

Our Lady of Good Counsel

Noah's Ark Childcare and Church Readiness Program

Volunteer Information

Thank you for your interest in the *Noah's Ark Childcare and Church Readiness Program!*
Before you commit to this ministry, please consider the following:

What is Noah's Ark? When and where is it held?

Noah's Ark is an early Christian Training and Church Readiness Program for children 1 year through kindergarten. It is available during the 10:30 A.M. Mass Sunday mornings, October through April. The program is closed on holidays. *Noah's Ark* is held in the Early Childhood Center.

What happens during each "sailing"?

Noah's Ark has two classrooms available, with two age-appropriate curriculums. The "**Lower Deck**" has children 1 year to 3 years old, and the "**Upper Deck**" has children 4 years through kindergarten. *Noah's Ark* is based upon a structured early childhood church readiness program. Children participate in various activities, all related to Sunday's readings (*prayer, lectionary reading, ritual, music, craft*).

What exactly does a "Crew Member" do aboard the Ark?

Volunteers actively assist the children and teacher in all activities. Responsibilities include: setting up stations, playing with the children, helping with clean-up, laying out craft, putting names on papers, gathering children to activities, and following the directions of the teacher. Volunteers are asked to have responsible, role model behavior with the children at all times - including actions, dress, and language.

What else is asked of me?

Volunteers are asked to live up to their commitment – keeping in mind the impact their contributions have on this program. This would include: arriving on time on assigned days ***without a reminder call***, notifying the Captain when there is a scheduling conflict, and whenever they are out sick. All volunteers are invited to discuss any concerns or questions, so that any conflicts or differences may be worked out together.

What if I am interested in helping at Noah's Ark?

Fill out the registration form, and return it through the school or Religious Education Office as soon as possible. **All volunteers – new and returning** – are required to attend the ***Volunteer Training Workshop. Sunday, September 27th, 9:00am in the Early Childhood Center.***

For those joining after September, a second orientation date will be scheduled. Anyone unable to attend this in-service, or signing up as a "crew member" after this date, is asked to meet independently with the Captain to review covered material.

Feel free to contact me with any questions.

Laura J. Kowalick

"Captain"

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