



PARENT HANDBOOK

SPRING 2026

Everything you need to know
about KidsPraise.

AnastasiaKids.com



Welcome



We're so glad your children are joining us! Anastasia Kids, the children's ministry of Anastasia Church, partners with families to help children grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ. Through age-appropriate worship, we create a space where kids belong to God's family, grow in faith, serve others, and share Christ with the world.

KidsPraise, our worship + arts ministry for kids, meets Wednesday evenings during the school year from 6–7:15 pm at Anastasia Church on the Island. You'll find all the details in this handbook and on our website.

Our team of staff and volunteers is passionate about helping children build a strong foundation of biblical truth—so they can make wise choices, grow deeper in faith, and develop lasting relationships. Together, we believe church and home can guide kids toward a lifelong relationship with Jesus.

In His Service,
The Anastasia Kids Team

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*Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Psalm 150:6*

What is KidsPraise?

Anastasia KidsPraise is our midweek worship and arts ministry for **children ages three (by September 1st and potty-trained) through 5th grade**. Our mission is to help kids know Jesus as their Savior and grow into lifelong worshipers of God by offering their gifts and talents back to Him through music, arts, and media.

Our main purpose is praise and worship; we culminate every semester with a concert performance showcasing the music we've been learning. All children are included in this performance.

- Typically, a couple of elective classes perform, such as dance or drum.
- Early in each semester, 1st-5th grade students have the opportunity to audition for a few special singing and narration roles, which comprise just a small part of the overall performance. These special parts have required rehearsals outside regular KidsPraise time.

When: Wednesday evenings, 6:00–7:15 p.m., during the school year

Structure: Two semesters

- **Fall:** Late August – Early December; Culminates with a Christmas Concert Performance
- **Spring:** Late January – Late April; Culminates with a Spring Concert Performance

Program Details:

- **1st–5th Grade:** Each semester includes **two consecutive six-week elective classes**, chosen during registration, allowing kids to explore different artistic areas. The last few weeks of the semester heavily focused on preparation for the concert.
- **PreK & Kindergarten:** Also follows a two-semester structure, but each week stands alone with Bible stories, crafts, music, and snacks designed just for their age group. The last few weeks of the semester heavily focused on preparation for the concert. In the fall, Three's perform separately for their parents rather than as part of the large scale production.

CLASS LEADERSHIP TEAMS

- Three's, Four's & Kindergarten -

First Floor NextGen Center

6 - 7 pm (7:15 pm for on-campus parents in a ministry)

THREE-YEAR-OLDS

Director:

Taylor Nicolosi

Secretary:

Brittanie Gass

Adult Assistants:

Dawn Dutra, Bailey Smith, Julie Tarlaian,
Nancy Taylor, Andrea Vidal

FOUR-YEAR-OLDS/VPK

Co-Directors:

Sydney Newton & Karen Hudgins

Secretary:

Sue Grasso

Adult Assistants:

Becky Hopkins, Teresa Petrilli,
Maya Sisk, Katie Todd

Youth Helper:

Grace Fedak-Johns

1:1 Youth Helper:

Caitie McCord

KINDERGARTEN

Director:

Michelle Vijgen

Secretary:

Stephanie Whaley

Adult Assistants:

Mikayla Lord, Elle Posten, Anne Strotz,

Laurel Wallace, Vickie Woltner, Emma Whaley

Jewel Cramer, Lyla Harrington

ELECTIVE CLASS TEAMS (1st-5th Grade)

GOD'S CANVAS (ART) / Room 5/ Class Size: 20-24

Directors: Annie Nardone

Adult Assistants: Teresa Andrews (sign holder), Hilary Fisler, Carrie Sullivan

BRAIN CHALLENGES + PUZZLES / The Q / Class Size: 20-24

Co-Directors: Kim Craig & Donna Nicolosi

Adult Assistants: Jonathan Scott (sign holder), Jessica Silver

CHEER / 2nd Floor Worship Room / Class Size: 20-30

Director: BriAnne Stansell

Adult Assistant: Annemarie Rester (sign holder), Sabrina Kirkendall

DANCE / CLC Room 201 / Class Size: 13-15

Director: Anna Curtin

Adult Assistant: Diane Nettles (sign holder), Kristle Jones

DRUM / CLC / Class Size: 20-25

Director: Evan Nicolosi

Adult Assistants: Eric Curtin (sign holder), Billy Richardson, Brayden Fedak-Johns (Y)

FISHING 101 / Game Room / Class Size: 10

Director: Donna Frantz

Adult Assistants: Glenda Thompson (sign holder), Jon Thompson, Will Drawdy

HELPING HANDS / Room 4 / Class Size: 25

Director: Jane Johnson

Adult Assistants: Elisha Alexander (sign holder), Kim Busbee, Candice Hatfield, Tracy Helms (til 4/1)

LEGO / Rooms 1 & 2 / Class Size: 25 each

Room 1: Andrew Hurley (Director), Taylor Byrd, Michelle Hurley, Dylan Alexander (Y)

Room 2: Kathy Halter (Director), Glen Mason, Danny Smith, Jackson Cain (Y)

REC+GAMES / Rec Center / Class Size: 40-50

Director: Doug Stauffer

Adult Assistants: Jacky Nero (sign holder), Caitlyn Ginn, April Sheltz, Jed Shively, Will Stansell

Youth Assistants: Logan Fischer (Y), Ashlynn Pierce (Y), Grey Russo (Y)

SEW MUCH FUN / Room 3 / Class Size: 20-24

Co-Directors: Erin Ginn & Kim Runk

Adult Assistant: Mary Melfi (sign holder), Kayla Peloquin, Susan Stauffer

WOODWORKING / CLC Room 106 / Class Size: 12

Director: Mac Gamache

Adult Assistant: Kim Storms (sign holder), Cheryl Norman

atrium + DISMISSAL TEAMS

- 1ST-5TH GRADE -

KIDSPRAISE CONNECTION TEAM/ SOUTH ATRIUM

Connection Table: Stephanie Styles, Becky Yeoman, Lindsey Fischer

Floater: Chelsea Guzman

NextGen Center 2nd Floor Monitor: Lindsey Fischer

SUBSTITUTES: Polly Andrews, Rilynn Doerr, Kay Dunn, Marcia Elder, Lori Manning, Corma McCranie, Rob McLellan, Sherry McLellan, Sandra Nagy, Brenda Norman, Gail Patterson, Zach Thomas, Krista Wallace, Erika Ward, Pat Wynkoop

SCRIPTURE MEMORY (5:45-6 pm): Chelsea Guzman

CLC Adult Monitors for Early Arrivers: Ronda Wages, Jon & Glenda Thompson

A-G (Pink) Check-in Secretaries: Crystal Cain & Brandy Heuts

H-L (Green) Check-In Secretaries: Mikayla Lord & Elisa West

M-Q (Purple) Check-In Secretaries: Matt McCord & Alyssa McCord

R-Z (Orange) Check-In Secretaries: Abrina Fechter & Lacey Runk

A-G (Pink) Dismissal Secretaries: Crystal Cain

H-L (Green) Dismissal Secretaries: Mikayla Lord & Hilary Fisler

M-Q (Purple) Dismissal Secretaries: Matt McCord & Alyssa McCord

R-Z (Orange) Dismissal Secretaries: Abrina Fechter & Lacey Runk

REHEARSAL SEATING & DISMISSAL DUTIES

Sit in your dismissal section during Rap Up Rally & Rehearsal and monitor/control behavior. Retrieve pick-up cards from Secretaries, find kids in color-coded sections, take name tags, escort kids to parents and return pick-up cards to parents. Youth helpers do not help with dismissal.

A-G (Pink): Elisha Alexander, Teresa Andrews, Kim Busbee, Taylor Byrd, Jackson Cain, Kim Craig, Anna Curtin, Eric Curtin, Will Drawdy, Caitlynn Ginn, Erin Ginn, Chelsea Guzman, Jed Shively

H-L (Green): Brayden Fedak Johns, Logan Fischer, Hilary Fisler, Kathy Halter, Candice Hatfield, Tracy Helms, Andrew Hurley, Michelle Hurley, Kristle Jones, Sabrina Kirkendall

M-Q (Purple): Glen Mason, Mary Melfi, Jacky Nero, Diane Nettles, Donna Nicolosi, Evan Nicolosi, Ashlynn Pierce, Kayla Peloquin, Annemarie Rester, Kim Storms

R-Z (Orange): Mac Gamache, Billy Richardson, Grey Russo, Jonathan Scott, Jessica Silver, Danny Smith, Will Stansell, Carrie Sullivan, Glenda Thompson, Jon Thompson

Walk kids of Anastasia Students volunteers to the NextGen Center 3rd Floor:
Eric Curtin & Billy Richardson

Sit with kids of KP Volunteers (CLC Front Row): Anna Curtin

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DETAILED SCHEDULE

5:00 PM	Family Dinner served in the CLC
5:30-5:40 PM	Volunteers arrive
5:40 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lead teachers for PreK+K must be in classroom• PreK+K kids of volunteers may check into classroom• 1st-5th grade kids of volunteers check-in with secretaries and go to CLC• 1st-5th grade kids can recite Scripture 5:45-6:00 pm
5:45 PM	<p>Check-in begins for all Children</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• PreK+K check in Atrium & NextGen Lobby using KidCheck kiosks• 1st-5th grade check in with Atrium secretaries then go into CLC and sit with their elective classes.
6:00 PM	1st-5th Grade begins dismissing elective classes from CLC to classrooms
6:00 - 7:00 PM	PreK+K remain self-contained in 1st Floor NextGen Center
6:05-6:40 PM	Elective Classes meet
6:45 - 7:15 PM	Music Rehearsal & Rap Up Rally / CLC - all 1st-5th Graders
7:00 PM	PreK+K begin dismissing from classrooms. <i>Parents attending an on-campus ministry group or Bible study have til 7:15 pm to pick up PreK+K.</i>
7:10 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dismissal Secretaries begin accepting Pick-Up cards.• All 1st-5th graders back to CLC for dismissal.• KP volunteers with PreK+K children are released to pick up their kids.
7:15 PM	1st-5th graders dismissal from CLC
7:15 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1st-5th grade kids of Anastasia Students volunteers are taken to the NextGen Center.• PreK+K children of Anastasia Students volunteers stay with Hannahlee Goedelman on the NextGen 1st Floor.• 1st-5th grade kids of KP volunteers sit in the CLC front row awaiting completion of dismissal.

DETAILED CHECK-IN + DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN / 6:00 - 7:00 PM

CHECK-IN: Parents check in and pick up children aged Three Year Old through Kindergarten from the 1st Floor of the NextGen Center.

- We begin accepting children at 5:45 p.m.
- Children of volunteers are accepted at 5:40 so they may get to their own stations in time.
- **Parents do not go into PreK+K classrooms.**

We use KidCheck, our Sunday security and attendance software, to check-in our Three-year-olds through Kindergartners.

- Each week, parents will input their phone numbers into the iPads in the NextGen 1st Floor Lobby or the Atrium and receive printed name tags and guardian receipts for their kids. You will choose their location as KP Three's, KP Fours or KP Kindergarten as their "Location."

DISMISSAL: Parents must present the **BLUE PICK UP CARD** they received when they dropped their child off at their classroom. If you do not have your Pick Up Card, you must go to the Connection Table in the Atrium to obtain one after confirming your identity as an approved pick up person.

FIRST THRU 5TH GRADES / 6:00 - 7:15 PM

CHECK-IN: All 1st-5th grade children check in alphabetically by last name in the Atrium. Groups are A-G (pink), H-L (green), M-Q (purple) and R-Z (orange). Kids receive their name tags from the secretaries and go directly to the CLC where they are seated by elective class. **Parents do not go into the CLC or elective classrooms.**

DISMISSAL: All 1st-5th grade children are dismissed from the CLC. Groups are the same as check-in: A-G (pink), H-L (green), M-Q (purple) and R-Z (orange). Starting at 7:15 pm, parents give their Pick-Up Cards with their child's name on it to their secretary in order to retrieve their child. KidsPraise Volunteers then go in to the CLC to bring kids out and return Pick Up Cards to parents.

PreK+K SUPER SINGERS

PreK+K classes recognize a boy and girl Super Singer in each age group each Wednesday. Every child WILL receive the award during the KidsPraise year. This award is presented to children who are:

- listening,
- following directions and
- trying their very best.

1st-5th ATTENDANCE TAGS

First thru 5th graders who attend each Wednesday of any given month will have a tag and a sweet treat placed in their name tag holders on the first Wednesday of the month.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY CHALLENGE

God wants His children to know what is in His Word so that we can learn, grow strong, and live the life He created us to live. We emphasize the importance of learning scripture in all of our children's ministry age groups. Each semester, multiple age-appropriate Memory Verses are announced for each age group (PreK+K and 1st-5th Grade).

PreK+ Kindergarten

Preschoolers and kindergartners receive a prize for each verse completely memorized and recited to a KidsPraise Adult Volunteer in their classroom. Children must be able to say the verse, book, chapter and scripture number without the help of an adult or other child.

First-5th Grade

When they're ready to recite that month's verse, 1st-5th graders visit the Scripture Memory Desk in the Atrium on Wednesdays from 5:45 – 6:00 pm BEFORE checking in to KidsPraise. Children must be able to say the verse, book, chapter and scripture number without the help of an adult or other child.

Kids receive their prize tag and a piece of candy upon successfully completing the verse. First through 5th graders who memorize all six verses from both semesters will receive a Scripture Medal at the end of the KidsPraise year.

SCRIPTURE MEMORY

PreK+K Verses

January/February

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness...”

Galatians 5:22

March

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control...”

Galatians 5:22-23

April

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.”

Galatians 5:22-23

1st-5th Grade Verses

January/February

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.”

Galatians 5:22-23

March/April

“Jesus said: When you bear a lot of fruit, it brings glory to my Father. It shows that you are my disciples.”

John 15:8

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- GENERAL INFORMATION -

LEADER & SECOND ADULT VOLUNTEER DEFINITIONS: Anastasia Kids consists of hundreds of individuals caring for hundreds of kids. We utilize Leaders and Second Adult Volunteers to effectively care for kids who call us their church home.

- A Leader is a screened adult serving in KidsPraise who leads children spiritually. They are classroom/age group instructors and are responsible for preparing weekly lessons and crafts for small group time as well as classroom management. They are also church members who have been baptized by immersion.
- A Second Adult Volunteer is an screened adult who serves in KidsPraise and assists the Leader during the lesson, assists children during the craft, handles trips to the water fountain or bathroom, etc.

TWO ADULT RULE: Anastasia Church requires two screened and unrelated adults to be present at every function and in each classroom, vehicle, or enclosed area during any activity involving children, youth, or vulnerable adults.

- Related adults – even if screened – are counted as one adult because a presumption of bias may cloud their account of a family member's or spouse's actions.
- If there are only two screened adults , they should be female or a male and female.

YOUTH VOLUNTEERS (Middle + High School Students): We welcome youth as volunteers; however, we highly encourage them to attend Anastasia Students on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Should a youth and their parent approach us about volunteering instead, the student will complete an application and interview process with Ministry Staff before being scheduled for a specific role. Middle schoolers may serve beginning the January of 6th grade year. Youth may not show up unscheduled on Sundays or Wednesdays and they may not bring friends with them to serve.

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT: We value your leadership and love when you recommend potential volunteers! Please feel free to share names and contact information with Anastasia Kids staff. All volunteers undergo an extensive screening and interview process so you understand when we state that invitations to shadow or serve should not be extended by anyone other than Ministry Staff.

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- SAFETY + WELLNESS + BEHAVIOR -

WELL CHILD POLICY: We operate a well-child environment. For the protection of all the children in our ministry, we cannot accept a child with a runny nose, fresh cold (four days or less), fever, red or runny eyes, sore throat, undiagnosed rash, persistent cough, vomiting, diarrhea, illness being treated with antibiotics for less than 24 hours or any other signs of illness.

FIRST AID: First Aid kits are located throughout campus.

- NextGen Center 1st and 2nd Floors: Every classroom
- Worship Center 1st Floor & Rec Center: KidsPraise Atrium Table
- Defibrillators are mounted in several locations in the Atrium and the Security Team is trained to use them.

ALLERGIES/MEDICAL NEEDS: Allergies or special medical needs are denoted on the front of a child's name badge with a sticker and allergy/medical information supplied by parents is on the back. Leaders are provided this information as well.

FOOD + SNACKS: We regularly serve snacks to preschool children but do not typically do so with 1st-5th grade. If you plan to bring in special snacks for your group, please check every child's name tag before bringing out the food. Some allergies are airborne and can be life-threatening.

CHILDREN WITH DIFFERING ABILITIES: We place a high value on all God's children and try to keep kids with differing abilities in the most inclusive environment that is in their best interest. When we know of a student with differing abilities, we will communicate with leaders and customize a plan. Depending on a child's needs, we may assign a one-on-one buddy who pairs up with them on Wednesday evenings.

TOYS + DISTRACTIONS FROM HOME: To ensure a focused, engaging, and productive environment for all, we have encouraged the children to leave their toys, electronic devices, outside food or drink and other distractions at home. By minimizing distractions, we aim to create an atmosphere where children can fully engage in the activities we have planned. This will allow them to concentrate better, participate actively, and gain the most from the experience.

POLICIES & PROCEDURES

- SAFETY + WELLNESS + BEHAVIOR -

BATHROOM POLICIES: Below are bathroom policies for the various bathrooms our kids use on a regular basis. Never allow yourself to be in a bathroom with a child alone. **It is our strict policy that only women may assist or escort children to the bathrooms.**

- **PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN:** Only allow one child in the bathroom at a time. If a child can go on their own, let them (stand by the door ready to help if needed). Do not let the children close the door all the way or lock the door (keep the door slightly ajar so you can hear what is going on). If a child needs help or requires assistance, ask another volunteer to stand at the door and watch you as you assist the child. Every child must wash their hands before returning to the group, as do volunteers.
- **FIRST - 5TH GRADE:** Before allowing kids into the bathroom, make sure there are no adults or teenagers in there. While kids are using the bathroom, do not allow adults or teenagers to enter. If there are only two screened adults in the classroom, Ministry Staff can be enlisted to handle bathroom trips so that the Two Adult Rule remains intact. Neither Youth nor Male Volunteers take children to the bathroom. If a child needs assistance, only enter the bathroom with another adult in the doorway watching you. Although a male can accompany a female adult on bathroom duty, the male cannot assist children in the bathroom.

BEHAVIOR: It is better to reward good behavior than continually call out inappropriate behavior. We never want to humiliate or shame a child. If a child's behavior is out of line, calmly explain why their behavior is inappropriate and remind them to respect their leaders and friends and redirect them to another activity. Any child's behavior that is harmful to themselves, another child, or a teacher (such as fighting, scratching, biting, and hitting) will not be allowed. Behavior that continues after these suggestions should be brought to the attention of Kids Ministry Staff. Parents will be contacted if an unacceptable behavior persists.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS

At KidsPraise, the safety of every child in our care is our highest responsibility. Parents trust us to create a joyful, secure environment—and we take that trust seriously. While we pray that emergencies never happen, we prepare thoughtfully so we can respond quickly and effectively if they do.

Our KidsPraise volunteers work hand-in-hand with our church security team to ensure every child is cared for and protected. If an evacuation is needed, children will be guided to designated safe locations on campus based on where they are during the evening.

Parents will receive an immediate group text with updates and instructions so you'll always know where your child is. You can rest assured that as we guide kids to know and worship Jesus, we are also committed to keeping them safe in every way.

Some additional safeguards in place:

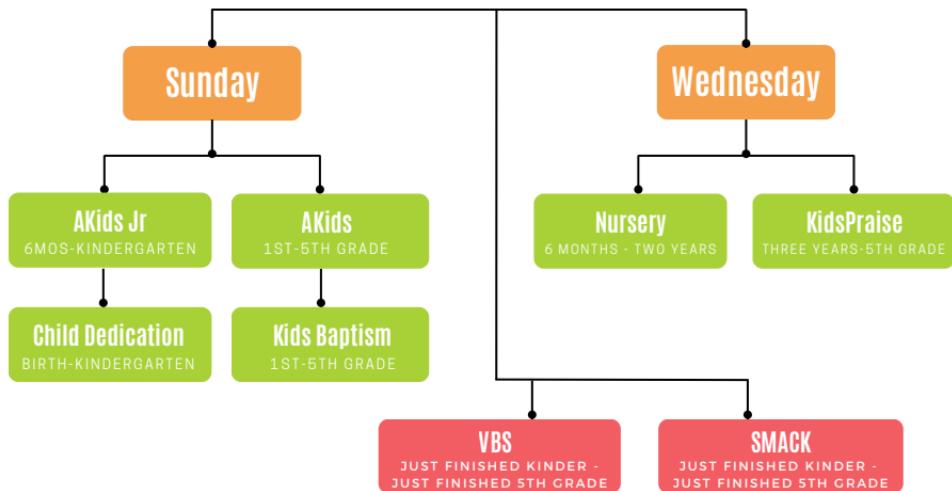
Access Restrictions:

- Parents are not permitted to enter the CLC or NextGen classrooms at any time.
- Only approved KP volunteers wearing official KidsPraise name tags are allowed in these areas. If someone appears lost or out of place, please notify a KidsPraise Staff Member, Church Staff Member or Security Team Member.

Classroom Security:

- During regular class times, classroom doors remain locked but propped open for easy access. KidsPraise Staff Members, Key Leaders in each Zone, and all church staff members have keys in the event of a lockout.

ANASTASIA KIDS



Anastasia Kids, our children's ministry at Anastasia Church, is led by a team of staff and volunteers whose vision is to partner with parents and families to help your child discover and embrace a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Our ministry exists to bring children into age appropriate worship where they can belong to the family of God, grow in their relationship with Christ, learn to serve, and then go share Christ in the world.

AKids and **AKids Jr.** offer a Sunday curriculum for infants through 5th grade to teach children about making wiser choices, building stronger relationships, and developing a deeper faith.

Anastasia KidsPraise is our midweek worship + arts ministry for children from three years old through 5th grade. Our goal is to guide children in knowing Jesus Christ as their Savior and becoming lifelong worshipers of God through music, arts, and media. We do this by equipping kids to offer whatever talents, gifts, and skills they possess back to God as an act of worship.

SPRING 2026 CALENDAR

Wednesday, 1/14	KidPraise Leadership Training Dinner & Details, 6 pm NextGen 2 nd Floor
Wednesday, 1/21	KidsPraise Kick Off / 1st Night of Electives
Wednesday, 1/28	KP#2
Sunday, 2/1	Child Dedication
Wednesday, 2/4	KP#3 / Rap Up Rally
Wednesday, 2/11	KP#4
Wednesday, 2/18	KP#5
Saturday, 2/21	KP Fishing 201 Class A - Fishing Trip, 9:00 -11:00 am
Wednesday, 2/25	KP#6 / Last night of Session A Electives
Wednesday, 3/4	KP #7 / First night of Session B Electives
Wednesday, 3/11	KP#8
Wednesday, 3/18	SPRING BREAK - KP does not meet
Wednesday, 3/25	KP#9
Sunday, 3/29	Palm Sunday / Churchwide Passover Seder Meal
Wednesday, 4/1	KP#10
Sunday, 4/5	Easter Sunday
Wednesday, 4/8	KP #11
Saturday, 4/11	KP Fishing 301 Class B - Fishing Trip, 9:00 - 11:00 am
Sunday, 4/12	Kids Baptism Celebration
Wednesday, 4/15	KP #12 / Last Night of Session B Electives
Wednesday, 4/22	Combined Rehearsal - Three's through 5th grade together 3s, 4s, & K check-in and dismiss as usual in NextGen Center 1 st Floor
Monday, 4/27	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3:45 - 5 pm REQUIRED Tech Rehearsal in the CLC for all speakers and soloists.• 4:45 pm Dancers and cheerleaders arrive• 5:00-5:30 pm Dinner provided for children who arrived at 3:45 pm• 5:00-5:30 pm Dance and Cheer Team rehearse on stage• 5:45 - 7:30 pm REQUIRED DRESS Rehearsal in the CLC for all children Three's thru 5th Grade who want to perform in the final performance concert on Wednesday.• All KidsPraise kids form the chorus of the performance - this is what we've been working toward all semester.
Wednesday, 4/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5:30 pm Kids arrive wearing grey KidsPraise tee shirt and blue or black pants/jeans• 6:00 pm KidsPraise Concert Performance in the CLC• Last night of KidsPraise!
June 8-12, 2026	Vacation Bible School
July 20-24, 2026	SMACK! Summer Music & Arts Camp for Kids
September 2026	KidsPraise Fall 2026 Kick Off

STAY CONNECTED



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