

Dear Families:

This fall, we are embarking on a new adventure. We have ordered a new curriculum. It has components for the children, which will be studied downstairs. It also includes an adult learning guide for the adult class, as well as congregational resources for the whole church. The children will take a more active role in the worship service. The adults will be studying the same material as the kids. They will work on projects together that accompany the theme that they study. We are excited to try this new venture with our church family!

Today, since Pastor is on a well-deserved break, we are pausing our church-wide study. We will instead focus on a related lesson found in the Gospel of Mark. In today's story, Jesus had just begun his teaching. People weren't quite sure what to make of Him. Some thought that, since he could cast out demons, that he must have been sent by Satan. But Jesus said that was impossible; a house divided against itself cannot stand. He also said that all were welcome to follow Him. It didn't matter what you had done or said in the past- as long as you decided to follow God, you were accepted by God. When Mary and His family heard where Jesus was, they set out to see Him. The place in which He was teaching was so crowded that they couldn't even get in! They had to send a messenger in to tell Jesus that they wanted to see Him. The messenger told Jesus that His mother and brothers were outside and wanted to talk to Him. Jesus pointed to the crowd and answered, "Here are my mother and my brothers." How nice it is to know that God accepts us into His family!

Ms. Matejka will be a guest preacher next month! We are hoping to collect some donations for her orphanage before she arrives. Please help us try to "Fill the Bucket of Hope" by October 17. We are hoping to plan other fundraising events to help out her children. Stay tuned!

Thanks for joining us today!
Carol McClellan
CE Director