

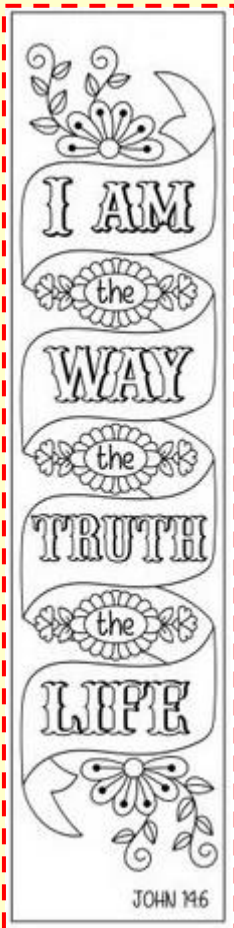
Preparation for First Communion



Auntie Michelle and Auntie Laura

BOOKMARK SUMMER CRAFT ACTIVITY

Carefully cut along the dashed line, colour and glue onto soft card.



During the second half of the church school year the older children of our Church School were given the opportunity to prepare for their first communion.

This effort was led by Auntie Laura and Auntie Michelle and was undertaken over six sessions. The children were exposed to the concepts and teachings that inform Holy Communion based on pages 98 - 100 of the Methodist Prayer Book.

The outline of the teachings included highlights of:

- Overview of the Sacraments in the church and the Junior Catechism of the Methodist Church

- The Baptism of Jesus
- Sharing the Sacrament: What is done in church?
- The Liturgy, among others.

The preparation material included interactive discussions, crosswords, word-searches and homework activities and the children found the entire series very insightful.

Even though the children and young people still require some additional preparation before they receive their first communion the experience was useful for grounding them in what will be required from them when they join the true community of the church family.

Books of the New Testament Word Search



- Matthew
- Mark
- Luke
- John
- Acts
- Romans
- Corinthians
- Galatians
- Ephesians
- Philippians
- Colossians
- Thessalonians
- Timothy
- Titus
- Philemon
- Hebrews
- James
- Peter
- Jude
- Revelation

Providence Parents' Newsletter

July 2018
Volume 1, Issue 1

Church School Superintendent: Ms. Sonja King

Message from Reverend Al!

Brothers and sisters, parents and guardians, I greet you in the wonderful and precious name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior and soon coming King, head of the Church.

It is an exciting time at Providence where we have been experiencing growth in our youth and children ministry.

This growth is not only in numbers but also in the spirituality of our youth. The evidence of this growth is seen in their participation in worship, church school activities, academics and extra-mural activities.

Four of our youth, one female and three males have embarked on the journey towards confirmation, a major step in their spiritual life and acceptance of Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.

To this end, I wish to acknowledge

the work and dedication of our church school department, the Superintendent, Teachers and other members who work with the youth in the after-school program.

These persons nurture our treasured youth by teaching them life lessons through the gospel message. We are also pleased about the re-launching of the Youth group to provide an environment for Christian fellowship, mentorship and friendship.

I pray God's continued blessings and favor on every boy and girl in our community of faith at Providence as we seek to fulfill the gospel message where Jesus instructs to "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."
Matthew 19:14

Rev. Al Walcott



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Our Church School Children

Picture taken after Easter
Sunday Service

April 1, 2018



Superintendent Sonja

Believe it or not the Church Year is almost done! It is a bittersweet moment as the Church School proceeds on its annual recess in the month of August but we are happy to share with you some of what went on during the past Church Year.

In August 2017, Tropical Harvey passed through our Beautiful island, "taking with it the roof of the Waithe Memorial Auditorium". Luckily, the Church School was on its annual recess during that month but it presented a challenge to us when we returned in September since we had no place to house the Church School. We rescheduled our meeting time

to 8:00 a.m., just before the 9:00 a.m Sunday morning worship but this proved not to be the ideal meeting time. However, with fervent prayer, willing hands and trust in God, we were able to refurbish the Annex which now houses the Church School. Kudos to all those persons who worked tirelessly on this project.

In January the children enjoyed the New Year's Party even though we had "Showers of Blessings" that day. The Church School participated in many activities at the local and Circuit level but worthy of mention is the children's participation during the Youth Service.

As Superintendent, I strongly encourage parents and guardians to continue to send your children to Church School where the committed and dedicated teachers seek to nature your children so that they could be living examples of the Christian Faith.

In closing, I wish to thank Sisters Michelle, Tracy, Sharon, Lorrel, Claire, Laura and Bro. Ryan for their continued support over the years.

We look forward to an exciting year which commences on Sunday 2nd September 2018.

God's Blessings to All of you!

The year of the Green Olive



One of our shining stars Daniel with his Easter Resurrection craft

The Green Olives are our littlest Church School members. They range in age from 2 all the way up to 7. We have been averaging about 10 children each Sunday for this Church School class. They are taken care of by Auntie Sharon and Auntie Claire.

During this year we had a fantastic time with these children. They are committed to their lessons and enjoy working with their hands. They are the keenest bunch and are not afraid to speak up and let us know how their week has been.

For instruction during the year, the teachers stuck closely to the scriptures, guided by the Gospel readings and the various craft and colouring ideas which we sourced from the internet. For the very little ones we keep it simple with Biblical instruction by way of colouring pages, memory verses and simple songs. For our older students they enjoyed craft, word-searches, games and Bible stories.

Some of the highlights of the year were the sessions on the Fruit of the Spirit, the Temptations of Jesus and the Easter story. The children wowed the congregation with their enthusiastic rendition of the song 'The Fruit of the Spirit is not a coconut' during the Harvest Cantata as well as their recitations and dramatic presentations.

For Easter, they completed over the course of three weeks an Easter Resurrection scene and memorised the story from the Crucifixion to the Ascension.

We are pleased to see that they have blossomed and grown over the year. Some of them will be going on to the Golden Seraphims in September and we will miss them like always. Your support for us by sending them each and every Sunday is appreciated and we look forward to having more fun and engagement with them when Church School resumes in September!

Teacher Training

The church school teachers of the Bethel circuit benefitted from teacher training in March 2018.

They were tasked with preparing a lesson to be taught to the general church school body. The church school teachers from Providence all met and together, a decision was made to engage the children in discussions about self-control.

The lesson was prepared by Auntie Michelle and Auntie Sharon and emphasized three different Bible scriptures each of which provided guidance for children in controlling themselves when faced with challenging situations or uncomfortable peer pressure.

These three scriptures were:

- Matthew 10:16 “see I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of

wolves so be wise as serpents and innocent as wolves.”

- 1 Peter 3: “Do not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse but on the contrary repay with a blessing” and
- Matthew 5: 38 - 42 concerning retaliation: “But I say to you - Do not resist an evildoer but if anyone strikes you on the right cheek turn the other also.”

In the practice lesson the teachers also discussed the link between Jesus’ reactions to Satan and his temptations in the wilderness and asked the children to dramatize how they would have responded if they were faced with unnecessary provocation by a school-mate.

The lesson plan was well received and the teachers were commended for their preparation.

Summer Shopping?

The Church school has always benefitted greatly from the generosity of the congregation at Providence Methodist Church. We are thankful but still require continuing assistance with the necessary supplies to keep our children engaged during our lessons.

If you happen to be shopping over the summer kindly remember us.

We can benefit from having a stock of children’s Bibles, Bible Story books and games as well as any art and craft items.

These can include items such as pencils (including chubby pencils), crayons (all types, chubby crayons, wax crayons and pencil crayons), exercise books, glues, copy paper, erasers, whiteboard markers, Bristol Board, construction paper, card and reward stickers.

Are you in the Church School's Whatsapp Group? If not please speak to Auntie Sharon and join in! We use the group to relay messages and notices to both the children and their parents.

Have a laugh



**CHURCH
SCHOOL
RESUMES ON
SEPTEMBER
2ND 2018**