

# The Messenger

Bi-Monthly Newsletter Dec. 2016 Issue 2

#### **Sunday Programs**

Nursery for Infants & Toddlers: 8:30-12:45 Sunday School: 8:30-9:45 and 11:30-12:45 Children's Worship: 10-11:15

#### Note from the Director



We are excited to enter into this Advent Season here at CGBC Kids. Advent means "arrival." We are reminded of the fulfillment of God's

promise through Christ's

birth and look forward to the fulfillment of the promise of Christ's return. I can't help but be moved by the love our Heavenly Father has for us. We are but mere dust - pitiful, sinful, and deserving of death, but yet our Father chooses to show us mercy, paying our ultimate debt through the sacrifice of his Son. Truly, Emmanuel means God is with us. This month, join us in remembering and teaching the children the real meaning behind Christmas. Let us bless others like God has blessed us. -Lillian Leung

## How to Get Connected:

Join our TEAM! (Together Everyone Achieves More!). We have a place for you whether you are available every week, once per month, or even 10 minutes here and there. Please send your inquires to <u>lillian.leung@chinesegracebiblechurch.org</u>.

# Volunteer Spotlight



Kaitlin Law is one of our many valued volunteers in our Nursery Program. Her patient and caring demeanor allows her to quickly build rapport with the infants in our program, allowing Christ's love to emanate through her. Her

involvement in our Children's Ministry began 15 years ago when she volunteered as a helper in our Vacation Bible School (VBS). Through that experience, she realized the joy in serving children and their families and began volunteering regularly in the Children's Ministry, and has been doing so for the past 9 years. She loves being a part of the children's spiritual journey and enjoys watching them grow up. She has seen the families that God places in our midst and finds it rewarding to play a part in assisting families in their commitment: "as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." - Joshua 24:15. During the day, she teaches K-12 at a charter school for homeschooled families. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, movies, event planning, and enjoying good food with friends. Thank you, Kaitlin, for serving our Lord and allowing God to work through you!

## Program Updates

<u>Nursery (birth – 3.5 years)</u>: Our Nursery Program for Infants and Toddlers is embarking on some exciting changes! First off, we will be adopting a new name – the Sonshine Center! God's son is definitely in our midst. Please pray that God will bless our early childhood ministry as we help nurture our young children to love our Lord. Secondly, we introduced a new curriculum through "Discipleland" and are teaching the young children about God's creation and how the One who created the world created and loves them.

# Program Updates (continued)...

<u>Children's Sunday School (ages 3 and up)</u>: Our dedicated teachers continue to thoughtfully prepare lessons to help your children grow deeper in their relationship with the Lord, their understanding of His word, and their relationship with each other. Please bring your children to Sunday School. We don't want them to miss out! Classes are offered at two times: 8:30am and 11:30am.

<u>Children's Worship (ages 3 and up)</u>: This month, the children will be learning about Advent as well as lessons based off of our church-wide devotional book, *Living Life*, giving practical applications to help them throughout their week. Children will also be preparing to perform a song, "Christmas Shines," during our church's Christmas celebration the evening of December 18<sup>th</sup>. All children grades 1-6 are encouraged to participate!

#### Upcoming Events & Announcements:

<u>Chime In</u>: Handbell/Chimes Rehearsals are held after church at 1:15pm. Participants are gearing up to perform in our Christmas Day Service, December 25th.

<u>Christmas Celebration</u>: Our church's Christmas celebration will be at 7pm on December 18<sup>th</sup>. The Christmas choir will be singing a cantata and the children will be participating in singing one song. They have been working hard learning the music and the words and practice every Sunday during the Children's Worship hour from 10:00-11:15. There will be a final rehearsal with the Christmas choir the morning of December 17<sup>th</sup>. It is not too late for the children to sign up to participate. Please contact Joyce Lim for more information joycelim2008@gmail.com



<u>Volunteers Needed</u>: We are in need of more volunteers in our Sonshine Center, especially during the 10:00 hour! If you have a heart for our littlest ones and want to be part of their spiritual journey, please contact lillian.leung@chinesegracebiblechurch.org.

# Praises & Requests:

<u>Shoebox Ministry</u>: We were able to demonstrate God's love in a tangible way through our church-wide participation in the Operation Christmas Child's Shoebox project. The project involved filling shoeboxes with small toys, hygiene items, and school supplies as a means of sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ to children affected by war, poverty, natural disasters, famine, or disease. In the month of November, our Children's Worship Teachers led the children in creating crafts, packing, and writing letters and drawing pictures to include into the shoeboxes. Praise the Lord that we could bless others and be reminded of Christ's goodness and mercy.



<u>Gearing up for 2017</u>: Please pray for our Children's Worship Leaders as we meet together in mid-December to discuss our ministry plans for 2017. We are looking forward to a vibrant, recharged time where the kids are excited about their worship time and are proud to bring their friends to church.