



Your Child in Kids Branch

What does God want for my kids?

Before the pandemic we all had 'much' going on in our lives and our kids did as well. I think during this stage of reopening we are forced to confront and re-evaluate the 'much' that can quickly take over lives. We are now viewing those things through a new perspective because of the changes we have gone through in our homes, with our time and in our heads and hearts over the past 18 months. Now is the time we should carefully **choose** what the 'much' is that can fill our schedules and how much space and time it will take up in our lives. We can sign our kids up as 'much-as-possible' in the way of after school activities or weekend programs or we can choose to critically decide what

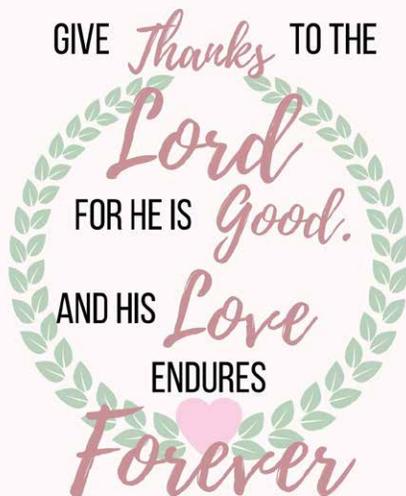
the 'much' should really look like through the new lens that God has given us. I encourage you to ask God to let you see your parenting, your schedule, your kids schedule, and your commitments in this way!

Think about what will make your kids spirits and souls really soar at this stage of reopening. Maybe the 'much' they are involved in is what they are passionate about, the giftings and personality God has given them and it's about them having the opportunity to give, share with and/or serve others. Take this opportunity to guide them in deciding how much of their time and energy to give to each of their activities.

This is the 'much' that God wants for all of us – to truly give of ourselves and the gifts He has given us. This is what fills our kids hearts up, this is what builds them up and encourages them! The sharing of the precious gifts God has given us should be part of the 'much' that fills our time and can come in so many different forms.

Making space to give of ourselves, to spend time with Him and serve others **IS** what God wants for all of us. It is what God wants for our children and it is what keeps us going as adults too. It's God's Way!

Miss Anne



PSALM 136:1

Be thankful for children, be thankful for family, be thankful for Fall and for All God gives your grateful heart. Enjoy this next stage with God as we enjoy a blessed and safe Thanksgiving!



Kids Branch Reopening

Registration Details:

Parents, please register your child(ren) using the registration link sent out in The Olive Branch eblast on Wednesday evenings or on The Olive Branch website. Not receiving the eblasts, please contact info@tob.ca. During the registration process make sure to select 'Kids Branch Seating' if you would like your child (JK to Grade 6) to be involved in our kids' program.

Kids Branch Remixed, the current name for our Sunday morning in-person gatherings, will focus on kids in JK to grade 6. On a Sunday morning please check

in with The Olive Branch Welcome Team and complete the screening questions. You can then bring your kids to the Kids Branch entrance where they will be given a name tag and walked to their classroom. At this time, we are asking parents to drop off and pick up their children at the Kids Branch double doors. Three Kids Branch classrooms will be open and each household will be assigned a table in one of the three classrooms where they will have their own supplies and activities to use/play with. The Creative Worship Room will be used for our worship and Bible lesson time. We will

encourage physical distancing in all our spaces.

Our **Seedling** (Crawler and Toddler) Rooms will be open for all parents with younger children (JK and younger). You can enter directly into the space from the lobby. A volunteer will be there to welcome you and your kids. Please note that parents must supervise their own children in this space.

Our **Nursery Room** is currently our church 'health room' in case of sudden illness for anyone in our congregation.

Taking Time to Serve

Will you join us for our 1-hour services and support us and our kids as we begin to regather? We had great success in safely leading four weeks of camp this summer and we feel confident about gathering safely on a Sunday morning.

We are looking for volunteers to serve in the following ways on a Sunday morning.

We need...
3 adult and 3 teen (grade 9 or older) **classroom volunteers each Sunday** (for the safety of our

kids we need to have at least 2 volunteers in each of our classes).
1 adult Seedling host each Sunday to welcome and connect with parents who use the Seedling (Toddler and Crawler) rooms.
1 tech volunteer each Sunday.

Coming Up

Thanksgiving Drop Off

Be on the lookout for our Thanksgiving Drop Off which will come quickly as we head into the Fall season. We are thankful for all that God is doing in our lives and hearts!

Join us for our **Sweet Swap and Pumpkin Decorating** on Saturday October 30 @ 10:00 am in the parking lot.

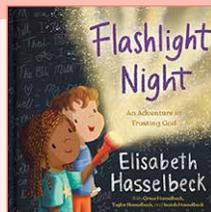
Have your child dress up in their favourite costume and participate in the sweet swap by bringing an unopened box of candy. Pumpkin

decorating will follow. Pumpkins and decorations will be supplied. Registration details will be provided in our Kids Branch @ Home emails shortly.

Note: In the case of poor weather, we will move the event into the lobby of the church.

Taking Time to Grow

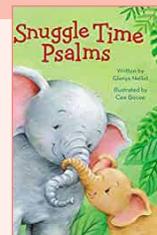
Fall checklist: We are settling into a routine now that school has begun. It is a perfect time to make a priority "checklist" for your kids and family. Take time to discuss with your kids what you and they would like to learn and how they want to "become" or grow over the course of the next few months. Check out these book ideas for your family!



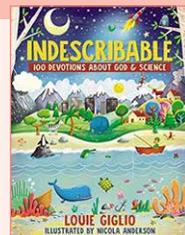
Helping Fear... Flashlight Night Adventure - Trusting God! By Elisabeth Hasselbeck



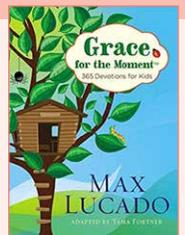
You can't lose with Superhero Devotions about God



Snuggle Times Psalms by Glenys Nellist



Indescribable - 100 Devotions about God & Science



Grace for the Moment by Max Lucado



Kids Branch in Review

Looking Back @ Summer 2021

Camp, Camp and More Camp!

Concrete & Cranes (Camp in a Box), Adventure Island (Full Day Onsite Camp) and Pop-Up Camp Summer is a fantastic time to engage with and have fun with kids and we did that in Kids Branch! Our God is a fantastic and a fun God, and kids need to know this as they are growing up and summer is a great time to reinforce this message! Throughout our three different camps we enjoyed games, art, science, outings, a carousel, flying kites and sharing Jesus' love. We hope that all the kids that participated enjoyed their camp experience as much as we did. We praise God for using these opportunities to help us to grow, keeping us safe and healthy, and creating time and space to reconnect with kids and their parents. We hope that next summer more kids will get to experience these fun and memorable camp moments.



Good-bye & Thanks to our Interns!

Thank you!! Ethan, Daniel, Joshua, Maggie, Joseph, Thalia, Megan, Aidan (Kids Branch Interns) and Sophia, Max & Jasmine (Youth Interns) for all your hard work and leading in Kids Branch and Encounter Youth and serving The Olive Branch in general. It was a special summer to see our interns' bond with one another and the kids they served and to watch them grow in their leadership. We pray that God would continue to lead each of them as they serve him throughout the school year.



Kids Branch to Encounter Youth

CONGRATULATIONS to our Kids Branch Kids who moved up to Encounter Youth!

We are excited for all 18 of them as they transition into our youth department. We are especially excited for this valuable time in their lives to learn more about Jesus and more about who God created them to be. And here are some of them...

Baptism

Congratulations and blessings to Jules for 'going public' with his faith at this summer's baptism. We are so excited that he has said 'yes' to Jesus as his forever friend and placing his life and eternity in God.

Staying Connected

However you choose to worship or join us (online or in person) help us stay connected with you. Let us know your new contact information (address, email, or phone number) or changes in your family or circumstances. We want to be able to celebrate with you, pray for you, encourage you and serve you. Contact Anne (anne@tob.ca) & Kelly (kelly@tob.ca)

