Home Moravian Church

Ages and Stages Age 2-12th grade

Compiled by Margaret Norris

AGE/STAGE: TWO-YEAR OLDS

Working with This Group	HMC Programs
Associate God	SUNDAYS/WEEKLY
 with beautiful things Associate God with the love and 	Nursery Faith Alive! <i>God Loves Me</i> Stories birth-3-years-old 9:30am-noon, Sundays
 care of parents and caregivers Use the word "God" frequently 	This curriculum provides 52 storybooks designed for children ages 1-3. Each book retells a Bible story in simple language that young children can understand, a prayer, and suggestions for learning-through-play activities.
 Encourage talking to God in brief, direct, and simple prayers 	Stories from both the Old and New Testaments include God's creation, Abraham, Hannah, David, Simeon, Anna, Peter, Jesus's life and ministry, and Paul.
 Use concrete images rather than abstract Talk about Jesus 	Weekly, children receive the story cards that match the presented story. They have folders at home or in the car for their story collection. In this way, families and Home Moravian work together to nurture faith, establishing devotional habits of Bible reading and prayer.
as a man who loves children	Sanctuary, Worship bags Worship, 10:00am-11:00am
 and shows people what God is like Pray prayers of thanksgiving and praise Associate prayer 	Recognizing that children are active learners, and also that they are fully involved in the life of the congregation, children are welcomed to be a part of weekly worship. Worship bags provide lectionary-based activity sheets as well as drawing and manipulative opportunities for them. Bags may be left in the pews when children exit worship.
	 This Group Associate God with beautiful things Associate God with the love and care of parents and caregivers Use the word "God" frequently Encourage talking to God in brief, direct, and simple prayers Use concrete images rather than abstract Talk about Jesus as a man who loves children and shows people what God is like Pray prayers of thanksgiving and praise

 expressions of emotion Need adults who keep constant check on action and offer comfort Need routine to give them stability Need adults who do first, and explain as they do Need room to move about and individual play Need pictures at their eye level and low shelves within reach Enjoy songs and games with repetition and limitation Associate God/Jesus/ 	 Use simple language Create a happy environment Visit the sanctuary during non-service times Hold the Bible while telling stories Avoid violent stories 	Comenius Corridor Children's Library, all children, 2 nd floor CE, 11:00am-11:15am Sundays and as needed Moravian bishop John Amos Comenius believed that all children deserved a hands-on education. The corridor, named after this visionary, provides books for all-aged children. Participants are invited to check out a book of their choosing. Upon returning it, they may check out another. WEDNESDAYS/WEEKLY Story Time With Miss Margaret birth5-years-old 6:10pm-6:30pm, Wednesdays, September-May The stories of the Bible can be told in "bite sized" pieces at all developmental levels Music and movement are a natural part of life especially for children For children, "All aspects of learning are enhanced when music is a key element in a holistic approach", -Musikgarten quote ANNUALLY Easter Egg Hunt
Holy Spirit with		Children enjoy a festive event while also preparing for the celebration of
church		Easter.
Review prayers prayed and stories		
heard at church		

AGE/STAGE: THREE-YEAR OLDS

Developmental Markers		Working with This Group	HMC Programs
-	n • rd	6	SUNDAYS/WEEKLY Sanctuary, Worship bags Worship, 10:00am-11:00am Comenius Corridor Children's Library, all children, 2 nd floor CE, 11:00am-11:15am Sundays and as needed <i>Faith Alive!</i> Walk with Me Sunday School, Ages 3-6-year-olds 11:15pm-noon, Sundays Includes sequential Bible stories and lessons for 20 Old Testament and 20 New Testament stories. The active learning process includes action rhymes, patterns for crafts, music, and posters that reinforce the stories. WEDNESDAYS/WEEKLY
 Have a strong desired to please Enjoy other children still need solitary pla time Understand waiting turns and sharing Love opportunities to display independent 	ı; ay •	always saying prayers before snack) Describe actions instead of giving general "good job" responses ("I like how you pushed in your chair when you left your place")	Music, Movement and Story Time with Miss Margaret birth5-years-old, 6:10pm-6:30pm, Wednesdays, September-May ANNUALLY Easter Egg Hunt Children enjoy a festive event while also preparing for the celebration of Easter.

AGE/STAGE: FOUR-YEAR OLDS

Developmental Markers	Working with This Group	HMC Programs
• Run, stop and turn	Suggest taking	SUNDAYS/WEEKLY
with ease	turns	
• Throw and catch a	• Share how God	Sanctuary, Worship bags
ball or bean bag	works in cycles	Worship, 10:00am-11:00am
• Clap hands in	(i.e. day follows	Godly Play, Aged 4 and up
imitation of simple	night, spring	RB 225, 10:20am (approx.)-11:00am
rhythm	follows winter)	Godly Play is an experiential workshop model based on the Montessori Method.
• Cut on straight lines	Teach how God	A Bible story is presented, using pieces that the storyteller moves around as the
and some simple	loves us and	story unfolds. Children then reflect on that story or other previously presented
outlines	gives us good	stories using art, writing, or the story pieces.
Recognize their own	things, and we	Comenius Corridor Children's Library, all children,
name	show our love to	2^{nd} floor CE, 11:00am-11:15am Sundays and as needed
Retell short stories	God by what we	
accurately	do	Faith Alive! Walk with Me
Communicate needs	• Show how we can	Sunday School, Ages 3-6-year-olds
and begin to solve	learn about God's	11:15pm-noon, Sundays
problems	care for us	WEDNESDAYS/WEEKLY
Have little	through others	
comprehension of	(i.e. doctors,	Music, Movement and Story Time with Miss Margaret
past and future	farmers,	birth5-years-old,
Worship God	firefighters)	6:10pm-6:30pm, Wednesdays, September-May
although cannot	• Tell stories about	
verbally explain	how Jesus	
• Like to move from	showed love to	
one activity to	others by helping	
another	them	
Constantly as	•	

 questions More independent and mature than three's More sociable with other children Share possessions 	•	Provide opportunities for prayer	ANNUALLY <i>"Good Morning, God. How can I help You today?"</i> Summer Vacation Bible School Aged 4-5 th grade Children are divided into smaller, age-specific groups. Daily, they hear Bible stories and experientially explore the outreach ministries of HMC (including
 Enjoy opportunities to explore without undue pressure Enjoy quiet reflection Think concretely 			Sunnyside Ministry, Wachovia Garden, HOPE lunches, Unity Women's Desk, International Missions, Diggs Latham, and The Enrichment Center). They find through hands-on projects that they can make a difference in the lives of others, putting their faith into practice. Children's Candle Making, November 12:15pm-2pm Children have hands-on learning in beeswax candle pouring while making and trimming candles for a Christmas lovefeast for Forsyth Medical Center's Cancer Floor patients
			Easter Egg Hunt Children enjoy a festive event while also preparing for the celebration of Easter.

Developmental Working with **HMC Programs** Markers **This Group** SUNDAYS/WEEKLY • Fatigue quickly after Listen with eves • activity and ears Sanctuary, Worship bags • Like routine and Change pace by • Worship, 10:00am-11:00am organization moving from active to quiet • Play well in small Godly Play, Aged 4 and up Share how we RB 225, 10:20am (approx.)-11:00am groups • show love for Establish the • Comenius Corridor Children's Library, all children, God by the things dominant use of right 2nd floor CE, 11:00am-11:15am Sundays and as needed or left hand we do Encourage Can be jealous of • ٠ Faith Alive! Walk with Me growth in love others and compete Sunday School, Ages 3-6-year-olds for the attention of for Jesus 11:15pm-noon, Sundays Offer adults • WEDNESDAYS/WEEKLY Can return to younger opportunities for • dressing as behavioral patterns Music, Movement and Story Time with Miss Margaret people in the • Are birth--5-vears-old, cooperative/helpful, Bible 6:10pm-6:30pm, Wednesdays, September-May while also able to ANNUALLY argue/display anger Enjoy small • Vacation Bible School responsibilities Summer, annually Thrive on praise, • "Good Morning, God. How can I help You today?" affection Aged 4-5th grade Sometimes confuse • fact/fantasy

AGE/STAGE: FIVE-YEAR OLDS

Develop respect for the rights of others	Children's Candle Making, November 12:15pm-2pm
 the rights of others Usually have a special friend; may feel left out if without one Need simple answers to questions asked Need opportunities for quiet reflection Enjoy assigned leader positions Enjoy activities 	12:15pm-2pm Easter Egg Hunt Children enjoy a festive event while also preparing for the celebration of Easter.
involving all the senses	

AGE/STAGE: FIRST GRADERS

Developmental Markers	Working with This Group	HMC Programs
Are restless, active, and energetic	Make applications from	SUNDAYS/WEEKLY
• Like to learn by doing	Bible stories to	Sanctuary, Worship bags for Worship, 10:00am-11:00am, Narthax
• Become discouraged if unable to complete	lifeTeach that we are	Godly Play, Aged 4 and up, RB 225, 10:20am (approx.)-11:00am
a project because of time or skill	all God's childrenShare how God	Comenius Corridor Children's Library, all children, 2 nd floor CE, 11:00am-11:15am Sundays and as needed
 Hold attention for about 10 minutes Have a vivid 	forgives and we forgive othersExplore how God	<i>Faith Alive!</i> Walk with Me Sunday School, Ages 3-6-year-olds, 11:15pm-noon, Sundays
imagination and enjoy dramatization	helps us through problems	WEDNESDAYS/WEEKLY
 Read at varying levels Enjoy using tools and equipment rather than toys 	 Explain that Jesus was sent to show us the love of God Encourage them to be like Jesus Encourage them to write prayers 	 Chorister Choir 1st-4th graders, 4:45pm-5:15pm Wednesdays, September-May Gives participants an opportunity to be worship leaders Contributes to a participant's understanding of God and the experience of worship Instills spiritual concepts through rhythm, rhyme, and repetition, locking the information in the brain for a lifetime Provides a deeper appreciation for truth communicated in an artistic context Offers participants worthy heroes and role models
		Moravian Minis

	 1st-4th graders, 5:15pm - 5:45pm, Wednesdays, September-May Home Moravian Church is a place of history. And, being in Old Salem, it is set in a community of history. Therefore, our church and its location provide a unique opportunity for children to explore the faith and practices of Salem Moravian forebearers through the lens of exploratory, hands-on learning. Explorations include, inside HMC: Making lovefeast coffee Visiting the HMC chimes Learning about the inner workings of the HMC clock Making Moravian star points Trimming Moravian candles Visiting the original HMC kitchen Seeing how the large Christmas sanctuary window candles were made Exploring the sanctuary organ Learning about the sanctuary stained glass windows Outside HMC: Visiting points of interest, including the Single Sisters' Museum, the Coffee Pot, the pump, the original Salem cistern locations, The Flour Box Tea Room, The Moravian Book and Gift (where videos are available on Moravian star, and The Boys' School /
	Moravian Book and Gift (where videos are available on Moravian history and
	Moravian Milestones Memorizing and Sharing Bible Passages and Moravian Hymns 2 nd Floor CE Hands-on learning tools developed for this process are available for use as participants gather for Moravian Minis, Chorister Choir, and Celebration Singers.
	ANNUALLY

Communion Education, Time TBD In the Moravian Church, baptized children are invited to participate in communion after receiving instruction. At HMC, children are encouraged to receive communion when they feel ready to do so. A class is offered annually or as needed.
<i>"Good Morning, God. How can I help You today?"</i> Summer Vacation Bible School, Aged 4-5 th grade
Laurel Ridge Moravian Summer Camp Pre-Junior (1 st , 2 nd grades), 3-days, 2-nights, Laurel Springs, NC Knowing the value of faith-based camping, HMC encourages children to attend Laurel Ridge. The church pays half of the cost. Pre-Junior camp provides Bible stories, songs, games, and outdoor activities.
Children's Candle Making, a Sunday in November, 12:15pm-2pm
Easter Egg Hunt Children enjoy a festive event while also preparing for the celebration of Easter.

AGE/STAGE: SECOND GRADERS

Developmental Markers	Working with This Group	HMC Programs
 Have improved math skills Are rule bound, 	 Help them learn to distinguish between right and wrong Offer assurance that God will help them through problems Teach customs of Bible times Ask for specific prayer needs Encourage them to find ways to help serve at church Use sentence prayers 	 SUNDAYS/WEEKLY Sanctuary, Worship bags Worship, 10:00am-11:00am Godly Play, Aged 4 and up RB 225, 10:20am (approx.)-11:00am Comenius Corridor Children's Library, all children, 2nd floor CE, 11:00am-11:15am Sundays and as needed Adventures with the Good Shepherd Workshop Rotation Model Sunday School 2nd-5th grade 11:15am-noon Sundays Creative teaching methods and rooms ("workshops") provide students with a variety of hands-on learning opportunities that incorporate multiple learning intelligences Teaching stories for more than one week enables deeper reflection on these stories and therefore more impactful biblical literacy "Workshops" include exploring each story through music, cooking, games, art, Lego, and drama

T. C.
WEDNESDAYS/WEEKLY
Chorister Choir
1 st -4 th graders
4:45pm-5:15pm Wednesdays, September-May
Moravian Minis
1 st -4 th graders
5:15pm – 5:45pm, Wednesdays, September-May
Moravian Milestones
Memorizing and Sharing Bible Passages and Moravian Hymns $2^{ m nd}$ Floor CE
ANNUALLY
"Good Morning, God. How can I help You today?"
Summer Vacation Bible School
Aged 4-5 th grade
Laurel Ridge Moravian Summer Camp
Pre-Junior (1 st , 2 nd grades)
3-days, 2-nights, Laurel Springs, NC
Communion Education
Time TBD
Children's Candle Making, November 12:15pm-2pm
Easter Egg Hunt Children enjoy a festive event while also preparing for the celebration of Easter.
1

AGE/STAGE: THIRD GRADERS

Developmental Markers	Working with This Group	HMC Programs
 Have about a 15 minute attention span Like dramatic play Want the opportunity to plan and solve problems Enjoy quiet reflective time included in the lesson Begin to understand the role of a minister 	 Show how we help carry out God's purposes by working with God's commandments Encourage using the Bible in problem solving Relate life events to situations in Bible stories 	SUNDAYS/WEEKLY Sanctuary, Worship bags Worship, 10:00am-11:00am Godly Play, Aged 4 and up RB 225, 10:20am (approx.)-11:00am Comenius Corridor Children's Library, all children, 2 nd floor CE, 11:00am-11:15am Sundays and as needed Adventures with the Good Shepherd Workshop Rotation Model Sunday School 2 nd -5 th grade 11:15am-noon Sundays WEDNESDAYS/WEEKLY Chorister Choir 1 st -4 th graders 4:45pm-5:15pm Wednesdays, September-May Moravian Minis 1 st -4 th graders 5:15pm - 5:45pm, Wednesdays, September-May Moravian Milestones Memorizing and Sharing Bible Passages and Moravian Hymns 2 nd Floor CE

MONTHLY
HMC Band 9:30am Sunday preludes Sunday mornings approximately once a month, Tuesday evenings for band class if desired Recognizing the importance of all ages' contributions to the life of the church, children through adults are welcome to play in the HMC band. Those interested in band classes are invited to join others on Tuesday evenings, September-May, in RB-5 (Beginning Band: 6:30pm-7:30pm; Intermediate and Advanced Band: 7:30pm-8:30pm)
ANNUALLY
<i>"Good Morning, God. How can I help You today?"</i> Summer Vacation Bible School Aged 4-5 th grade
Laurel Ridge Moravian Summer Camp Junior 3 rd -5 th grade Week-long, Laurel Springs, NC Knowing the value of faith-based camping, HMC encourages children to attend Laurel Ridge. The church pays half of the cost. Junior camp provides Bible stories, crafts, sports, lake activities, and campfires.
Communion Education Time TBD
Children's Candle Making, November 12:15pm-2pm
Easter Egg Hunt Children enjoy a festive event while also preparing for the celebration of Easter.

Developmental Working with **HMC Programs** Markers **This Group** SUNDAYS/WEEKLY Are increasingly Encourage the use of lesus' interested in peer Godly Play, Aged 4 and up teachings every groups RB 225, 10:20am (approx.)-11:00am Are increasingly more day • independent and Encourage the Comenius Corridor Children's Library, all children, enjoy making their use of personal 2nd floor CE, 11:00am-11:15am Sundays and as needed own decisions and private Adventures with the Good Shepherd worship with Are in the midst of • Workshop Rotation Model Sunday School devotional pre-adolescence, and 2nd-5th grade may feel awkward, material 11:15am-noon Sundays Introduce God as clumsy, and • embarrassed the parent of all WEDNESDAYS/WEEKLY Are beginning to peoples • **Moravian Minis** 1st-4th graders, 5:15pm – 5:45pm Talk about how think abstractly, to • 5th graders, 4:45pm-5:15pm reason, to grasp cause God's justice is , Wednesdays, September-May and effect part of God's love Begin to question Model fairness • • **Celebration Singers** matters of faith and justice in 5th-7th graders Have longer attention 5:15pm-5:45pm Wednesdays, September-May your • This advanced choir builds on the basics learned during Chorister Choir. relationships spans In addition to fulfilling the purposes of the Chorister Choir (listed above), with others to Are becoming • it provides opportunities for bell playing as well as for greater help children see concerned with speaking/singing roles in the choirs' spring musical. faith in action people and conditions Show how God's around the world • **Moravian Milestones** justice is part of **Enjoy opportunities** Memorizing and Sharing Bible Passages and Moravian Hymns • God's love 2nd Floor CE to worship, learn, and play with persons of

AGE/STAGE: FOURTH & FIFTH GRADERS

all ages	•	Provide	MONTHLY
		opportunities to	HMC Band
		master skills of	9:30am Sunday preludes
		interest	Sunday mornings approximately once a month,
			Tuesday evenings for band class if desired
			ruesuay evenings for band class if desired
			ANNUALLY
			"Good Morning, God. How can I help You today?" Summer Vacation Bible School
			Aged 4-5 th grade
			Laurel Ridge Moravian Summer Camp Junior 3 rd -5 th grade
			Week-long, Laurel Springs, NC
			Communion Education Time TBD
			Children's Candle Making, November 12:15pm-2pm
			Easter Egg Hunt
			Children enjoy a festive event while also preparing for the celebration of Easter.
	1		

AGE/STAGE: MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Developmental Markers	Working with This Group	HMC Programs
 Are developing rapidly, some faster than others Can feel awkward as they learn to handle bigger hands, feet, and shoulders Are unaware of their increased physical strength Are very aware of appearance Experiment with various roles, personalities, values, etc. Are moving more toward abstract thinking Read at a variety of levels Vacillate between dependence and independence Question the literal faith of childhood 	 Offer assurance that God's laws will not change Remind them that God's justice is part of God's love Explain that God's love is unconditional Tell the story of Jesus chronologically Explore how we learn more about God's world every day 	SUNDAYS/WEEKLY Submerge Yourself in the Bible Middle High Sunday School 11:15am-noon, CE 301 This class empowers students to read more of the Bible, ask tough questions, and enter into the stories through improvisational drama, deep discussion, and creative activities. WEDNESDAYS/WEEKLY Celebration Singers 5 th -7th graders 5:15pm-5:45pm Wednesdays, September-May, CE 205 The Middle High Thread 6 th -8 th graders 4:45pm-5:15pm, Wednesdays, September-May, CE 301 Building community with middle high youth takes many forms. One that HMC offers is a time of touching base and being together mid-week. <i>Logos</i> at Trinity Moravian 6:20pm-8:00pm, Wednesdays, September-April Middle Highs from Trinity, St. Philips, and Home Moravian Churches join at Trinity for puppet practice using "Muppet" type puppets. A brief chapel service follows. Each semester ends with a puppet show based on biblical themes. Why puppets? Middle High students can have their puppet portray a character, all while learning the skills necessary to put on a puppet show.

MONTHLY
Middle High Youth Fellowship First Friday evening of the month 2 nd floor CE building September-May Share a movie together and discuss its themes
HMC Band 9:30am Sunday preludes Sunday mornings approximately once a month, Tuesday evenings for band class if desired
ANNUALLY
S.O.S (Summer of Service) 6 th -12 th grades
Learn. Serve. Explore. A week-long community opportunity serving our local community. Each session will end with a time of group devotion and worship.
Laurel Ridge Moravian Summer Camp Middle High Week-long, Laurel Springs, NC Knowing the value of faith-based camping, HMC encourages children to attend Laurel Ridge. The church pays half of the cost. Middle High Camp includes Bible study and summer camp activities such as swimming, canoeing, sports, Group Interactive Course, archery, crafts, music, and evening campfires.

Laurel Ridge Mission Week
6 th grade-Post High
Summer, Laurel Springs, NC
Mission Camp at Laurel Ridge provides youth groups the opportunity to
serve the less fortunate in the High Country. The camp receives referrals
from local agencies and matches youth groups and their adult leaders with
work sites based on their skill level and project needs. The youth from
HMC work as a unit throughout the week, returning to Laurel Ridge's
Higgins' Lodge each evening for supper, large group processing time, and
connection time as a youth group. This process is a great format for first-
time mission trips.
BIENNIALLY
Confirmation
Sunday School, 11:15am-noon, CE 304
Youth is a time of asking tough questions about faith, church, and life as
they go through the process of claiming their faith as their own.
Confirmation looks at key questions of faith and explores what the
Moravian Church has been, what it is in the present, and how they fit into
it.

AGE/STAGE: HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Developmental Markers	Working with This Group	HMC Programs
 Question whether to be an individual or part of a crowd Differ individually in age and pace of change Select peer groups, which consume much of their time Discern leadership roles Focus on one-on-one relationships, both of same and opposite sex Can either become better friends with parents or develop conflict in family relationships Create adult relationships outside the family May inquire about their faith or continue 	 Consider using programs that are life-centered with a biblical background Offer opportunities to engage in the worldwide ministry of the church Affirm and recognize accomplishments Explore the heritage of the church to present day Bring to light the ecumenical nature of the Moravian Church 	SUNDAYS/WEEKLY Worship, 10:00am-11:00am Sanctuary Choir Senior High Youth are invited to serve as Sanctuary Choir members (Practice is Thursday evenings, 6:30pm-7:30pm) Senior High Sunday School 11:15am-noon, CE 302 Youth and leaders explore together the ties between faith and life. <i>"Pack and Go"</i> Senior High Youth Fellowship 12:15pm-2:00pm Meet in HMC Fellowship Hall, September-May Youth gather for community and connection over lunch and explorations. Youth also participate in a variety of fundraisers during the year to make money for the summer mission opportunities. WEDNESDAYS/WEEKLY Logos at Trinity Moravian 6:20pm-8:00pm, Wednesdays, September-April Senior Highs from Trinity, St. Philips, and Home Moravian Churches join at Trinity for a Bible study on contemporary themes. A brief chapel service follows.

held beliefs	MONTHLY
 Stay with ideas for a longer time Can often be unpredictable Take on 	HMC Band 9:30am Sunday preludes Sunday mornings approximately once a month, Tuesday evenings for band class if interested
• responsibility and	ANNUALLY
manage difficult tasks	
	Laurel Ridge Moravian Summer Camp Senior High
	Week-long, Laurel Springs, NC Knowing the value of faith-based camping, HMC encourages children to attend Laurel Ridge. The church pays half of the cost. Senior High Camp is a week of Bible study, swimming, canoeing, sports, Group Interactive Course, archery, crafts, music, and evening campfires.
	Laurel Ridge Mission Week 6 th grade-Post High Summer, annually
	S.O.S (Summer of Service) 6 th -12 th grades
	Learn. Serve. Explore. A week-long community opportunity serving our local community. Each session will end with a time of group devotion and worship.
	BIENNIALLY
	Summer Mission Trip
	Involving a Moravian Mission Opportunity
	2018: Wisconsin and Tricklebee Café This weeklong time together combines an opportunity to live out one's
	faith through help others with learnings about the larger Moravian Church.