

2015-2016

## Chapel at HPWS

3 year olds—Thursdays (twice a month)

4 year olds—Wednesdays (most weeks)

*when schedule allows*

## Harundale Presbyterian Weekday School

1020 Eastway  
Glen Burnie, MD 21060

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## ▶ Chapel: A time to “wonder” about God’s stories.

**Introduction:** Chapel Time is time to introduce the stories of the Christian faith to our children in a way that encourages them to wonder and imagine about God together. The focus is on the simple theological premise that God created and loves us all, and wants us to love each other. This is not meant to be a “Sunday School,” or a replacement for other religious education that a family may choose. It is a reinforcing of basic educational concepts from the foundations of the Christian faith. Children will not be asked to make a profession of faith, nor will there be instruction on the sacraments or specifically “Presbyterian” concepts. A monthly take-home page will help parents know what story is being shared and include questions to talk about at home.

*Chapel time reinforces the basics of the education we provide; it promotes good listening, early reading comprehension, develops critical thinking skills and imagination, builds self-esteem as loved children of God, and encourages positive values such as kindness, sharing, thankfulness, and friendship.*

**Structure:** Chapel is circle time in the front of the Sanctuary, led most weeks by Pastor Elizabeth. Stories are told simply with plain wooden figures to encourage the children to cultivate imagination. Each ends with several “I wonder” questions that prompt the children to respond in their own way. We may also sing a simple song, play a related game, or complete an art activity on some months. Both classrooms have story sets, so the children can retell and explore the story during center time.

### **Stories for 2015-2016:**

Jesus Welcomes the Children  
Daniel and the Lions  
Four Friends (Jesus Heals the Paralytic)  
The Road to Bethlehem  
Jesus Calls the 12 Disciples  
The Good Samaritan  
Jesus Enters Jerusalem  
Jesus is Risen! (Easter)  
Creation



### **Questions? Concerns? Contact:**

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### **From the HPWS By-Laws, under Daily Program:**

- A. Religious Content:
- The spirit of Christian love will underlie all the relationships in the school.
  - Children will learn to worship through song, prayer (silent and spoken), and simple appreciation of the wonders of God’s world.
  - They will become acquainted with simple Bible verses, which convey the message that God loves them.
  - They will learn of the Church as a friendly place where they are welcome and where people care about each other.
  - They will hear stories of God’s plan for an orderly world, his plan for families, his love for us, and his purpose that we love one another.