

A photograph of a person's feet wearing dark hiking boots with teal laces, resting in a hammock. The hammock is suspended between trees in a forest, with a bright orange stripe on the left side. The background is a soft-focus green forest.

Children & Family Ministry

# July & August Catalog

Kenilworth Union Church

# Children and Family Ministry July & August Opportunities to Journey in Faith

*Wherever you go this summer, God goes with you and your church does, too!*

This summer we are exploring new models and formats of ministry as we plan for multiple fall contingencies. F.R.O.G. (Forever Relying On God) has long been the motto of both A Joyful Noise Preschool and Children's Ministry. Just as the frog is able to thrive on both water and on land, children's ministry must be amphibious—able to thrive both online and in person as we are able.

In the following pages, you will find a wide array of faith formation opportunities and formats: online only, DIY (asynchronous), and hybrid in-person (at home) and online. Our Fall schedule will be shaped by the feedback and information we receive in July. We are developing and beta testing an online platform, **CONNECT**, as a one stop-shop for classes, community, and content.

One of the gifts of online ministry is that you and your family can join us from wherever you travel this summer and beyond. Please journey with us in July & August. Please share your honest feedback about how we can continue to nurture and care for your families.

Grace and peace,

[Christine Hides](#)

Please use the legend to guide your choices:

## Format:

How this course will meet.



Online Only  
Zoom



Online & Home Activities  
Zoom + Connect App



DIY  
at your own pace  
Connect App

## Adult participation:

The amount of assistance your child will need to complete the activities.



Eyes On:  
Parent monitors  
where their child is  
and what they are  
doing.



Hands On:  
Parent help may be  
needed with hands on  
projects, driving, etc.



Family Activity

## Suggested Ages:

The content, pace, and skill level are geared for specific ages but we rely on parents to choose what is best for their child. Parents, grandparents, and caregivers are welcome to participate with their child.



## Parenting In Faith: Modeling lifelong learning (online)

*Description*

*Date & Time*

*Suggested Ages*

*Adult Participation*

### **An anti-racism discussion on *Raising White Kids* by Jennifer Harvey** —Christine Hides

This is fourth in a series of study groups. As lament over the death of George Floyd has sparked a public conversation in our nation about racial injustice and inequality, a collective awakening and arising begins at Kenilworth Union. We would like to invite you to participate in the work of [anti-racism](#). We don't expect this work to take place overnight: it will happen over the long haul, but we know that we need to begin *now*.

Monday,  
August 3  
7 p.m.

Parents,  
grand-  
parents,  
and adults  
who work  
with  
children

Adult Only  
Program



## Weekly Worship, Learning, and Gathering (online)

Links are sent out via the Saturday Children's Ministry Newsletter

### **Family Chapel and Sunday School**—Children's Ministry Staff

We are excited to share the Greatest Parable—a brand new Godly Play story! We will journey through Jesus' life, piecing together the stories we have learned into a cohesive narrative. This story allows the rich complexity of Jesus to shine through with a deep simplicity accessible to all ages and stages.

Sundays,  
9:15 a.m.  
July 12, 19,  
26  
August 2 & 9

Families  
of All Ages



### **Candle Time**—Children's Ministry Staff

A 20 minute gathering with a story, prayer, and blessing to help us reflect on the day and transition to rest.

Tuesdays  
7–7:15 p.m.  
Ends Aug. 11

Families  
of All Ages



### **Lunch Storytime and Prayer**—Children's Ministry Staff

Children's Ministry staff will share a picture book and a prayer for lunch.

Thursdays  
11:45 a.m.  
Ends Aug. 13

Preschool–  
1st grades



## DIY: At your own pace; resources provided on our new online platform

### **Journey with Jesus**

Track your path on the printable map, read stories about Jesus' life, and take pictures of story connections with your own "flat Jesus" cutout. Those who reach the end of the journey will receive a small prize in the mail.

Anytime

Preschool–  
3rd grade

Hands On



### **Pray with the Labyrinth Outdoors at Church**

A downloadable guide is being created.

Anytime

Preschool–  
3rd grade

Hands On



### **CommUNITY Allies: Coming Together While Apart,**

A Vacation Bible School experience for the whole family.

This VBS Curriculum grows out of a deep desire to more fully walk in the values of love and connection. Building off work in anti-racism, inclusion and social justice, CommUNITY Allies uses arts and crafts, movement challenges, music, and more to celebrate and inspire families of faith to join together—even as we are all apart. Join us to learn about empathy, community activism, and our global connections from the safety of your home.

Available in  
Late July/  
Early August  
with  
potential for  
a small  
outdoor  
gathering

K–6th with  
an adult  
relative to  
help guide  
the  
activities

Family Activity







## Online + Asynchronous Activities:

Gather three times online with hands-on activities between sessions. **Register** by emailing the leader to receive the link & activities.

*Description*

*Date & Time*

*Suggested Ages*

*Adult Participation*

### **Artful Gratitude Journaling**—*Greta Connor & Laurel Lien*

Nothing can “turn your frown upside down” like keeping a gratitude journal! Particularly during these times of uncertainty and difficulty, reminding yourself of God’s gifts can be quite healing and helpful. We will explore ways to include art in your journal, things (that are not things) for which we are grateful, and daily color themes to prompt you with new ideas! Sharing your gratitude journal experience with someone in your family can be rewarding! Adults are welcome to participate!

**Essentials:** Any paper notebook plus pens, markers, colored pencils, crayons, or watercolor paints. Plan to write in your gratitude journal every day for two weeks for about 15 minutes each day.

Mondays,  
July 13, 20,  
27  
3–3:30 p.m.

2nd–6th  
grades



### **Awake to God in Nature**—*Katie Snipes Lancaster*

Whether it is on the porch just outside your front door, taking a deep breath and listening, or going on the most challenging hike you’ve ever been on, there is so much room for us to experience God when we are outdoors, under the wide open canopy of the sky, rain or shine, sunlight or moonlight, paying attention to the earth and all that is alive around us. Paying attention to the earth builds empathy and helps us to grow closer to God. We will explore ways to meet God in nature, including activities to do at home, on a walk around your neighborhood, or out on a hiking trail.

**Essentials:** Time to spend outdoors. The ability to plan at least one longer outdoor adventure that suits your family’s abilities and interests. Paper and pencil to write or doodle what you notice.

Thursdays  
July 9, 16 &  
23  
5:15–5:45  
p.m.

Families  
of All Ages



### **At Home with God**—*Christine Hides, Janelle Wood, & Diana Connolly*

Service is one way we follow Jesus’ command to love our neighbors. We will use our Zoom time to learn about the work of Kenilworth Union’s outreach partner, Humble Design, and organize a project to support their mission to create welcoming homes for those emerging from homelessness. Participants will work on their service projects at home between Zoom sessions.

**Essentials:**

Openness to learning about the challenges of homelessness and willingness to work with others on a drive or fundraiser. Two–three hours per week to work on the service project. Parent/adult support may be needed to deliver donated items to Winnetka or assist with the fundraiser.

Wednesdays,  
July 15, 22,  
& 29  
5–5:30 p.m.

4th–6th  
grades



### **Jump Start Third Grade Bible Year—The Lord’s Prayer**

—parent volunteers

We are committed to ensuring the third grade class experiences the beloved tradition of learning scripture by heart. This optional class is an opportunity to get a head start on the year as we learn what the Lord’s Prayer means through a variety of interactive experiences.

TBD

3rd grade



Eyes On/  
Hands On help  
with memory  
work