

Wayne Church Leadership Moment
Sunday, July 21, 2019
By Beth Lindgren

I'd like to quickly share with you some exciting things happening in our children's ministry at Wayne Church. On a recent July Sunday, I had the privilege of being upstairs with the children while Miss Christine was leading Children's Church. Our focus was the same scripture passage being considered by all of you simultaneously gathered in the sanctuary. What a joy to hear the children enthusiastically share about the various talents God has bestowed upon their moms and dads. *Let's just say you parents have some interesting talents!*

If you've spent even a few minutes with her, I know you'll agree that God has generously gifted and clearly called Christine Garton to serve as our new Director of Children's Ministry. Though she's only been here a few short weeks, amazing things are already happening, and more are on the horizon.

A terrific new United Methodist curriculum called Deep Blue (www.deepbluekids.com) will be in place beginning Sunday, September 8 for children in our preschool, K-2nd, and 3rd-5th grade classes. Deep Blue includes a kids' app for use outside of church as well as parent support materials that Christine will email weekly to those who sign up. And if you were worried there would be no time left for mission work, you'll be happy to hear that every six to eight weeks, all elementary school children will have the opportunity to work on a mission project.

Following Sunday School each week, for children in K-3rd, Miss Christine will lead Children's Church in the Upper Room. The focus there will be on worship education and participation in age-appropriate worship. Starting Sunday, September 15th, interested 3rd-5th graders will have the opportunity to serve as acolytes and ushers in the sanctuary.

I'm also delighted to share that the classrooms in our Christian education wing are being spruced up! Supplies are being cleaned up and organized. Furniture is being moved around in several classrooms, with the goal of creating a cozy and welcoming space for children to gather. Plans are underway to paint the art room and map room the weekend of August 10th – 11th. Allie Hamilton (alliewhamilton@gmail.com) is organizing this effort. If you'll be in town, please consider a gift of your time and talent!

Isaiah 43:19 says, "*See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.*" God's vision is unfolding – providing a changing view each week of the "new things" He is doing at Wayne Church. Let's praise Him for His faithfulness, thank Him for His provision, and ask His continued blessings on our children's ministry in the months and years ahead.