St. Thomas
United Methodist Church

# Monthly Ministry Area Report for Church Council

**Our Values:** *Biblically Grounded*, *Relational, Mission-Minded*, *Faithful*, *Joyful*

**Our Mission:** *We exist to reach, nourish, and serve the community so all may experience healing and new life through Jesus Christ.*

**Our Strategic Priorities:** *Worship, Christian Formation, Outreach and Mission, Administration and Support, Buildings and Grounds*

Name of Person Completing Report:
Kristi Swanson/Vicki Schoch

Today's Date (m/d/yy):
9/18/21

Ministry Area, Committee, Board, or Team:
Children's Committee

1. Please note your accomplishments for this month (Please include accomplishments from tasks outlined in the Strategic Plan and Essential Systems Timeline):

   Christian Formation - Sunday School has kicked off with a new curriculum, GrowKids.
   Worship - Children's Church has started during 11:00 service.
   Christian Formation - Nursery has started on Sundays as well as childcare on Tuesday evenings.
   Outreach/Christian Formation - Birthday Celebrations have been initiated!
   Outreach and Mission - Kids Care 2:345 had their first gathering.

2. What specific items of celebration or concern would you like to share?

   Virtual Sunday School has been very popular! It is difficult to maintain a dynamic program for those on virtual as well as in person which is a smaller group (primarily children of staff).

3. What are your objectives for the next month? What church priority does each objective address?

   Trunk or Treat - Major events, volunteer development
   Fall Fest in Sunday School - Major events, volunteer development
   Continue Sunday School, Children's Church, Nursery and Milestones celebrations.

4. How can the Church Council assist your efforts?

   We need volunteers for Sunday School, especially if we want to continue a hybrid model. I need a strong volunteer each week to do both. We are getting substantially more of our numbers right now from virtual attendance, but the kids who come in person really seem to enjoy it.

   Trunk or Treat assistance! Donate candy, host a trunk, or vounteer for logistical positions.

5. What can the Church Council specifically pray for?

   Please pray that our children become increasingly more comfortable returning to worship. This is a major transition for a lot of kids, and parents too. Please pray that the we can keep up with their changing needs, continue to grow the ministry, and most importantly the faith of children.