

FaithTrek

Children's Ministry for 3 Year Olds through 5th Grade

May 2019



Once Upon a Time

Stories help us connect, they draw us in and give meaning to our lives. Sometimes they shatter our understandings and give us new insights and new stories. A good story may make us cry or it make us burst in to laughter because in stories we find ourselves and connections to people and things beyond ourselves. There's power in sharing a story whether we are the listener or the story teller.



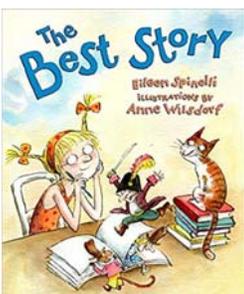
As we wrap up the school year, FaithTrek kids will be focusing on stories. It's where we started in September and an appropriate place for sending the kids in to summer. Some might say we have covered the "once upon a time" and "happily ever after" story since we covered Jesus coming in to the world and the Easter story. But the story continues because we are part of Jesus' story. As disciples we are called to continue the work Jesus started as he taught his rag-muffin crew to love thy neighbor, feed the hungry, care for the sick and fight for peace and justice in the world.

We will use the gospel lesson from May 5 for the month. John 21:1-19 is a call to each of us to follow Christ.

Story Activities

Story Telling Jar - Grab an empty jar from your kitchen and some torn up pieces of paper. On each small piece of paper write a random word or phrase. This could be anything, such as cat, princess or a phrase. Put all the torn up pieces of paper inside the jar. Then take turns to take out a piece of paper. Whatever the word is on that paper, that person must tell a story using that word or phrase. If your child gets stuck, you can use prompts, such as "What does your character see or hear?", "Who else is there?", or "What does the place look like?"

Photo Stories - If you have your phone, you have a camera. Put it to work creating a photo story. Help your child (or maybe they can help you!) create a power point show or video or print out your pictures and create your own story book.



Family Food Stories - Families often have stories that go with certain foods. This is especially true at the holidays. Make one of your family favorites. While you eat, share the background story, or have each person share their own story about a time you shared this food item.

The Best Story by Eileen Spinelli - This book is one that comes from the heart. The library is having a contest for the best story and the quirky narrator of this story has to win that rollercoaster ride with her favorite author! But what makes a story the best?

Important Dates: Mark Your Calendar

May 12 – We originally planned to meet with 5th grade parents to answer questions about the middle school learning ministry, but have decided to wait until fall. We will contact 5th grade parents in August.

May 19 – This is our last day of FaithTrek for this school year. We end with a celebration and children will receive a summer take-home packet.

June 17-21 – “God’s Good Creation” Vacation Bible School – See the May edition of *The Voice* for details, visit www.flclincoln.org/learn/#vacation-bible-school or talk to Sharon Hardel. Registrations are due June 2.

The Year in Review

We have had a word-of-the-month every month this school year. Talk with your children about what they learned. They may not remember the whole story from the Bible or where to find it and that’s okay. Ask them about the word, what it means and what they remember about that lesson.

September – Story

February - Participate

October – Community

March - Transformation

November & December – Journey

April - Wait

January – Epiphany

May - Story

Your input is always appreciated and so important as we begin planning for next year’s FaithTrek and other children ministry programs we will be offering. The link to a simple survey form will be emailed later in May. Please take a few minutes to complete it.

Thank You FaithTrek Team

As we wrap up the FaithTrek year, we want to share a special thanks to all of our FaithTrek Guides.

Preschool – Kate Schmitter, Corey & Dawn Brock, Emily & Bob Dorsey

K-1 – Tim & Jen Nelson, Erin Pfister and Megan Lyons

2-3 – Jennifer Wemhoff, Lindsey Clark, Lindsey Boyle and Tiara Kuhlmann

4-5 – Mandy Synder, Alexis Sandman, Cali Cook and Megahn Schafer

Pastor Dan, Pastor Justin and Sharon Hardel each shared in leading FaithTrek sessions.

Judy Batterman and Judy Bailey made the special prayer tools and Judy Batterman helped organize, clean and stock supplies on many occasions.

Becca Simley and Masako Bacon for leading us in song and music.

The text "thank you!" is written in a playful, multi-colored font. The word "thank" is in shades of green, blue, and yellow, while "you!" is in orange and blue. The letters are overlapping and have a slight shadow effect.

Making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.