

FUMC family fun!

FUMC Hurst Children's Ministry

FALL 2011



Trunk or Treat!

October 30
4-6 p.m.

and Blessing of the Animals



Calling all trunks! We expect many children from the church and community to come Trunk or Treating! We need individuals, families, and groups of all ages and sizes to decorate trunks for this fun event. Prizes will be awarded for Best Overall, Best Group, Best Individual, and Most Creative Trunk! The Sunday School class or group hosting the most trunks will win Dr. McKee's Pastor Award Trophy!

Plan to arrive at 3 p.m. At 4 p.m. the children will begin going around

from trunk to trunk. We will also have carnival games for all ages.

Dinner will be available—\$1 buys a yummy hot dog, \$2 buys the hot dog plus chips and a drink. This is a wonderful outreach to our community and we need your support!

Blessing of the Animals

St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals, was born in October. People all over the world celebrate in October with special ceremonies

blessing their beloved animals. You are invited to bring your pets for a special blessing by clergy.

We know that some children are frightened of animals, and we want this to be a fun experience for everyone. Your pet is welcome but **MUST** be on a leash or in a carrier or crate. Owners are responsible for cleaning up after their pet.



November:
Thanksgiving Bags



December:
Shoeboxes 4 Kids



Ongoing:
Testament Travels
Stewardship

Fall Missions for Families — details inside!



Meet the Children's Ministry Team!

Leading our Ministries with Children and Their Families are Deena Friesz, Director of Preschool Ministries; Brittany Platz, Director of Elementary Children's Ministry; and Rev. Holly Dittrich, Director of Confirmation Ministries.



Congratulations, Third Graders!



**3rd Grade
Bible Buddy
Retreat
November 12
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Covenant Courtyard**

Congratulations, third graders! You've received your Bible. Now join the fun and adventure as we learn how to use our Bibles through fun activities. We will play, eat, and learn together. You will be matched up with an adult Bible Buddy, so if you are coming we need to know ASAP!

A few of you have registered online. If you haven't, please do it TODAY at www.fumchurst.org (What's Happening g Events Calendar g Open Registrations). If you have any questions, email bplatz@fumchurst.org or call x27.

Thanksgiving Bags



The Thanksgiving Bag project is a great mission project for children and their families! Take your children to purchase groceries for your Thanksgiving bags. It's quick, easy, and a great opportunity to discuss mission and service as a family! Our goal is 1,000 bags – will your family help?

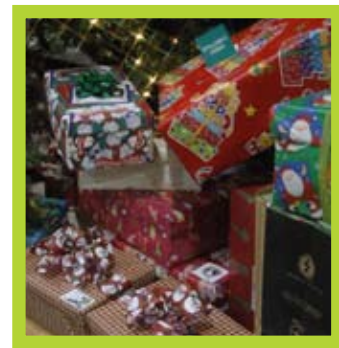
To get a head start, here is the shopping list:

- Green Beans (two cans, 14 oz. each)
- Stuffing Mix (3 boxes or one 14-16 oz. bag)
- Instant Mashed Potatoes (one box, 13 oz. or larger)
- Cranberry Sauce (one can)
- Brownie Mix (one box)
- Evaporated Milk (one 13 oz. can; NOT sweetened condensed)
- Instant Gravy Mix (two packets)
- Canned Fruit (two cans)

Please do not add or subtract items from the list, and return your bags by Sunday, November 13. *Thank you for your support of this mission!*

Shoe Boxes for Kids

Children's Ministries is again sponsoring Shoe Boxes for Kids. This is a great opportunity for our kids to help less-fortunate local children celebrate the joy of Christmas. The boxes will be distributed by the Hurst Police Department.



Find an empty shoe box and wrap it with Christmas paper (wrap the lid separately). **Decide whether your gift is for a boy or girl**, and choose an age category: (2-4), (5-7), (8-9), or (10-14). **Attach a gift label** with this information. **Fill your shoe box** with a variety of gifts such as toys, school supplies, hygiene items, candy, books, socks, or any other small items. Bring your filled shoe box to the Fellowship Hall by December 11.

All are welcome to participate. Take your children and let them fill the box! Make it a family outing – see how much you can fit in the box. What a great way to teach children the importance and fun of giving to others!

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october • november • december



28

Caring Christian

Mothers (CCM) Halloween Party:

All children younger than five and their moms are welcome! Costume parade, crafts, snacks.
9:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall.



30

Trunk or Treat & Blessing of the Animals

4–6 p.m., Parking Lot.



11

CCM General Meeting:

Kindergarten Readiness
by Tracy McClung, PhD
9:30 a.m. • Child care*

12

Third Grade Bible Retreat*

10 a.m.–3 p.m.



13

Thanksgiving Bags:

Bring your filled bags to
the Wesley Building.



4

Children's Christmas Pageant:

11 a.m. worship



11–12

Festival of Carols: *a Christmas tradition!*

Sunday: 4 & 6:30 p.m.

Monday: 7:30 p.m.



24

Christmas Eve Worship:

Noon, 4, 6, and 10 p.m.

Family Service at 4 p.m.



11

Shoe Boxes for Kids:

Please return boxes to the
Fellowship Hall by Dec. 11.

21

Traveler's Service

Worship with your church
family before travel, 7 p.m.

25

Merry Christmas! Worship at 11 a.m.

No Sunday School

* Register online at www.fumchurst.org (Events Calendar)

Children's Sunday School: *Two Years through Grade Five*

Age Three Years through Kindergarten

In October our children will learn all about Jacob. From stories of his conflict with Esau to Jacob's ladder to his marriage to Rachel, they will learn that God uses imperfect people to do his will, and that God is with us no matter how we act. In November we

will learn about Joseph, Jacob's favorite son, and how even through adversity, Joseph's faith in God remained.

Two Year Olds

In October our two year olds will learn through song, play and games that as Christians, "We go to church."

On Sundays in November, they will learn, "We give thanks to God."

In December, they will learn that a special baby was born – named Jesus!



Testament Travels: Grades 1-5

David the Boy:

October 16 – November 13

Sometimes God surprises us with his choices. Children will learn about God's choice of a simple shepherd boy named David. He became known for his musical skills, strength, and bravery, and would become king.

With only five stones this small boy was able to defeat a giant and save his people. It's amazing

what we can do when God is on our side!



Christmas Around the World:

November 27 – January 1

God sent Jesus into the world to bring peace to all people and nations. Today Christians from around the world prepare for and celebrate the birth of God's Son, Jesus. Children will hear and experience the story of the Christ child. Christmas customs from around the world will be explored through cooking, games, music, drama, computer, and art. This will be a time of joy and celebration!

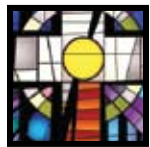
Stewardship

Beginning October 16, we will focus on giving. Each

Testament Travels rotation, a portion of our tithe will be given to a different ministry. This rotation Mission Central is our recipient.

We will discuss what a tithe is and what it means to give your "time, talents, gifts, service, and witness."

Thank you for beginning this conversation at home.



First United Methodist Church of Hurst

Worship with us:

Saturday: Genesis Service: 6 p.m.

Sunday: 8:30, 9:45 & 11 a.m.

P O Box 1461

521 W. Pipeline Rd.

Hurst, Texas 76053-1461

www.fumchurst.org

817.282.7384

Dr. Michael McKee, Senior Minister

Music / Children's Ministries

Deena Friesz,

Director of Preschool Ministries

817.282.7384, x39

dfriesz@fumchurst.org

Brittany Platz

Director of Elementary Ministries

817.282.7384, x27

bplatz@fumchurst.org

Sessalie Shapley, Children's

Music Coordinator

sess@gregshapley.com

Serin Yates, Day School Director

817.282.7384, x25

dayschool@fumchurst.org

Erin Allen, Nursery Director

ellen@fumchurst.org