

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

PARENT CONNECTION

HINSDALE COVENANT CHURCH
AUGUST 2023



Teaching children to follow Jesus by learning God's word.

It's time to Register!

Every year before the start of the ministry year, we ask that you register your family for the Children's Ministry program (Nursery, Little Lambs, and Sunday Kids Camp). This allows us to update family contact information, to know who is allowed to pick up your child after service, to populate the name tag information, and to plan for the upcoming year.

Step-Up day, the day your kids move to their 2023-2024 classroom, is September 10th (Vision Sunday). Please take the time to register your family and sign the Child Protection Consent form as soon as possible by using this link:

<https://hinsdalecovenant.breezechms.com/form/ced61b4591>

Focus Group Invitation

It is time to update the Worship Activity Bags, and we are seeking parent input to create bags that are both easy to maintain, and which appeal to different age groups. We will be meeting on Tuesday evening, August 22 at 8:00p over Zoom. If you are interested in becoming part of this focus group, please contact Pastor Tammy at: tammy@hinsdalecovenant.com

Volunteer Opportunities

As we gear up for the upcoming ministry season, we are seeking additional committed volunteers for Children's Ministry. Adults and high schoolers who love kids and are interested in teaching, assisting, or doing check-in are encouraged to complete the interest application: <https://hinsdalecovenant.breezechms.com/form/6367f389>

SAVE THE DATE

Fall Open House

10:00a to 10:30a

Sunday, August 27

Parents & children: Join the Children's Ministries staff and volunteers for an Open House! We'll have games, snacks, opportunities to see your teachers and play with your friends from church! Please join us downstairs between the services. This event is for families and their children, birth-grade 4.

Promotion Celebration

Sunday, August 27th
10:30 to 11:30

This is the last day of Sunday Kids Camp for our out-going 4th graders. We will be celebrating the completion of this milestone before they head off to Club 56. Please confirm their attendance by emailing Pastor Tammy (tammy@hinsdalecovenant.com) so we can plan accordingly.

Introducing Dwell

In June we began using the Dwell Curriculum for Children's Ministry. We chose Dwell Flex, available in digital format, because 1) it is leader/teacher friendly and 2) it is a narrative based curriculum, which exposes the children to both the Old Testament and the New Testament Gospel stories. We will focus on Old Testament stories for the 2023-2024 ministry year.

Dwell engages kids in God's story using dramatic storytelling, reflective wondering, and interactive games/activities. With each lesson colorful story symbols are used to help create a visual timeline and as a memory aid. You will see these symbols appear on the "Parent Connection" take-home sheet given to your child with each new lesson.

In addition, Dwell offers supplemental material which we have found to be fun and valuable.

- "God Loves Me," storybooks were purchased for the Nursery. They are perfect for this age group.
- "God's Big Story Cards," provides activities you'll find in the weekly "Parent Connection" take home sheet.
- Tip Sheets and additional resources for parents are available online by following this link: <https://dwell.faithaliveresources.org/home.html>
- Some of these "Tip Sheets" will be featured in upcoming newsletters.

Together we can "encourage your children to grow in the knowledge of Christ and help them recognize God's love for them." It is a privilege to partner with you in the faith formation of your kids.



Chopda Church Partnership

Children's Ministry is teaming up with Chopda

The Hindustani Covenant Church, our sister Covenant Church in India, has founded the Hinsdale English Medium School in Chopda, India. This past year the school had 75 students enrolled and this year's enrollment is projected to be 150 students. This is an area of extreme poverty and funds are needed to help support the school and their efforts to bring formal education to the community. It is estimated to cost about \$480 per student per year (\$40/month).

Sunday Kids Camp is teaming up with the Chopda Church Partnership to sponsor a student to attend Hinsdale English Medium School. As such, beginning in September, we will be asking our students to contribute through an offering taken each week to support this ministry, and throughout the year we will be spending time learning about this mission partnership.

SAVE THE DATE

Step-Up Day

Sunday, September 10th
10:30a to 11:30a

The 2023-2024 Ministry year official begins today! Please go to the Lower-Level Hospitality Desk to check-in your children and obtain your name tags. If you have not yet registered your child(ren) for the 2023-2024 ministry year, check-in will take longer. Please register ahead of time.

- Nursery: Birth to Age 2 (and 3-yr-olds not yet potty-trained).
- Little Lambs: Potty-trained children ages 3 through Kindergarten.
- SKC 1st and 2nd Grade (Pond Rm)
- SKC 3rd and 4th Grade (Poppy Rm)

Family Faith Formation With Pastor Joy

This multi-aged, interactive, Bible-centered gathering of parents and children meets monthly on Friday nights, September - May. To sign up email Pastor Joy at: joy@hinsdalecovenant.com

UPCOMING BIBLE STORIES

August 20th

God makes a promise to Abraham

August 27th

God makes a promise to Abraham - part 2

September 3rd

SKC: Communion Sunday

September 10

God's Promise Comes True

September 17

Isaac and Rebekah

September 24th

Jacob Steals the Blessing