9.

Bridges Bible & Worship Workshop

Children entering 3rd, 4th & 5th grades Presented annually in the fall

The Bridges Workshop is designed to help children entering 3rd, 4th, & 5th grades understand the basics of both worship and reading the Bible in the reformed Presbyterian tradition and take the next step to full participation in the life of the church. In this fun and interactive time of learning, children will gain knowledge of the history and formation of the Bible and what makes it our "unique and authoritative" guide to living the Christian life. They will receive a rare behind-the-scenes look at the impressive sanctuary pipe organ. They will learn about the sacraments and other elements that make worship special. And they will get a chance to "go techie" and hear how technology enhances our worship at Northminster. This is an exciting opportunity for children to grow in their spiritual life and in their participation in the life of the church.



Ringers of Joy

Grade 3 & Up

Wednesday Evenings in the fall 5:15pm

Playing the bells and participating in worship are valuable learning experiences for children. Our children's hand bell choir is available for children in the third grade and older. Rehearsals are held Wednesday evenings from **5:15 to 6:15 p.m. in the Music Rehearsal Room, Multipurpose Building**, beginning in the fall. Some musical background is suggested but not required. For more information, please call Arlene Sturm at 327-7121 ext. 507.

Choraliers Children's Choir

Age 5 and up

Sunday morning 10:30 a.m.

Learning and growing in faith through singing and the playing of rhythm instruments, this choir is for all children who want to sing. The children sing in worship once a month and participate in special services throughout the year. Rehearsals take place on Sunday mornings from 10:30 am until 11:15 am in the Music Rehearsal Room of the Multipurpose Building. Children who are attending Bible BLAST! will be escorted by an adult to the Music Rehearsal Room at 10:30 am.

Children's Christmas Program

Ages 3 - 5th grade

Winter

The children of Northminster perform a special Christmas program for everyone to enjoy on the second Sunday in December. Members of the Choraliers' group provide the musical accompaniment to the unfolding Christmas story as presented by the children's drama group. Rehearsals for both Choraliers and the drama group are held on Sunday mornings at 10:30 am throughout the months of October and November.