



GRACE KIDS
Christmas Program

DECEMBER 10
6:30PM

October 30, 2017

Dear Parents,

The main goal of our Christmas program at Grace is to focus our children's hearts and minds on Christ and His coming.

We're hoping to celebrate Christ's birth with a program that is both **BY** and **FOR** the kids - we'd like the kids to tell His story, and we're praying that it will bless our children, our church families, and all others who may attend. And while we aren't striving for a well-polished production, we are excited and asking God to bring glory to our wonderful Savior in the program this year through our kids.

We deeply desire that your children will participate in the Christmas program this year in some way. We have planned for varying levels of participation for all ages (3 years old through 5th grade) ranging from singing, reading scripture, speaking and non-speaking parts, and artistic creations. While our preschoolers will be participating by singing at the program and answering questions for our audio recordings, we kindly ask they do not sign up for part until kindergarten.

Christmas Program Parts

All Kids: All children will be learning songs to sing at the program and reciting some parts together. We will be practicing these songs during children's church in November and December. It would be helpful for kids to come to the Dec. 9 rehearsal, but children can still participate in this way even if they are unable to attend the practice. On the night of the Christmas Program, girls will be provided with simple angel costumes and boys with shepherd gear. All children are encouraged to sit together on the floor near the front of the sanctuary. You do not need to respond to this letter if your child will be participating and only wants to sing with the large group.

Your Child's Answers: We are doing something a little different this year (although some of you may remember doing this several years ago). We are going to use recordings of your children actually telling the story of the bible. Which means we need you to record your children answering questions about creation, sin, and the story of Jesus' birth. All it takes is your smart phone and the questions we will provide you with. Ask them the questions, record their sweet answers, send us the audio file, and we will edit everything together to tell the story of the birth of Christ.

Scripture Reader/Speaking Part: No memorization is needed for these roles. Involvement means practicing parts at home with parents and then attending all rehearsals.

Non-Speaking Part: These children will dress in costumes and will be on stage, but will not have any lines. Attendance at all rehearsals is helpful for this role. (sheep, shepherds, angels, etc.)

Musical Performers: Has your child been practicing hard for a musical recital? We would have them share a song or two as a prelude to the Christmas Program. Kids can perform alone or in groups, whichever they prefer. They will need to practice with Wanda Haney in the sanctuary once, on or before our dress rehearsal.

Artists: We need children that would be willing to help draw, color, and cut some simple props and scenery. We need quite a few pieces of artwork this year!

Kid Greeters: A friendly smile and a "hello" is all that is needed as kids hand out programs and welcome guests the night of the program.

So how does your child want to participate? Email me now and let me know (jennyb@gepc.org or 316-516-5215). The deadline to sign up is Sunday, November 12th.

Where do we need parent help?

Saturday Rehearsal: We will need many adult helpers to make our rehearsal a success. We need helpers to do activities with kids and fit costumes.

Cookie Hosts (Parent): Help arrange the cookies brought by parents and prepare drinks for after the program.

Interview your kids! See note above on child's answers.

Please email Lindsay Clements (lindsay@gepc.org) if you can help with the rehearsal or cookies.

Noteworthy Dates

- **Wednesday, Nov. 29, 5:30pm** - Rehearsal with actors, and scripture readers.
- **Wednesday, Dec. 6, 6:30pm** (No Blast)- Rehearsal with actors, scripture readers and non-speaking parts.
- **Saturday, December 9, 9:30-11:30am.** (If possible, we are asking that all kids come to the rehearsal so they know what to expect. We'll provide fun activities for the kids when they are not practicing. We will need many adult helpers if you are available!)
- **Sunday, December 10 at 6:30 pm** Grace Kids Christmas Program with actors, musicians, greeters, and readers by 5:50pm, and all other children by 6:15.

In Christ,

Jenny Boettcher, Lindsay Clements, and Christina Evans
Grace Children's Ministry