



Vision Statement for Children's Ministry (Adopted in 2015)

At Church of the Ascension children are welcomed and loved. They are beloved recipients of God's grace in whom the Spirit of God is at work. Children are vital to the ministry and mission of the parish, giving to and receiving from the church family.

Recognizing that a loving Christian home is the primary and most effective context for children to be nurtured in their faith, as a church we will seek to provide a safe, loving, and nurturing Christian environment in which children may encounter Jesus as they:

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1. **Experience God's love** and develop a real relationship with Him;
2. **Interact with God** through the Bible, liturgy, and historical Christian practices;
3. **Engage in corporate worship** as valued members of the Church Family.

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4. **Learn God's story** as they hear, experience, study, wrestle with and apply the Bible, making God's story their story;
5. **Share in the life of this community** as we seek to know, glorify, and follow Jesus;
6. **Develop a Christian identity** that is long-lasting, in which questions are welcome, and honest responses to God are encouraged.

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7. **Participate in the coming of God's kingdom** by following Jesus in their daily lives: at home, at school, at church, at play;
8. **Respond to God's call** to love and care for others;
9. **Share the joy and adventure** of God's great love for them and for the world!

Our church's Children's Ministry fits into the much larger goal of equipping the whole church family to live out its Christian faith in all spheres of life and especially at home where children spend far more time than at church. As in all Church of the Ascension ministries, staff input needs to be complemented by parents and volunteers committed to serving God and His people through nourishing intergenerational relationships and the use of the many and varied gifts God gives.