

ORISKANY FALLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
SUNDAY SCHOOL HANDBOOK
2017-2018

Sunday School

Nursery to 12th grade

Gathering at 9:30am

Shalom at 10:30am

Dismissal by 10:45am

Sunday Worship Service

11:00am

Clergy

Pastor Gary Spraker

Phone: 315-264-3090

Email: garyspraker@yahoo.com

Sunday School Teachers

K - 2nd grades

Mary Clare Stephens & Biffy Slocum

3rd - 6th grades

Sonia Marris & Mary Green

7th - 12th grades

Linda Hughes & Mike Marris

Superintendent

Mike Marris

Home phone: 315-821-6130 (Please leave a message)

Cell Phone: 315-765-1198 (Please leave a message)

Email: mmarris1@twcny.rr.com

WELCOME TO SUNDAY SCHOOL...

Christian Education is an important part of life at Oriskany Falls United Methodist Church. We hope the lessons learned here will support all in their personal faith experiences. Sunday school is from 9:30am - 10:45am for Nursery through 12th grade. Please join your child for shalom at 10:30am.

The following are the Sunday school outreaches that teach the children the gift of giving:

Thanksgiving Bags -The children bring in food to fill "Thanksgiving Bags" for individuals who are shut-in, the sick and even grandparents. They also deliver these bags.

Cards -We sign cards and mail them to people in the hospital, sick at home, sympathy, cheer up or miss you. If you know of someone who needs a card, please give name & address to your child. This year the children will be making some of the cards.

"Pete-the-Pig" - During Lent the children earn money to feed "Pete-the-Pig" which is a donation for Heart Disease.

*Children's Message - Each week, the children participate in the church service by delivering their message of singing, scripture reading, skits, acolyte, greeter, usher etc. It is very important for the children to be heard. Please come and enjoy the gifts with which the Lord has blessed the children.

**Breast Cancer Walk - Again this year we will be walking in the village of Oriskany Falls during Sunday school. Please join us for our walk.

Here are some FAQs (Frequently asked questions) about SUNDAY SCHOOL...

Please take some time to read this and call us if you would like to volunteer or should you have any questions/concerns, please contact a teacher or the Sunday School Superintendent, Mike Marris

"GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR FAMILY"

What can I do to support my child's Christian Education?

As a parent, you are the most important person in your child's life. Taking an interest in the lessons they learn in Sunday school is very important. Take a few minutes when you get home and ask about what went on that day; look over any papers together; admire the project they worked on. Children also learn by example. Staying in touch with your own Christian faith in ways that are visible to your child will be the most powerful reinforcement of the lessons taught in Sunday school.

What can I do to get more involved?

There are many ways! Here are just a few ideas:

- Attend an adult class.
- Stay around and give a teacher a hand. (especially the younger grades)
- Volunteer to substitute for your child's teacher.
- Provide some of the craft materials needed for a lesson.
- Send along a box of crayons or markers.
- Lend a helping hand during the Christmas program.
- Consider teaching or being a teacher assistant.
- And most important, attend the Worship Service @11:00am with your children.

Is it necessary to come to Sunday school every week?

Regular attendance is a wonderful idea; however, we're pleased to see everyone as often as they are able to come. In our United Methodist curriculum, each session stands on its own and each is valuable, although each week's lesson is part of a progressing curriculum.

Do you take attendance?

Yes, it helps us to plan more effectively.

What about attendance awards?

Regular attendance is quite an accomplishment for the children. On Children's Day, each child with 75% attendance will receive an award. *JUST A NOTE:* If you attended another church, please bring in the bulletin to your Sunday school teacher and that Sunday will not be counted as

absent. You should also let us know about special family circumstances which affect regular attendance.

Why do you collect an offering each week?

We feel that it's a good idea to establish the idea of stewardship to God's work at an early age. The Sunday school offering is one way to do that. The Sunday School offering goes to help with Sunday School supplies.

Is there a way to keep track of donations for my records?

In Sunday School, we do not keep a record of contributions each week. If this is something you would like done, please make us aware of this, and we will pass along the totals at the end of the year.

Who teaches Sunday school?

Special people teach Sunday school... Some have teaching experience...some don't. The most important pre-requisite is a willingness to work at making the Christian faith appealing and approachable for children and adults. Our teachers are Christians who are living their faith in a way that helps others to find theirs. Our teachers have been vetted with background checks.

Do you use a formal curriculum?

This year's lesson plans are coming from a variety of Christian resources. The lessons are broken down by age with opening prayer, Bible story, activity/games/crafts & music and then closing prayer. The 7th - 12th grade will continue to be breaking down the Bible with discussions on putting God/Jesus in our everyday activities.

It is our intention to provide long-range development of Christian faith following the beliefs of the United Methodist Church.

Each year we follow the same basic cycle.

Fall	Old Testament Study
Winter	Advent, Christmas, and Jesus' life
Spring	Lent, Easter, the Early Church

What about adult classes?

Each year there is a variety of adult study groups. Please refer to the church bulletin for days, times, location, and numbers to call for more information. All are welcome!

Music

At this time, there is not a Cherub or Junior Choir. But, the Sunday school does sing in church from time to time. The "Sunday School News" will let you know. We do offer an adult choir and 7th-12th grade can participate. Please let us know if **you** are interested!

Are Bibles given out in Sunday school?

We are committed to provide each child with his or her own Bible. At the beginning of the year any new child will be presented with their own age appropriate Bible. They are then encouraged to bring their Bibles home to review the lessons, and bring their Bibles back to Sunday school each Sunday to participate in the new lessons.

On Children's Day, any child moving up to third grade will be presented with the NIV Study Bible for kids. Also, at the end of a child's senior year they will be presented with their own engraved leather NIV Study Bible.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 2017/2018 CALENDAR

9/10/2017	First Day of Sunday School	1/28/2018	Nursery - 2nd Grade Children's Message
9/17/2017	Blessing of the Backpacks	2/4/2018	3rd - 6th Grade Children's Message
9/24/2017	Nursery - 2nd Grade Children's Message	2/11/2018	7th - 12th Grade Children's Message/ Pete the Pig begins
10/1/2017	3rd - 6th Grade Children's Message	2/18/2018	Nursery - 2nd Grade Children's Message
10/8/2017	7th - 12th Grade Children's Message	2/25/2018	3rd - 6th Grade Children's Message
10/15/2017	Breast Cancer Walk during Sunday School	3/4/2018	7th - 12th Grade Children's Message
10/22/2017	Nursery - 2nd Grade Children's Message	3/11/2018	Nursery - 2nd Grade Children's Message
10/29/2017	3rd - 6th Grade Children's Message	3/18/2018	3rd - 6th Grade Children's Message
11/5/2017	7th - 12th Grade Children's Message	3/25/2018	Palm Sunday - All grades participate
11/12/2017	Nursery - 2nd Grade Children's Message	3/30/2017	Good Friday - Watch the Lamb
11/19/2017	Thanksgiving Bags made during Sunday School	4/1/2018	Easter - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
11/26/2017	3rd - 6th Grade Children's Message	4/8/2018	Nursery - 2nd Grade Children's Message / Pete the Pig ends
12/2/2017	Pageant Rehearsal 10am - Noon	4/15/2018	3rd - 6th Grade Children's Message
12/3/2017	7th - 12th Grade Children's Message	4/22/2018	7th - 12th Grade Children's Message
12/9/2017	Pageant Rehearsal 10am - Noon	4/29/2018	Nursery - 2nd Grade Children's Message
12/10/2017	Nursery - 2nd Grade Children's Message	5/6/2018	3rd - 6th Grade Children's Message
12/10/2017	Christmas Pageant 6:00 PM	5/13/2018	7th - 12th Grade Children's Message
12/17/2017	3rd - 6th Grade Children's Message	5/20/2018	Nursery - 2nd Grade Children's Message
12/24/2017	Christmas Eve - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL	5/27/2018	Memorial Day - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
12/31/2017	7th - 12th Grade Children's Message	6/3/2018	3rd - 6th Grade Children's Message
1/7/2018	Nursery - 2nd Grade Children's Message	6/10/2018	Children's Day - Last day of Sunday School
1/14/2018	3rd - 6th Grade Children's Message		
1/21/2018	7th - 12th Grade Children's Message		