



highland KIDS' happenings

Meet Miss Mary Lin

Hi! My name is Mary Lin McNeill, and I am excited to be called to serve as the Director of Children's Ministry here at Highland!

I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you and communicate my vision and philosophy of preschool and children's ministry.

I believe strongly in the message of Deuteronomy 6:4-9. My philosophy of children's ministry is based on this passage: it is a partnership with parents and grandparents. I want to work together with you to teach your children the important Biblical truths that will guide them to make genuine decisions for Christ and to disciple and encourage them to grow and become mature

followers of Jesus.

I encourage you to talk with your children often about your faith! Ask them questions and don't be afraid to answer their questions! Ask them what they are learning about in Sunday School, Children's Church, and other activities here at Highland!

I will always be available for support and do my best to provide you with resources to encourage the spiritual growth of your children. The programs and activities we offer here at Highland seek to engage your child and supplement what they learn from you. You are the most important spiritual mentor your child will ever have!

Be encouraged by Paul's words about Timothy: "I have been

reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also." (2 Timothy 1:5- emphasis mine).

I thank you so much for the opportunity to work with you in teaching your children about Jesus, and I am looking forward to everything He has in mind for them!

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me! If you want to know a little bit more about my background and interests, visit the staff page on the church website at <http://www.hbc-denton.org/staff.htm>.

-Mary Lin McNeill, Director of Children's Ministry-

Highland Baptist Church: Denton, TX

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Exciting Verses of Encouragement:

- ☺ "Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love, in faith and in purity." (1 Timothy 4:12)
- ☺ "The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in Him." (Nahum 1:7)
- ☺ "The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God stands forever." (Isaiah 40:8)

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Trunk or Treat 2011



Our annual Trunk-or-Treat will be held on Sunday, October 30th from 6:00-8:00 pm.

Join us for food, games, a bounce house, lots of candy and fun, and much, much more!

Try your hand at pie-ing a staff member in the face!

Register for door prizes, and get your picture taken with your child as a keepsake of this memorable event!

We will have more details in

the upcoming weeks, so be watching our website and facebook page for more details!

We can't wait to see you there!

Great Commission Kids (Go and Tell!)

Have you ever struggled with telling someone about Jesus? Is it difficult for you to get the words out? Do you want to be obedient to His command to "Go and Tell", but you just don't know what to say or how to do it?

Beginning **Sunday, October 9 at 6:00 pm**, Highland Kids will be starting a six-week emphasis on Sunday nights (see calendar on page 4 for a full list of dates!) focusing on teaching children in grades 1-5 a simple and fun method to share their faith with their friends and family.

Using the Caravan Kids' "Go and Tell" curriculum, kids will learn to use

stories from the Bible along with their own personal Story (their testimony) to share Jesus with people they come into contact with every day!

Story-telling was a method that Jesus used all the time to teach his followers and others about God, and it is still effective all around the world today!

This fun, kid-centered curriculum teaches God's Word to children and helps them build confidence in their ability to share their faith. Each week, the children will learn a Bible



story that they can use along with their own Stories to share the gospel. To help them remember the story, we will use drama, crafts, games and other fun activities, and we will practice sharing the story with each other.

During the first 5-10 minutes of the class, we will talk about who we shared with during the week, and think of ideas to help us get better at it!

Your kids won't want to miss this exciting and fun opportunity to be obedient to the Great Commission and "Go and Tell!"

Advent Conspiracy

At this year's family Christmas event, we will learn about how we can give "presence" instead of "presents". Advent Conspiracy is a grassroots movement that started in the local church. The focus is simple: "Worship fully, spend less, give more, love all."

At the event, you and your child will be challenged to buy one less gift this year and instead, donate the money to someone who is in need. Ideas for how to spend the

money could include giving additional money to Lottie Moon Christmas Offering so that more people around the world can hear the Good News, giving money to a clean-water organization, donating to a local homeless shelter or food bank, and many, many more...

Instead of giving more presents this year, be creative and give your presence—spend extra time with your family instead of getting caught up in the holiday "hustle

and bustle"!

Watch for more information and details about this event in the next several weeks! For more information on Advent Conspiracy, visit www.adventconspiracy.org

**"Worship Fully.
Spend Less.
Give More.
Love All."**



Family Fun Feature

Do you want to spend more time together as a family but are short on time and ideas? Look for this section in each newsletter for great ideas for family nights, rainy days, and special events!



With the arrival of fall and cooler weather, why not plan a family

camping trip... in your backyard! Pitch your tents, sing songs around a "campfire", roast marshmallows & make s'mores (even if you need to make them in your microwave before-hand), and sleep under the stars, enjoying God's beautiful creation!

As you enjoy the stars, tell the story of Abraham at bedtime for a visual object-lesson! Ask your kids if they can count the stars. Emphasize that God always keeps His promises, just as He did for Abraham!

For more ideas on family fun nights, visit <http://familieswithpurpose.com/familyactivities1.html>

Around the World Wednesdays

Hey, Kids! Have you ever wanted to travel the world? Do you wonder what life is like for missionaries and the people living in countries around the world? Well, now you have a chance, and you don't even need a plane ticket!

In celebration of Children's Missions Sunday, which is scheduled for Sunday, November 6, Highland Kids will kick-off a monthly missions emphasis on Wednesday nights. Beginning **November 9** at **6:30 pm**, join us as we visit one area of the world where missionaries are teaching about Jesus!

On the **second Wednesday night** of

each month, we will visit a different culture and learn about the people who live there. We will sample a tasty dish that the people eat, learn a game and/or craft that children in this culture are familiar with, dress up in an outfit that someone who lives there might wear, meet missionaries and missionary-kids (MKs) who serve in that culture, and talk about how we can pray for and support them.

Each month, you will receive a stamp



to put in your "passport" as a reminder to pray for the culture you learned about! Don't miss this incredible opportunity to "travel" around the world!

Schedule:

- November 9: kick-off
- December 7
- January 11
- February 8
- March 14
- April 11
- May 9: End-of-year Celebration

Parent Resources

In each newsletter, there will be a section set aside specifically to provide you, the parents and grandparents, with resources on various topics. This month's topic is being a Godly parent/grandparent.

Books:

- Gospel Powered Parenting by William Farley (\$10.41 on amazon.com)

- The Power of a Godly Grandparent: Leaving a Spiritual Legacy by Stephen & Janet Bly (\$9.97 on amazon.com)

On the Web:

- <http://www.focusonthefamily.com/parenting.aspx>
- <http://www.biblicalparenting.org/>

These are just a few of the many resources available on this topic. Feel free to contact Mary Lin if you have questions or are looking for something more!

"These commands I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children..."
(Deuteronomy 6:6-7a)

Your Thoughts, Ideas, & Suggestions

What kinds of things would you like to see happen in the Children's Ministry? What ideas do you have? How can we be more effective in ministering to your family?

Your thoughts and suggestions are very important to the children's ministry at Highland!

Please contact Mary Lin at marylin.mcneill@gmail.com if you have

any questions, comments, ideas, or suggestions!

On our facebook page, you will find a comments feature, where you can send a comment, question, idea, or to simply share whatever is on your heart. To find us, visit <http://www.facebook.com/hbcdentonkids> and click "like".



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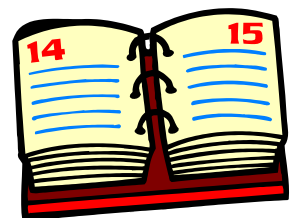
"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6)



Welcome to the Children's Ministry of Highland Baptist Church! Whether you are visiting for the first time or have been attending for many years, we look forward to partnering with you to teach your children about Jesus!



Children's Ministry Calendar of Events (Fall 2011)



Weekly:

- Sunday School— 9:30 am
 - Nursery, preschool, and children (Grades 1-5)
- Morning Worship— 10:45 am
- Children's Church— 11:00 am

Sunday, October 9, 2011

- 6:00 pm— Great Commission Kids kick-off

Sunday, October 16, 2011

- 6:00 pm— Great Commission Kids
 - Creation & Fall

Sunday, October 23, 2011

- 6:00 pm— Great Commission Kids
 - Promise & Baptism

Sunday, October 30, 2011

- 6:00 pm-8:00 pm— Trunk-or-Treat (NO Great Commission Kids)

Sunday, November 6, 2011

- 6:00 pm— Great Commission Kids
 - Paralyzed Man

Wednesday, November 9, 2011

- 6:30 pm— Around the World Wednesdays Kick-off

Sunday, November 13, 2011

- 6:00 pm— Church-wide Thanksgiving Dinner at Camp Copass (NO Great Commission Kids!)

Sunday, November 20, 2011

- 6:00 pm— Great Commission Kids
 - Death & Life

Sunday, November 27, 2011

- 6:00 pm— Great Commission Kids
 - Spirit

Saturday, December 3, 2011

- Be watching for more information on our Christmas event: Advent Conspiracy!

Sunday, December 4, 2011

- 6:00 pm— Great Commission Kids
 - Celebration Week!

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

- 6:30 pm— Around the World Wednesdays

Wednesday, December 14, 2011

- 6:30 pm— Church Caroling Party

Mark your calendars!