



the Parent LINK

Children's Ministry Edition

Calvary Kids Connect



December 2011

Calvary Assembly of God

1380 N. Mallory Street

Hampton, VA 23663

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Kids Connect Parents:

It's hard to believe, but 2011 is almost complete. I am so thankful to have the privilege of being Children's Pastor at Calvary. Being a part of developing spiritual foundation in children has to be one of the greatest jobs I can imagine.

As we wrap up 2011 and head into 2012, I will be sending out a monthly parent newsletter, called "The Parent Link." You will receive it each month via email or mail. It will also be posted on the church's web site after the beginning of the year. The newsletter will include information about upcoming children's activities as well as helpful parent tips.

If you have any questions regarding our children's program or you need to bring anything about your child to my attention, please feel free to call me. I will be glad to meet with you.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Pastor Kelly
Pastor Kelly
Children's Pastor
757.722.0092 office

CHRISTMAS MUSIC

All of our children, ages 2 yrs old – 6th grade, will be singing in our Family Christmas Celebration on Sunday, December 18, at 10:00am.

We are currently practicing on Sunday mornings during Kids Church. Kids ages kindergarten-6th grade will be singing a song with the adults during the performance, and will need to practice with the adults in the sanctuary immediately following this Sunday's Celebration service, Dec. 4. It should take approximately 20 minutes. They will also have a dress rehearsal with the adults on Thursday, Dec. 15, at 7:00pm. Kids ages 2-4 yrs old will not need to practice with the adults and will not have a dress rehearsal.

Kids will need to arrive at 9:15am on Dec. 18. They should wear any combination of red, green, black and/or white clothes.

Be sure to invite your friends and family to our Family Christmas Celebration on Dec. 18 and our family service on Christmas Day!

Pajamas & Movie Sunday!

Sunday, December 11th
10:00am

Just get out of bed, grab your pillow,
and come to church!



Kids Connect (K-6th Grade) will be watching "A Dennis the Menace Christmas – You Better Watch Out."

Popcorn & goodies provided!

Kids Connect for Preschoolers (2-5 yr olds) will be watching "Frosty Friends"

Snacks & goodies provided!

**Invite your friends
to come with you.**

NEW WELCOME AREA

We are in the process of creating a new welcome area for our children's ministry at Calvary. It is located directly across from the elevator. This area will be used to check in children and welcome new guests with children. We encourage you to watch our progress as this new area develops over the next month.

Thank you to all of the men who are volunteering their time to help us create this new welcome area.



So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son. (John 1:14)

At Christmas, we celebrate the good news that God became flesh, in the form of Jesus, to die for our sins.

TEACHABLE MOMENTS

1. Wrap Race—You'll need some empty boxes and gift-wrapping supplies. Form teams and have them race to wrap an imaginary gift for the whole world (such as peace) in the shortest time possible.

Afterward, discuss what gifts you'd like to give and why.

2. Chapter Chain—Encourage family members to spend more time exploring God's word. From Thanksgiving until Christmas, give out a red or green construction paper link for every chapter of the Bible someone reads (or listens to). On Christmas Eve, hang the chain as a special birthday gift to Jesus.



3. O Christmas Tree—Tie a red ribbon around the head of a concrete nail, and tie the ends of the ribbon into a knot to form a loop. Hang the ornament on your Christmas tree. Talk about how baby Jesus wasn't only born for us but was born to die for us—on a tree.

Try New Christmas Faith-Boosters

The most wonderful time of the year is a wonderful time to share Jesus—and why he came to earth—with your children. Instead of getting caught up in the holiday rush, focus on what Christmas truly means. Use the Advent season (the weeks of preparation before Christmas) to engage in old and new traditions, make simple crafts, have discussions, and worship Jesus, our newborn King.

Faith-boosters needn't be elaborate or time-consuming. Instead, use materials you already have to reinforce the good news that the angels shared on the first Christmas Eve: Jesus, our Savior, is born!

After you've shared this message with your children, look for simple ways to spread Christmas joy as a family. From caroling and delivering cookies to sending cards and inviting neighbors to programs or concerts, the possibilities are endless for letting your light shine as you celebrate Jesus, the Light of the world.

FAMILY EXPERIENCE

While engaging in Christmas festivities, start a conversation by asking these questions:

1. What are your favorite Christmas traditions, and why? How do our traditions help us remember the real meaning of Christmas?
2. What are some ways we can add service and outreach to our Christmas celebrations?
3. How would you explain Christmas to someone who didn't know anything about Jesus?

MERRY CHRISTMAS!



December

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 Happy Birthday Jesus Christmas Party 10:00am Music practice after service	5	6	7 Ranger Awards 7:00pm	8	9	10
11 Pajamas & Movie Sunday 10:00am	12	13	14	15 Dress Rehearsal 7:00pm (K-6 th Grade)	16	17
18 Family Christmas Celebration 10:00am (Arrive 9:15am)	19	20	21 Ranger & M pact Christmas Parties 7:00pm	22	23	24 Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Family Service 11:00am Christmas Day	26	27	28 No Wednesday PM Service	29	30	31 New Year's Eve