



## Children's Events

### C.R.O.S.S. KIDS WINTER/SPRING EVENTS FOR FEBRUARY

**Sunday, March 1, 8 and 22 from 4:30-6:30pm**

#### **Get Ready for an EPIC Semester at C.R.O.S.S. Kids!**

You've heard kids everywhere chanting "6-7, 6-7!"—that catchy phrase that's taken over playgrounds and living rooms alike! While it might drive us adults a little crazy, we're flipping the script this semester in the most amazing way.

#### **We're diving into the REAL story behind 6 and 7!**

Did you know these numbers have incredible meaning in the Bible? This semester, your child will discover how God uses the number 6 to represent our incomplete, imperfect lives—and the number 7 to show His perfect completion! We'll explore how God takes our "6" moments and transforms them into "7" perfection. Spoiler alert: **God did 6-7 first!**

March 1- Mission Night

March 8-Small Groups

March 13-15-No C.R.O.S.S. Kids-Weekend Away at Laurel Ridge

March 22-Lesson-"Jesus sends out the twelve" (Mark 6:7)



### CHILDREN'S WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**Sunday, March 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 during the 11:00am service**

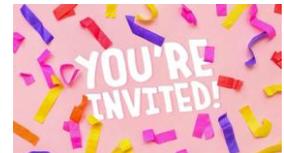


There are two worship opportunities for children during our 11:00am service. There will be a specific time where children will leave. Children age 4-2<sup>nd</sup> grade will go to Children's Church and children grades 3-5 will go to Kid's Worship.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Every Sunday from 9:45-10:45am in various classrooms on the lower level**

We invite you to join us for Sunday School each Sunday morning as children split up into more age specific small groups and dive deeper into our monthly verse and themes. They have loving Sunday School teachers with awesome plans ready to go for them to help each child learn more about what plans God has for each of their lives. Our Little Explorers (2 and 3 year olds) are continuing to learn from the Little Bible Heroes and will be learning about Jesus' Miracles and Easter. The rest of our classes will continue our work in GROW with "You're Invited". Getting invited to a party is one of the best feelings, and being left out is one of the worst. But there's good news—Jesus never leaves anyone out! He invites everyone to spend time with him, experience his love, and share it with others. This series will remind kids that Jesus' invitation is always open, and we're never too far away to join the party! In this 5-week series, kids will learn that **I'm invited to believe in Jesus, love like Jesus does, experience Jesus' miracles, ask Jesus for help, and worship Jesus.**



### BIG IDEAS & BIBLE STORIES

1. **I'm invited to believe in Jesus.** (Jesus and Nicodemus: John 3:1-17; Romans 10:9-13)
2. **I'm invited to love like Jesus does.** (Jesus and the Samaritan Woman: John 4:5-42; 1 John 4:7-12)
3. **I'm invited to experience Jesus' miracles.** (Jesus and the Man Born Blind: John 9:1-41; Psalm 34:1-8)
4. **I'm invited to ask Jesus for help.** (Jesus and Lazarus: John 11:1-45; Psalm 121:1-8)
5. **I'm invited to worship Jesus.** (Jesus Enters Jerusalem: Matthew 21:1-11; Psalm 118:19-29)

It's a great time to gather together in a smaller group on Sunday mornings!



March's verse to focus on will be:

**“Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.” — John 1:12 (NIV)**

## Family Devotion

### Children of God

John 1:12

*“Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”*

— John 1:12 (NIV)

### The Big Idea

God's family isn't something we're born into — it's something we're welcomed into. When we receive Jesus and believe in His name, God gives us the incredible gift of being called His very own children. That means we are loved, known, and belong to the Creator of everything!

### Opening Activity: “Welcome Home!”

Before you begin reading, try this quick activity together:

**What You Need:** A piece of paper and crayons or markers for each person.

**What To Do:** Have everyone draw a simple house. Inside the house, draw a picture of your family. Then, on the outside of the house, draw one person standing at the door being welcomed in.

**Say this together:** *“Just like we welcomed that person in, God welcomes us into His family when we believe in Jesus!”*

### Teaching: What Does It Mean to Be a Child of God?

Read John 1:12 together out loud as a family. Then talk through these three simple points:

#### 1. “Receive Him” — Jesus is a Gift

Think about your last birthday. When someone handed you a present, you had to reach out and take it, right? You couldn't enjoy it sitting on the table! Jesus is the greatest gift God ever gave us. To “receive” Him means we accept that He is God's Son and that He came to forgive our mistakes and be close to us.

## 2. “Believed in His Name” — Trust, Not Just Knowledge

Knowing about Jesus isn't quite the same as believing in Him. If you sat in a chair, you 'believed' it would hold you — you trusted it enough to sit down! Believing in Jesus' name means we trust who He is: our Savior, Lord, and friend.

## 3. “Children of God” — We Belong to the Best Family

When we receive Jesus and believe, God doesn't just forgive us — He adopts us into His family! We get to call God our Father. That means we are never alone, always loved, and we have a forever home with Him.

### Family Discussion Questions

#### Question 1 (For younger kids):

*If someone asked you, “Who is the most important person in your family?” what would you say? Now — did you know that God wants to be part of your family too? What do you think it would feel like to know God is your Father?*

#### Question 2 (For older kids and parents):

*The verse says God gives us the “right” to become His children — it's not something we earn. How does it change the way you think about yourself knowing that you are a child of God not because of anything you did, but because of what Jesus did?*

### Activity: “Child of God” Name Tags

**This is a fun and simple activity to help everyone remember who they are in Christ.**

**What You Need:** Index cards or paper, string or tape, and markers.

**What To Do:** Have each person make a “name tag” that says their name and underneath writes: “Child of God.” Decorate it however you'd like! Wear it for the rest of the evening as a reminder.

**Extra challenge for older kids:** On the back, write one thing that being a “Child of God” means to you personally.

### Closing Prayer

Close your time together by holding hands and praying this prayer together, or let a family member pray in their own words:

*Dear God,*

*Thank You for sending Jesus so we could be part of Your family. We receive Him today and trust in His name. Help us to live every day remembering that we are Your children — loved, chosen, and never alone. Thank You that nothing can take that away from us.*

*In Jesus' name, Amen.*

# SPOTLIGHT ON THE CHILDREN OF FRIEDBERG...



## Helping our Neighbors!

During our semester, we have Mission Nights where each time we come together for this, we will be doing something for someone else! On Sunday, February 8 we had our first one and we had special friends who came to be with us! SUNNYSIDE!!! Mr David and Mrs Sarah came to help us learn more about what Sunnyside is, does and how we can help them as well as actually bag up some food for them! We bagged up rice that will go into bags for those in our community that might need a little extra help and care! We also focused on Ephesians 6:5-8 but really looked at verse 7. "Slaves, obey your earthly masters with respect and fear, and with sincerity of heart, just as you would obey Christ. Obey them not only to win their favor when their eye is on you, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from your heart. **Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people,** because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free." It was a great night and we are ready to continue this same thought as we get a "Bagging Up Blessings" bag to fill with our families! Let see if we can get 200 bags filled before the end of Lent!



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"I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in truth." 3 John 1:4