



Church School Information

At SUMC the church school year for **2016-2017** will begin on **Rally Day, September 11th**. Our Sunday school classes are held during the 10:30 worship service. We have classes for children preschool age to 8th grade as well as nursery care for younger children. The following are brief summaries of the classes we will be offering for children on Sunday mornings beginning this fall.

Nursery Care

Nursery care is provided for children under 3 years old.

Nursery care is available during the 9:00 and 10:30 services. Children are cared for in a warm, friendly environment by experienced staff and volunteers. Parents must sign their little ones in and out of the attendance log and remain on church property while their children are in our nursery attendant's care.

Preschool

Our preschool class is for children 3 years old through pre-K.

Our youngest church school class starts their faith journey with the Cokesbury's curriculum *Deep Blue*. This series teaches Bible lessons through short stories and crafts. Each story will have an Anchor Point such as "God cares for all people." These sayings will help preschoolers remember the important lessons that the stories are conveying.

Kindergarten – 5th Grade

Kindergarteners – 5th graders begin each week in the sanctuary with their parents. After the pastor's "Time for Children", students leave for their Sunday school classes with their teachers & shepherds.

Children in kindergarten through 5th grade participate each week in a dynamic "rotational" model of learning. The rotations provide children opportunities to know God and understand God's Word through varied learning experiences. One major Bible story or theme is taught for a five-week period (a "rotation") in a variety of kid-friendly workshops, such as art, games, storytelling, science, and cooking. The children attend a different workshop each week that reinforces the Bible concept under study.

Room assignments can found on our website at www.simsburyumc.org. Click on "church school" which is to the left of the home page, then click "weekly room assignments". Classroom information will also be posted outside of both entrances to Wesley Hall and are updated each week.

Jr. Youth: 6th-8th Grade

Youth in 6th -8th grade start out each week in the sanctuary with their families. After the pastor's "Time for Children" students meet with their teachers in Verdin Parlor.

The Jr. Youth class is taught using Cokesbury's *Submerge* curriculum. The lessons in this series are designed to engage students in activities that lead to thoughtful discussions about people and events in Bible times. The goal is to make connections between the past and how we live our lives as Christians today. Lessons this year include *Keeping Promises*, *Meeting Challenges* and *Living Faithfully*.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation Classes will be held from September 2017-May 2018 for 8th and 9th graders. The purpose of the class is to help youth make a decision concerning the confirmation of vows which were made for them at their baptism. Classes meet Sunday evenings and there is a mandatory retreat in the spring.

If you have questions regarding any of our church school programs, please contact Debbie Beckius at Debbie@simsburyumc.org. I would be happy to answer any of your questions or concerns. ☺