

September 12, 2021

Today's Featured Ministries Are:

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

BY PASTOR MICAH MCCORMICK

"We are lifelong disciples in the school of Christ, and Sunday School offers one more opportunity to give ourselves to the apostles' teaching."

With the onset of Covid, we pressed pause with a number of our in person ministries, including Sunday School. Although the past year brought various opportunities for youth group and children's Sunday School over zoom, we understand that the young people are probably a little zoomed out—and surely the adults are as well! The good news is that Lord willing, we want to gather in person again for Sunday School this fall. We hope to return to offering classes for children from 3 years old through 6th grade, and then a youth group Sunday School class for teens from 7th grade to 12th grade. Just as with our adult Sunday School class, our children and youth group Sunday School classes meet from 9:15am to 10:15am. We are lifelong disciples in the school of Christ, and Sunday School offers one more opportunity to give ourselves to the apostles' teaching (Acts 2:42). This teaching we find in the pages of God's Word, so you can anticipate our goal that our instruction would match what God himself has told us.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. - Acts 2:42



Hope

SUNDAY SCHOOL (5TH & 6TH GRADE)

BY AUDREY LAURI

O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. - Psalm 8:1

What grace God provided during the shut down, that 5-6th grade Sunday school could continue to meet on Sunday evenings via ZOOM.

Our curriculum was a study of Gods names. We began by presenting the character and work of God through His Hebrew names. It was a blessing to have Ms. Emily join us to share how El Emunah, The Faithful God, has shown his faithfulness to her; Elder Bob Teetz shared testimony of times when God showed himself as El Shaddai, God Almighty to him; and Mrs. Luisa shared personal testimony of Jehovah-Rohpe, the LORD Who heals. The children worked hard to memorize weekly verses and the parents were so faithful to facilitate this new way of doing Sunday school via computer. We are so thankful to God for this time. Please keep the children and their parents in prayer.

The name of the LORD is a strong tower, and the righteous run to it and are safe. - Proverbs 18:10

CHRISTIAN SERVICE BRIGADE (CSB)

BY JAMES MIRECKI



Christian Service Brigade, CSB for short, has been a blessing to both Noah and I. It is given me, James, a chance to serve our

congregation by assisting with some of the lessons that take place during CSB. Typically the meeting is broken up into three separate parts. The first part, which the boys and young men love, is sports. A multitude of games are played from basketball to dodgeball. The second portion involves a Bible lesson. I got to participate in this aspect with the stockade. We spoke about David's mighty men. It was a fun lesson and given the boy's feed-

back they enjoyed it as well. The final piece is arts and crafts. The boys work on things from concrete to wood working. Noah came home with a homemade reindeer as well as book-ends. The best way to describe CSB is a Christ focused boy's youth program that encourages fellowship and a gospel based life. In a world shrouded in darkness CSB is one of the lights that our congregation offers to boys and young men. We love it, and your son will too.

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PIONEER GIRLS (PG) / PIONEER TEENS (PT)

BY MARIE BEEMISH



Pioneer Girls' theme verse for 2020-2021 is Psalm 62:2:
"He alone is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken. My salvation and my honor depend on God; he is my mighty rock, my refuge."

Pioneer Girls (PG) is a Christ-centered program for girls from 1st to 7th grades and Pioneer Teens (PT) is for 7th to 12th grades. Our goal and prayer for the girls is to come to Christ, to learn to live the theme verse, to fully know God, and to have a life fully committed to the Lord.

This year Pioneer Girls and Teens were all virtual meetings via Zoom, rotating weekly between the Girls and Teens group. Meetings started with a time to chat and bible teaching, followed by a time of games and crafts, ending with prayer. Occasionally girls would be sent to a breakout room to test their scripture memory verse. The girls are encouraged to read scripture and often look forward to reading.

Throughout the year there were about 10-14 Pioneer Girls eager for Friday's meeting and 1-3 teens. This year we had a mix of returning and new girls. Returning girls introduced friends to the program. Most of the girls are generally attentive to the message and look forward to the game and craft time. Crafts range throughout the year, and we try to build skills with them. Crafts include but are not limited to making puppets (a favored craft), painting, origami, etc. Materials needed for the crafts were handled two ways this year: 1. Parents supplied material, and 2. Craft packages were dropped to the girls' homes.

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Continued.

PIONEER GIRLS (PG) / PIONEER TEENS (PT)

BY MARIE BEEMISH

To encourage bible memorization, there is a rewards program for verses memorized. Girls worked on memorization for squishies. This was more successful earlier in the program year than later.

It's a blessing to have the girls' eager to attend and participate. This year many of the girls shared their sense of humor and unique gifts online. A big encouragement is to see each and every girl extend such kindness to one another. Older girls shared their knowledge with younger girls. We had some extended sessions due to questions on prayer and games that ran a little long.

This year five girls participated in the Camp Cedarbrook Awards program. These awards help to modestly defray the cost of the girls attending Camp Cedarbrook. Each girl who completed the requirements received the same amount. All the girls who participated and their families were excited about their time at camp and gave favorable feedback on their time there.

Pioneer Teens followed a similar program outline as the girls group. We focused on proverbs and breaking down scripture. The teen group online had a much smaller group than the girls group (2-3 girls). One of the girls attended both girls' and teens' groups. Even though it was a tiny group, there was a desire for learning about the Word. And each meeting was a great time for leaders and teen(s).