

Children's Ministry Survey Results

The following is a summary of results from an informal online survey, which was conducted in May, 2009. It was e-mailed to all families in the St. Mark's database who have children between the age of 0 and 5th grade. The purpose of the survey was to gauge awareness of our children's education program, to identify future volunteers, and to gather input on the effectiveness of our Sunday School, Children's Worship, and Lamb's Chapel programs.

Total responding: 26, representing families with children ranging in age from 17 to 7 months.

60% of those responding bring their children to Sunday School on a weekly basis.

40% of those responding have their children participate in Lamb's Chapel or Children's Worship regularly.

68% of those responding feel "somewhat informed" about St. Mark's children's Sunday School classes

The majority of respondents ranked the importance of children's education programs as follows:

1. Learning the Stories of the Bible
2. Music – singing the hymns of our faith
3. Learning about our Liturgy and Worship
4. Service Projects

In terms of the quality of St. Mark's children's education program, the majority of respondents checked "good, but could be improved."

Comments: In general, there were several concerns expressed about the quality of Children's Worship. The respondents questioned whether Children's Worship is actually functioning as it is designed to function, or whether it is providing a childcare outlet for the worship time. Some expressed concern about the Children's Worship curriculum not being welcoming enough or interesting to young children.

A few respondents suggested finding a different time for children's education to occur. There was also interest expressed in a mid-week ministry program for grade school aged children.

The volunteer teachers' selfless dedication of time and energy to the children was applauded.

If you have questions or would like to provide further input, please contact Marsha Webster, Interim Director of Children and Youth Ministry, at childrensministry@stmarksglenellyn.org.