



# FAMILIES & KIDS NEWSLETTER

Offering practical, spiritual, and fun resources for families following Jesus together.  
[www.reservoirchurch.org](http://www.reservoirchurch.org) • [families@reservoirchurch.org](mailto:families@reservoirchurch.org) April-May 2018

## SPRING INTO SUMMER TOGETHER

The time after Easter feels like the home stretch for Kids Church and Youth Group. At this point in the year the groups have spent lots of time together, and our time together can be relaxed and fun! Read on to hear what we're up to the next few months and to see some photos from our Holy Week and Easter celebrations.

### PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN

We're hearing stories about Jesus' resurrection appearances to his friends this spring. I was intrigued by a recent essay in the WSJ entitled "The Easter Effect and How It Changed the World." The author, George Weigel, ponders how "a ragtag band of nobodies from the far edges of the Mediterranean world" could grow into a dominant religion in just two and half centuries. The ragtag group insisted that it was because Jesus had risen from the dead. Weigel remarks, "One of the most striking things about the New Testament accounts of Easter, and what followed in the days immediately after Easter, is that the Gospel writers and editors carefully preserved the memory of the first Christians' bafflement, skepticism and even fright about what had happened to their former teacher and what was happening to them." They lived daring lives because they became convinced that death "did not have the final word in the human story." We'll be looking at some of those puzzling first encounters with the risen Jesus in Kids Church this month. May the resurrection of Jesus empower us all to dare to live with hope and freedom especially as we confront the dark places of our world and of our own hearts.

If you're interested, here's a link to the WSJ article, though you may have to subscribe to access it: <https://www.wsj.com/articles/the-easter-effect-and-how-it-changed-the-world-1522418701>

### YOUTH GROUP

As we transition from the season of Lent, the Reservoir Church youth group is turning its gaze outward. Middle and high schoolers are raising money for the American Cancer Society through Relay for Life, organized by senior Ren MacLean. Through a series of bake sales and other fundraising endeavors, our young people hope to raise \$1000 for cancer research and patient resources. The spring will also include a time of retelling Jesus' stories to younger Reservoir kids and some fun adventures. Relay for Life, rock-climbing, and a video game tournament are just a few of the events on the upcoming Reservoir Youth calendar.

### ELEMENTARY

Back in March the elementary group wrapped up our Lent unit with an interactive dramatic reading of the Holy Week story performed by the fourth and fifth graders. Now we're backing up in the story, and will spend the seven Sundays between Easter and Memorial Day talking about Jesus and God's kingdom. We'll be hearing some things that Jesus had to say about what God wants for the world, from the Sermon on the mount, and from the thoughts he shared with his friends during their last meal together. We'll also look at how Jesus acted to bring the kingdom about through simple things like sharing food and noticing the people around him. The unit will wrap up with a celebration of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost!

### RESERVOIR KIDS SUPERHERO!

Conrad's 40 Days of Faith prayer for our city was that "everyone who sleeps on the street would be warm and cozy and have what they need to stay warm and dry." He and his family organized a collection that netted almost 200 socks to distribute! On Easter, he and his sister were recognized with their very own superhero capes.



*Conrad getting his cape on Easter Sunday*

### CONTACT US

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# LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AHEAD

The full calendar of Holy Week is behind us, but there's still lots happening as we move towards the summer!

Fridays, April 6-May 18 **Parenting Book Group**, 6-8 PM, ministry center living room.  
We'll be reading and discussing *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee* by Wendy Mogel. This group is full but we'll look into hosting another session soon. Email [kim@reservoirchurch.org](mailto:kim@reservoirchurch.org) if you'd be interested.

Sunday, April 20 **Child Dedication**, 9:30 AM, in sanctuary.

Sunday, April 29 **Youth Group Rock Climbing**, 1-4 PM.  
Contact [tory@reservoirchurch.org](mailto:tory@reservoirchurch.org).

Sundays, April 29 & May 6 **Youth Group Bake Sale**, 11-11:30 AM in the parking lot.  
We're raising money to fight cancer through the Relay for Life which our own Ren MacLean will be running on May 11 & 12.

Saturday, May 5 **Youth Group Video Game Tournament**  
5:30-8:30 PM. Contact [tory@reservoirchurch.org](mailto:tory@reservoirchurch.org).

May 11-12 **Relay for Life**  
Youth Group members will be at the Winchester track starting at 5 PM. You can [donate online](#).

Sunday, May 13 **Mother's Day**

Sunday, June 17 **Father's Day**

Sunday, June 24 **Summer schedule begins** with one service at 10:30 AM through September 9.  
**No Kids Church** June 24, July 1, or July 8.  
**Picnic on the Playground** June 24, 12-1 PM.

Sunday, July 15 **Kids Church 5-week Summer Session begins.**

## IMAGES FROM HOLY WEEK



*Multi-generational footwashing on Thursday*



*Good Friday storytelling*



*Easter Egg-citement!*

## HELP US BUILD OUR LENDING LIBRARY

We're working on expanding our book selection for our Kids Church classrooms and for our church's lending library. We'd like our book collection to reflect all the faces of the kids and families at our church. So we're looking for books about inspiring role models and just great stories with more black, brown, and Asian characters. And we're always looking for good books that point children towards Jesus. Linda Kang has started a list called [Diverse books for kids and youth](#) as a place to collect your suggestions. We'll edit the list and then Linda will be starting an Amazon Wishlist so you and others can donate books to our shared collection and so our kids, youth and families will recognize themselves in the stories.

## A REMINDER FROM THE LIBRARIAN

The Reservoir Lending Library (which is in the alcove at the front of the bagel room) has lots of great books for adults—and a few for kids too! You can check books out for four weeks at a time, and renew as many times as you'd like. Unfortunately, the kids books, especially, keep disappearing. If you've borrowed anything from our lending library and forgotten to sign it out, would you kindly return it to the library. We want to make sure that everyone has a chance to enjoy our collection! (Dan Archibald is the librarian; feel free to contact him with any questions or comments).