

St. Matthews
Episcopal Church
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Kiddie Link

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I recently ran across an great article on the web and felt it was such good information it needed to be shared. Without further ado and used with permission from [Matthias Media](#), I present “**10 Tips for Teaching Young Children about God.**”

Teach all the time: Young children live in the moment. Help them to learn in the moment by making the most of opportunities as they arise. Talk about God in the day-to-day things you are doing.

Teach at a special time: Try to set aside a special time to read about God. Prepare for this time. If you are going to read the Bible, think about what you will read and how to simplify and explain it.

Questions and answers: Listen to your children's questions, and give quality time to answering them. But also ask them questions about what you've been trying to teach to check they have understood.

Teach through your life: You are a living example (or visual aid) of someone who loves God. Set a faithful example of dependence on God and let them see you reading the Bible for yourself.

Be prayerful: Like adults, children need God's help to grow in Christ and they can learn to pray. So pray for them and pray simple prayers with them (e.g. "sorry God that we...", "thank you God for...", "God, please help...").

Be simple: Young children are not abstract thinkers so be literal and concrete. Use real examples where possible (eg. God made this flower). Use simple vocabulary that they can understand. Avoid jargon.

Be specific: Move from the specific (God loves Ben) to the general (God loves everyone). Use lots of familiar examples so that they can understand.

Repeat and repeat again: You might get tired of saying it, but remember young children thrive on repetition.

Be thankful: Approach God with thankfulness. Model to your children how we can thank God in various situations and what we can thank God for.

Be visual: Young children learn through their eyes as well as their ears. Use pictures, visual aids, picture books etc.

Tips provided by Stephanie Carmichael

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Monthly Mentions

Do you remember being in Sunday School as a child? Maybe that one teacher that made you feel extra special? Guess what? Now is your chance to be that teacher. We are in need of Sunday school teachers for all ages (Toddler through High School). Please prayerfully consider whether or not you should give it a whirl. Call Jill if you're interested, 288-1911.

NO SUNDAY SCHOOL August 28 & Sept 3. If you are working in any of the nurseries, please plan on reporting for duty at 10:15.

Don't forget—the volunteer schedules are now on the website, stmatthewsrichmond.org. The password is rockycat.

***** **Sunday School/ Children's Choir Registration Forms** will be emailed out soon. Please fill them out and return them to Jill. We're trying to reduce the amount of forms we send out and create a database. Thanks for your help in this.

Children's Church begins September 18 & is in need of extra hands to help out. If interested, call Megan Lloyd at 217-7892 or January Britt @ 447-0322.

Cards for Vets and Troops. Please bring in cards (bought or handmade) for our troops and veterans, to be distributed around September 11th. There is a collection box in the Parish Hall.

Nursery Schedule

Thank you to all from the congregation, as well as all the parents who have selflessly offered their time to care for our younger parishioners.

If you would like to be included on the schedule, call Jill at 288-1911.

Date	Infants	Toddlers	Preschoolers
September 4**	Lynda Jenkins	Heather Creswick	Wynn Burr
	Katheryn Bowles	Tom Veech	Blake Burr
11	Carol Grainger	Laura Allin	Katie Musick
	Nancy Knight	Kathryn Martin	Bert Musick
18	Amy Knowles	Elizabeth Spadea	Kate Garitz
	Susan Harrison	John Spadea	Shawn Garitz
25	Bethany Piersol	Natalie Axtell	Gretchen
	Jake Piersol	Lee West	Todd DeFrancesca