

## Welcome to Edenton Street Children's Programs!

At Edenton Street UMC our mission is to **SHARE CHRIST FROM THE HEART OF RALEIGH** in everything that we do. This brochure is designed by the Children's Council to provide parents of children ages three (by August 31) – 5<sup>th</sup> grade information on Sunday School classes, choirs, camps and other programs.

We believe that the Christian nurture of our children is a joint responsibility of the church-at-large and individual families. Having your child baptized as an infant as well as involving him / her in the children's programs begins this nurturing process. We are committed at ESUMC to plan programs that are appropriate to the physical, social and spiritual growth of each age group. Our desire is that your family will become involved in these and the many other ministries of the church.

### 8:40 & 10:55 Worship Hour

Nurseries are provided for infants through 3 year olds. Additionally, during this hour, children ages four and five are first introduced to worship service in the sanctuary by participating with their parents until after the Children's Sermon. Following this short lesson, adult volunteers will lead them to our "Wiggler Worship" room for music and movement – allowing their parents to focus on the day's sermon.

### 9:45 Worship Hour

Nursery is available for infants through two years of age. Sunday School classes are provided for children three years of age (by August 31) – through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Godly Play, a hands-on method of teaching Bible Stories, is taught to our 3 year olds through first grade. Second through fifth grades experience Sunday School in a rotation method called Pathways. This curriculum teaches Bible truth through music, art, storytelling, computers, and science.

### Important Parental Information for all Worship Services:

- Each nursery room is maintained by paid workers and two parent volunteers. Parents who are utilizing nurseries, Sunday Schools and Wiggler Worship are expected to sign up to help with these programs three hours per quarter. More information and sign-up sheets are listed on the ESUMC website ([www.esumc.org](http://www.esumc.org))
- Parents of infants and toddlers should provide diapers, bottles or cups, and any other special items for their child.
- Please be respectful of time and pick-up your children as quickly as possible after services so that our volunteers and workers can get to where they need to be.

Questions may be directed to Ruthie Jones at [rjones@esumc.org](mailto:rjones@esumc.org) or 832-7535, ext. 221.

### Mission Possible Kids (MPK)

MPK is an exciting missions program for children in grades 3 through 5. This began as a summer program with mini mission trips and is looking to meet monthly throughout the year on Sundays. Please contact Ruthie Jones if you are interested in helping children grow a "heart for missions".

### Children's Events

Throughout the year the Children's Council sponsors several special events for the children - Lenten Event (Feb.), Easter Egg Hunt (Mar. or April), Fall Festival (Oct.), Family Christmas Eve Service (Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>), just to mention a few. Watch for notices in the Communicator or visit the ESUMC website.

### Children's Music Programs

The Children's Choirs and Liturgical Dance groups meet on Sunday evenings during the school year and are led by lay choir directors using United Methodist curriculum. They are divided by age to better nurture children's love of music and their joy of singing.

#### Handbell Choirs meet @ 4:00

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Handchimes – 3<sup>rd</sup> grade
- Joyful Ringers – 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades

#### Liturgical Dance meets @ 4:00

- Children – age 4 – 5<sup>th</sup> grade

#### Singing Choirs meet @ 5:00

- Cherubs 4 - 5 year olds
- Celtics 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> graders
- Crusaders 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders

These groups perform several times a year during all the services. For more information, please call Bill Weisser at the Church office (832-7535).

### Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School is a tradition at ESUMC. Sessions (usually in July) are held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon for ages 3\*\* through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. With the help of adult and youth leaders, children learn the meaning of scripture through activities such as music, crafts, games, drama and storytelling. This is an exciting time and an excellent way to help build a child's foundation of faith.

\*\* *Three year olds who participated in or were eligible to attend the three year old Godly Play Sunday School Class.*

### Camp Shalom

Camp Shalom is a week long Christian day camp sponsored by ESUMC at Umstead State Park for a nominal fee. It is operated and staffed by ESUMC lay volunteers. The Camp is usually held in mid June. Rising 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders may register as campers for a nominal fee. Youth in grades 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> may participate as leaders in training, while 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders serve as youth leaders. Camp Shalom combines fun, learning, worship, and play in a celebration of God's creation.

### Children's Music and Arts Camp (CMAC)

CMAC is an exciting opportunity for rising 1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders to grow spiritually, musically, and dramatically in a supportive and creative environment. Activities include choir, handbells, crafts, creative movement, storytelling and worship. A short musical program is learned and presented in a closing program / worship. The camp is usually held in early August.

### Early Childhood Program (ECP)

ESUMC ECP is an outreach ministry which is designed to meet the needs of parents and their young children, ages 3 months to 4 years. Our loving staff is here to provide guidance which will enhance physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual growth in a safe environment. This half-day pre-school runs from September to May, 9:30 a.m.– 1:00 p.m. and has an abbreviated program during the summer. Registration is required. Please call 831-1946 for more information.

### Child Development Center (CDC)

The Child Development Center is an outreach ministry whose purpose is to provide working parents with a comprehensive child development program for two through five year old children. We maintain a high standard of early childhood education and believe we provide the highest quality of care in the downtown area. Our program operates 7:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. year round. For registration information, please call 832-2029.

**For more information about any of ESUMC Children's Ministries, please contact :**

**Ruthie Jones**  
**Director of Children's Ministries**  
**832-7535 ext. 221**  
**rjones@esumc.org**



# CHILDREN'S Ministries



**EDENTON STREET UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH**

*228 West Edenton Street*  
*Raleigh, NC 27603*  
*www.esumc.org*  
*(919) 832-7535*