

KID SCOOP

SAINT PATRICK'S
EPISCOPAL
CHURCH

First Quarter 2012



UPCOMING DATES

- 2/12 Sham-rocks perform and Annual meeting
- 2/21 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper
- 3/17 Talent Show
- 4/8 Easter Sunday Easter Egg Hunt
- 5/13 Family Day at the Park
- 5/20 Be the Sermon Sunday

CHRISTMAS EVE 2011

What a glorious night! We have never had so many beautiful angels and handsome shepherds. Thank you to all the support of our parents this year during our Christmas Eve service. Everyone involved from our lay readers to Baby Jesus was just perfect! The children had a great time in their own seating section. A special joy was listening to the children's musical performances during the Prelude.

REMEMBER – JUST ONE CAN!!!

Saint Patrick's is continuing to collect canned food for the Mooresville Christian Mission. Collection baskets are located in the narthex. This is an easy way for children to help a worthy cause.



UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 12

SHAM-ROCKS PERFORMANCE: The children will perform two songs during the Offertory. There will be only one worship service this day at 9:30 am.

ANNUAL MEETING: Parents are invited to stay after the service for the Annual Meeting. Childcare will be provided.

FEBRUARY 21

PANCAKE SUPPER: Every year, Saint Patrick's Youth Group hosts a pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday. All of the proceeds benefit the Youth Scholarship Fund. Dinner is served from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. This year's theme is "Tacky Dress."

MARCH 17

TALENT SHOW AND DINNER: Join us for this fun annual event. Dinner will begin at 6 pm. An intergenerational talent show will begin at 7 pm. There will also be a silent auction during the evening. Please contact Pam Hatley if your child has an act for the show.

The children are having a blast in Sunday School this year. Can't you tell?

APRIL 8 (Easter Sunday)

EASTER EGG HUNT: This annual event will take place on the front lawn immediately following the Easter Sunday worship service. This event goes fast! Treat-filled eggs are requested to ensure that there are enough eggs for all children (at least one dozen per child).

MAY 13

FAMILY DAY AT THE PARK: Immediately following the 10:30 am worship service, families will join together for picnic lunch and fun at a local park. The specific location and more details will come in May.

MAY 20

BE THE SERMON SUNDAY: Join us during the 10:30 am service for another "Be the Sermon" Sunday. Details about specific



Why is Worship Important for Kids?

Dear Parents,

I am asked why we have one Sunday each month designated as "Family Church Sunday" and have the children in church with their parents instead of have Sunday School. During the month of February, our Sunday School classes will focus on our worship service.

During this unit, we will introduce the Book of Common Prayer, the liturgical book of the Episcopal Church that contains the texts of all our public worship services, as well as templates for private devotions. In addition, there are many prayers, creeds and other resources in this book which we don't interact with as frequently.

One of the things you can do to help your child get the most out of this unit is to look at a prayer book with your child, pointing out different sections and discovering together the hidden treasures inside. Before or after worship, at home with your own prayer book, or using an electronic version such as www.bcponline.org, take time to dig into this book.

Also, please remember that worshipping with your child is an important part of their formation. Many parents worry about their child's behavior in church and they wonder about the best ways to teach children to worship. The truth is, children can best teach us how to worship. Yes, sometimes they wiggle and squirm and make noises... but they also are learning our sacraments and symbols. They are soaking up the mysteries and the majesty and are building their own path to their Creator.

Worship is important to us and we want it to be important to our children. It's easy to focus so much on what behavior we expect of our children in church that we don't realize all the ways in which we color the experiences they have. It is pointless (and perhaps even damaging) to expect our children to be completely quiet and reverent in a service where they find no meaning because they can't see or don't understand.

Tips for having your child in church with you:

- ★ Sit near the front and on the end of an aisle so your child can see
- ★ Arrive early and help them find and mark the pages in the BCP or hymnal
- ★ Quietly point out major actions such as, "Baptism helps us welcome new people into our church" or "Now the priest is saying a blessing over the bread and wine"
- ★ Actively participate in the service yourself. Children learn by watching.
- ★ Decide on a family signal to let children know when to settle down
- ★ At home, teach them basic responses or prayers so they can participate

I hope your child will enjoy this unit on worship and we hope you will continue to find ways to help guide your child in the traditions of your church.



COMING THIS SUMMER:

Instead of one week of Vacation Bible School, we are going to have opportunities for fellowship all summer long! Watch for more details later this Spring. If you would like to be on our Summer Planning Team, please contact Ginger Missert.

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One of the sweetest pictures ever!
When I saw this picture of two of our angels from the Christmas Pageant, I immediately thought of this blessing:

