

First Presbyterian Church/Nashville Mission Statement

**To know Christ, to make him known, and to
exhibit his love through
worship, education, and service.**

Vision Statement for Children's Ministry

We believe that all children should know God through Jesus Christ and be his faithful disciples.

We believe that all children are created and redeemed by God and know and hear God speak in different ways than adults. We believe that all children, being vital to the present and future of the community of faith, have unique and diverse gifts and talents that can be used to build up the body of Christ.

We believe that adults serve as guides and advocates by living our lives in full view of the children. We must help children identify God's presence in their lives. As adults, we are role models who show the priority the church plays in a family's life. We love, nurture, listen, accept, encourage, welcome, and provide safety to every child.

We believe that Christian education should be based on God's Word from the Holy Bible. This ministry is purposeful, intentional, and structured. Christian education provides a foundation and inspiration for further faith development.

We believe that children's ministry empowers families and includes children in an extended Christian church family. Children are welcome and have the time and space to wonder, question, act and share in developing their faith.

Therefore, we envision a church where all children and families

- are deeply committed to loving the Lord and actively and regularly participate in worship and learning together each Sunday
- see God in their daily lives and live in constant trust and companionship with God
- are welcomed, feel a safe place of belonging like home, and know their true identity as children of God
- know they have been redeemed by God for a purpose and help each other discover their gifts and calling
- are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses of diverse ages who know them by name, have adopted them as their own, and are invested in them for the long run.
- are surrounded by pastors, deacons, and elders of the church, sharing faith milestones together and growing in service and witness to the Lord.
- are joyfully engaged in the study of Scripture, in a life of prayer, and are living God's way
- are flourishing as they are confident in God's love for them and their need as sinners for receiving God's forgiveness, mercy, and grace.
- are engaged in actively inviting others who are unchurched into this faith community and sharing Christ with them