

ABOUT Faith Journey Sunday School

Cary Presbyterian Church understands that children have a variety of interests, skills and abilities and they want Sunday School to be fun! That is why we use a creative model called **Workshop Rotation**. Children learn best when all of their senses are stimulated and engaged in an organized, constructive, enjoyable educational program of Biblical studies. We have named our workshop rotation program 'Faith Journey.'

Educational Basis for this model: Years of research has proven what educators suspected all along—children learn through a variety of learning styles and possess multiple intelligences through which comes real learning and engagement with the subject. There are eight kinds of intelligence; people learn in different ways. Having fun while learning repetitively helps. Experience is the key to real learning. Because in Faith Journey each of the workshops presents a different style of learning, the kids don't get bored. Instead, this multiple-intelligence approach enhances the learning process. Children come to know God through a variety of ways. For God's word to become part of our children's lives, it must not just be heard or read, but also experienced.

When you enter the Faith Hall of Fame (Christian education part of the building, upper floor), you are surrounded by a "cloud of witnesses," (Hebrews 1:1) who remind us of some of the great stories of the Bible: Ruth, Abraham, Joseph, and David. Your Journey begins in here, our gathering place. Here we welcome visitors, take attendance, collect an offering,* recognize birthdays, make announcements, and talk about what we're learning. Then the children are dismissed to their workshop for the day.

In Faith Journey, the same Bible story or concept is taught in workshops over five weeks. Each Sunday, the groups of children rotate to a new workshop for that Sunday. Kids love the repetition and it reinforces what they are learning.

Age Groups for Faith Journey

Hikers = first grade

Trekkers = second grade

Climbers = third grade

Trail Blazers = fourth grade

Pathfinders = fifth grade

Each group has several adults who shepherd the children to their workshops and are with the group each Sunday. These folks are the constant companions for the children's faith journeys, a weekly presence.

Teachers lead workshops in their area of interest, thus using their skills and gifts. Teachers stay in their workshop...teaching the same lesson each week to a different group, getting better and better, adapting it to the age level group they are leading for that week. Teachers can sign on for many units, or teach just one. New teachers allow our children contact with more adults in the congregation—a core value of Cary Presbyterian educational ministry.