

To Reach All In Love

TRAIL

St. Andrew Children's Ministries



**"Let the little children
come to me..."**

Matthew 19:14



Meet the Children's Ministry Staff



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Cindy Watts
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Connecting with Children's Ministries

Making a difference in the life of a child is an everyday possibility for you at St. Andrew UMC! As we connect children with God's love, Jesus, the stories of God's people, and our church, we have opportunities for you to not only make the difference in the lives of children, but to also be blessed as you are involved in ministry with and for our children! You can choose between two different types of ministry. Serve directly with our children with at least one other adult present or, if you prefer, become involved with our support ministry where you provide necessary behind the scenes preparation work that is so vital to what we do.

Terms:

-  **Background checks**
Yearly checks mandated by the St. Andrew United Methodist Church Board of Trustees of all paid and non-paid adult staff.
-  **Childcare**
Childcare for your child/children while you are serving can be scheduled through Kirsten Parus with one week's prior notice and childcare availability.
-  **Safe Sanctuary**
Policies and procedures adopted by the Board of Trustees that provide safety and security for children and teens, along with our adult paid and volunteer staff members.
-  **TRAILhead**
Children's Ministries Desk
-  **Volunteer Information sheets**
Provides pertinent information for paid staff members to review.

Administrative

Helping Hands

Provide short-term or one-time-only help in Children's Ministries. These volunteers assist where needed (sort curriculum, wash paint shirts, restock classrooms, notebook and manual assembly, bulletin boards, or help with mailing).

- Time: You decide
- Requirements: Background check (if on premises when children present), Volunteer Information Sheet
- Location: Your home or St. Andrew
- Child friendly: Children are welcome to help parents!



Receptionist

Help provide security to the Children's wing during the Children's Leaning Center week. Answer the phone, screen visitors and assist the Children's Ministry team in simple administrative tasks.

- Time: 1–5 hours, between 9:00 am–2:45 pm; 1–4 times per month; you decide
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer information sheet

Worship Packet Preparation

Make our children feel welcome in Sunday worship services by restocking the children's worship packets monthly with pencils, crayons, and activity pages from our Supply Closet. This is a wonderful family activity that can be done here or at home!

- Time: 1½ hours per month
- Location: Your home or St. Andrew
- Child friendly: Children are welcome to help parents!



Childcare

Appreciation

Show our Childcare staff your appreciation for the care and nurture that St. Andrew children receive while in Childcare. Simple notes, thank you cards (computer generated), a flower from your garden or a baked treat are just a few ideas.

- Time: You decide
- Location: Your home or St. Andrew
- Child friendly: Children are welcome to help parents

Loving Rockers

Be part of our loving nursery team, welcoming our youngest to our church and helping our trained and certified Childcare staff entertain and rock children birth through waddlers

(when they start walking)

- Time: 1-1 ½ hours per Sunday at 9:15, 1-4 Sundays per month, you decide!
- Location: St. Andrew Nursery
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: Safe Sanctuary (45 minutes)



Mission Education & Projects

Create and organize workable and meaningful projects that encourage St. Andrew children to serve others - 'hands on' experiences that will move, motivate and encourage them to extend their hands to others in need.

Christmas Stockings

Prepare stockings for distribution to congregation; organize collection boxes and coordinate delivery to donation site

- Time: 8 hours, November and December
- Location: Children's wing
- Child friendly: Children are welcome to help parents!

Six Super Sundays of Sharing

Prepare and organize collection boxes and coordinate delivery to distribution site

- Time: 8 hours, Lenten Season (March 13-April 17)
- Location: Children's wing
- Child friendly: Children are welcome to help parents!

Children's Learning Center (CLC)

Fundraising

Designs and implements fundraising activities that support the scholarship fund and other designated needs of CLC.

- Time: Planning meeting 3–4 times a year (2 hours per meeting)
- Monthly events – can be 2–6 hours per event – you choose months/events!
- Locations: St. Andrew and other designated fundraising locations

Helping Hands

Provide short-term or one-time-only help in CLC and Children's Ministries. These volunteers assist where needed (restock classrooms, wash paint shirts, or help with mailing).

- Time: You decide
- Requirements: Background check (if on premises when children are present), Volunteer Information Sheet
- Location: Your home or St. Andrew
- Child friendly: Children are welcome to help parents!



Receptionist

Help provide security to the Children's wing during the CLC week. Answer the phone, screen visitors and assist with simple administrative tasks.

- Time: 1-5 hours, between 9:00 am–2:45 pm; 1-4 times per month – you decide
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet

Scholarship team

Process and evaluate scholarship applications.

- Time: Twice a year in May and December, and other meetings as needed, One year minimum (May-April)
- Requirements: Recommended by Directors of Children's Ministries and CLC; confidentiality, knowledge of CLC and St. Andrew operating budget



Parent/Child Activities

God and Country Award Series

Lead a God and Country class, for elementary age children with a fully developed program. The God and Country Series, God and Me (1st-3rd Grade), God and Family (4th-5th Grade), has been developed to help young people grow in their understanding of the Christian faith, to help young people see how other people have translated belief into action, and to provide them with the opportunity for Christian service to others. It is recognized by Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts as the religious emblem program for their members, however, you do not have to be a scout to participate. Four one and a half hour classes are held in January and February.

- Time: 4-2 hour sessions, Sunday, 11:45 am–1:45 pm, January 6 & 23 & February 13 & 27, 2011
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: Safe Sanctuary (45 minutes)
- Curriculum: Fully developed program provided

Third Grade Bibles and Bible Party Coordinators

Coordinate the presentation of Bibles to our 3rd Graders during worship, followed by a Parent/Child Bible Party. Make phone calls to parents, prepare materials and Bibles for pre-planned activities. A pizza lunch is also planned and served.

- Time: 2 hour planning meeting, 2 hour Bible preparation, 4 hours at the event, Sunday, September 19, 10:30 am–2:30 pm



Lenten Experience Team

This team coordinates and implements the Annual Family Lenten Experience, The Color Purple, Journey Through Holy Week, and Taste the Bread. Activities are designed, including crafts, games, drama and devotional materials for the family to use here at St. Andrew on the day of the event, along with resources for at home. On the day of the event, the team sets out the activities and then helps to put them away for another year!

- Time: 4 hours preparation, 3 hours day of event, January, February, March or April (dependent on when Lent occurs)
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Curriculum: Fully developed program and activities provided



Rainbows

Rainbows is a peer support program for children, kindergarten through 12th grade who have experienced a loss due to death, divorce, separation, or other painful transition. Children are grouped according to age/grade with three to five other participants. Information is available at www.rainbows.org.

Facilitators

using the Rainbows materials, facilitate one hour group discussion and activities for 4-6 children grouped according to age/grade

- Time: 2 hours Monday evenings from 6:45-8:30 pm
Fall Session - 9/27; 10/4; 10/11; 10/18; 10/25; 11/1; 11/8, 2010
Winter Session - 1/24; 1/31; 2/7; 2/14; 2/28; 3/7; 3/14, 2011
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: 6 hour online training-at home or church at your convenience, 3 hour group training, Safe Sanctuary
- Curriculum: Rainbow curriculum with activities provided

Site Coordinators

organize, train and support facilitators, while grouping children and providing information to parents, church and community.

- Time: 8 hours per month during Rainbows (at home or church)
2 hours Monday evenings from 6:45-8:30 pm
Fall Session - 9/27; 10/4; 10/11; 10/18; 10/25; 11/1; 11/8, 2010
Winter Session - 1/24; 1/31; 2/7; 2/14; 2/28; 3/7; 3/14, 2011
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: 6 hour online training-at home or church at your convenience, 3 hour group training, Safe Sanctuary
- Curriculum: Rainbow curriculum and site coordinator manuals provided
- Location: Children's wing

Special Events

Impromptu Christmas Pageant Coordinators

Have a desire to help coordinate the 'Best Christmas Pageant Ever'? The Coordinators cast the main characters (based on Sunday school attendance), check over the costumes and set decorations and, on the evening of the Advent Festival, help the children pick out the character that they want to portray during the Christmas Pageant. The Pageant is held on the first Sunday of Advent.



- Time: 6½ hours during November, 2 hours prior to pageant to inventory costumes Sunday, November 28 - Noon–1:00 pm arrange costumes & 6:00-8:30 pm distribute, collect and re-pack costumes
- Child friendly: Children are welcome to help parents!
- Location: St. Andrew



Sunday School

Sunday Morning Greeters

Welcome our children and their families to Children's Ministry on Sunday morning. Assist families with registration, room location and information by offering radical hospitality.

- Time: 30 minutes once or twice a month,
Six month increments: January-June; July-December or on-going
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: Safe Sanctuary (45 minutes), Greeter training (45 minutes)
- Child friendly: 4th & 5th graders are welcome to be part of this team!

Elementary WoRM Guide (Workshop Rotation Model)

Welcome, assist, connect with and nurture an elementary class during the Workshop Rotation Model (WoRM) of Sunday School. Guides serve with another adult guide, implementing a ten minute opening activity (provided through weekly email), then assists the workshop leader.

- Time: 1½ hours twice a month,
9:15 or 10:40 Sunday school/worship hour
Six month increments: January-June; July-December or on-going
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: Safe Sanctuary (45 minutes), Sunday school orientation (1½ hours)
- Curriculum: United Methodist curriculum with Bible background story and discussion tips.

Elementary WoRM Workshop Leader (Workshop Rotation Model)

Designs and implements an elementary workshop for grades Kindergarten through 5th, in one of these areas: art, computer, cookery, games, music, science, storytelling or video. Workshop leaders serve on a team, sharing responsibility with others to teach the content, while applying the content to the Biblical story.

- Time: 1½ hours twice a month,
9:15 and/or 10:40 Sunday school/worship hour,
Six month increments: January-June; July-December or on-going
 - Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
 - Training: Safe Sanctuary (45 minutes), Sunday school orientation (1½ hours)
- Curriculum: United Methodist curriculum with detailed activity ideas and resources to share Bible story and implement activities.



2 year old, Preschool & Pre-Kindergarten

Lend your hands, your ears and your hearts to the children in their classrooms on Sunday mornings. United Methodist curriculum includes suggested activities to implement the lessons. We have a fully stocked supply room to support most activities. Choose the age you enjoy the most. Teach two Sundays a month at one of the Sunday School hours.

- Time: 1½ hours twice a month,
9:15 and/or 10:40 Sunday school/worship hour,
Six month increments: January-June; July-December or on-going
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: Safe Sanctuary (45 minutes),
Sunday school orientation (1½ hours)
- Curriculum: United Methodist age appropriate curriculum with simple Bible story and many activities to enhance and share the story.

Substitute Leaders/Teachers

Be Johnny on the spot, joining other volunteers who provide relief and emergency back-up for our staff of 120 Sunday morning teachers and leaders. Substitutes are assigned one week of the month for leaders to contact ahead of time. Otherwise, substitutes arrive at the TRAILhead twenty minutes prior to Sunday School for last minute needs.

- Time: 1½ hours once a month,
9:15 and/or 10:40 Sunday school/worship hour,
Six month increments: January-June; July-December or on-going
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: Safe Sanctuary (45 minutes), Sunday school orientation (1½ hours)

Sunday School Teen Aide

Assist the teachers with crafts, story time and supervising children in the Sunday School setting.

- Time: 1½ hours once a month;
9:15 and/or 10:40 Sunday school/worship hour;
Six month increments: January-June; July-December or on-going
- Requirements: Teen Aide Application



BIBLE ADVENTURES!



3rd Grade Bible Adventure Teachers

Teach a six week class designed for our Third Graders beginning the Sunday that they receive their Bibles.

- Time: 2 hour orientation meeting
3-6-Sunday mornings 9:14 or 10:40 Sunday school hour
Sundays, September 19, 26, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 2010
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: Safe Sanctuary (45 minutes)
- Curriculum: St. Andrew Children's Ministries designed curriculum provided



4th & 5th Grade Fellowship

Have fun with 4th & 5th Graders at a monthly Sunday evening fellowship activity. Events are usually held the second Sunday of the month, September through May from 6:30–8:00 pm and alternate mission with fun!

- Time: 2 hours per month-you decide the months, Sundays, 6:15–8:15 pm
September–May (9/12; 10/10/
11/14; 12/12; 1/9; 2/13; 3/13;
4/10; 5/1)
- Requirements: Background check,
Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: Safe Sanctuary
(45 minutes)
- Location: Children's wing



Vacation Bible School, Summer 2011

Shake It Up Cafe

Vacation Bible School Co-directors

Help children, rising kindergarten through rising 6th grade learn about God and others by planning, directing and facilitating a week long (day or evening) session of Bible stories, music, games, snacks, science and crafts. Directors recruit and train the team leaders, take care of the little details that help to provide an educational and fun event for children by supporting the adult and teen volunteers. January through June or July planning times are necessary. VBS is held during the daytime in June or the evening in July.

- Time: January-February, 8 hours per month, including monthly 2 hour meetings
March-May, 10 hours per month, including 2 meetings per month
Training meetings with leaders
June, weekly meetings (Session 1)
Session 1: June 20, 2011 (team meeting/decorating session)
June 21-24, 2011; 9:00-noon
June 24 6:00-8:00 pm family camp
July, weekly meetings (Session 2)
Session 2: July 11-15, 2011; 6:00-8:00 pm
January-June; July-December or on-going
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: Safe Sanctuary (45 minutes)
- Location: St. Andrew Children's wing, Home
- Curriculum: Directors manual provided

Vacation Bible School Decorating Team

Help decorate the Children's wing with the VBS theme

- Time: You decide
June Before VBS starts June 21, 2011
- Curriculum:
VBS decorating guide
and on-line resources available



Vacation Bible School Guides

Welcome, build relationships and accompany an age group of children to VBS activities.

- Time: June Session 1: June 20, 2011 (team meeting/decorating session)
June 21–24, 2011; 9:00–noon
June 24 6:00–8:00 pm family camp
July Session2: July 11–15, 2011; 6:00–8:00 pm
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: Safe Sanctuary (45 minutes)
- Location: St. Andrew Children's wing
- Curriculum: VBS curriculum

Vacation Bible School Workshop Leaders

Design, plan and implement the activities for a particular workshop (crafts, games, music, science, snack, or storytelling).

- Time: February, 2 hour workshop meeting with co-directors
March–May, 4 hours per month, planning with teammates
June: Session 1: June 20, 2011 (team meeting/decorating session)
June 21-24, 2011 9:00-noon
June 24 6:00–8:00 pm family camp
July, weekly meetings (Session 2)
Session 2: July 11–15, 2011 6:00–8:00 pm
- Requirements: Background check, Volunteer Information Sheet
- Training: Safe Sanctuary (45 minutes)
- Location: St. Andrew Children's wing
- Curriculum: Workshop manual provided

Vacation Bible School Teen Aide

Assist the workshop leaders in their activities or help the guides with a specific class.

- Time: June Session 1: June 20, 2011 (team meeting/decorating session)
June 21-24, 2011; 9:00-noon
June 24, 6:00–8:00 pm family camp
July Session2: July 11–15, 2011 6:00–8:00 pm
- Requirements: Teen Aide Application





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