

Continuing Education and Activities
For all ages
Winter 2015
“The Year of Hospitality”

Godly Play – this group of 3-8 year olds meets for Bible stories and self guided activities on Sunday mornings during the 11am service.

Connect – a group for 9-13 year olds which meets during the 11 am service to explore Biblical stories and make connections between various parts of the Bible and every-day life. Engage preteens in God’s big story through videos, Bible exploration, and hands-on projects.

Echo the Story - The art of Bible storytelling – this program invites teens to participate in creative storytelling, imaginative listening, careful observation, and lively dialogue about the Bible and their lives. Time: some Sundays and Youth group times.

Faith Studies – These studies are usually 5-8 weeks in length and cover various topics of interest. Watch the bulletin, St. James Facebook page and the website for the next topic and start time.

Of Love and Justice, A Study of Love and Relationships in the Bible. As the congregation prepares to make a decision on same sex marriage, please join us for one or all four of these workshops. Time to be announced.

Sacred Circle Dance – The next session will start in mid January. This is an ancient form of meditative worship. No partners or special shoes are required. We worship through movement and song for about an hour. The dances are taught each week so participants can join at any time.

Lectio Divina - a Latin term means "divine reading" and describes a way of reading the Scriptures whereby we gradually let go of our own agenda and open ourselves to what God wants to say to us. Join us for a relaxed hour of deep listening, reflection and sharing.

Movie Nights – On the first Friday of the month, join us for a free movie. All welcome. Bring your own snacks.

Jr. Youth Group – Youth grade 5-8 meet twice a month for fun, learning, service projects.

Sr. Youth Group – Youth grade 9-12 twice a month for fun, learning, service projects, Girl Talk/Guy Talk, and Echo the Story programs.

GO Project – a National United Church program where youth from across Canada travel to one of 6 host congregations to live and work in another community. A major focus of our programs is on discernment; the process in which we relate what we’re experiencing to how we live in the world. Discernment takes time, the Spirit comes to us in the most unusual ways and we need to be ready to hear God's word. Discernment is most relatable when we find time to worship as a community and with the community around us, as well as finding time to play together and serve in the community. The GO Project includes time for all of those things in each and every program!

St. James is a host site and we also send several youths to other host cities each year. Age for participation is 14-19.

Young Adults Group – a group for Young adults 19-30 who wish to create their own program suited to their unique interests and time schedules. This group is still evolving, so come along and join the journey. Meets monthly.

Further Information

If you would like further information on any of these groups please contact **Susan Sheppard**, Minister of Youth and Christian Education, at 722-1881 ext 204 or susan@stjamesuc.org

Watch the weekly announcements in the Church bulletin for starting dates and times for these and other activities, or join the St. James Facebook page for updates.