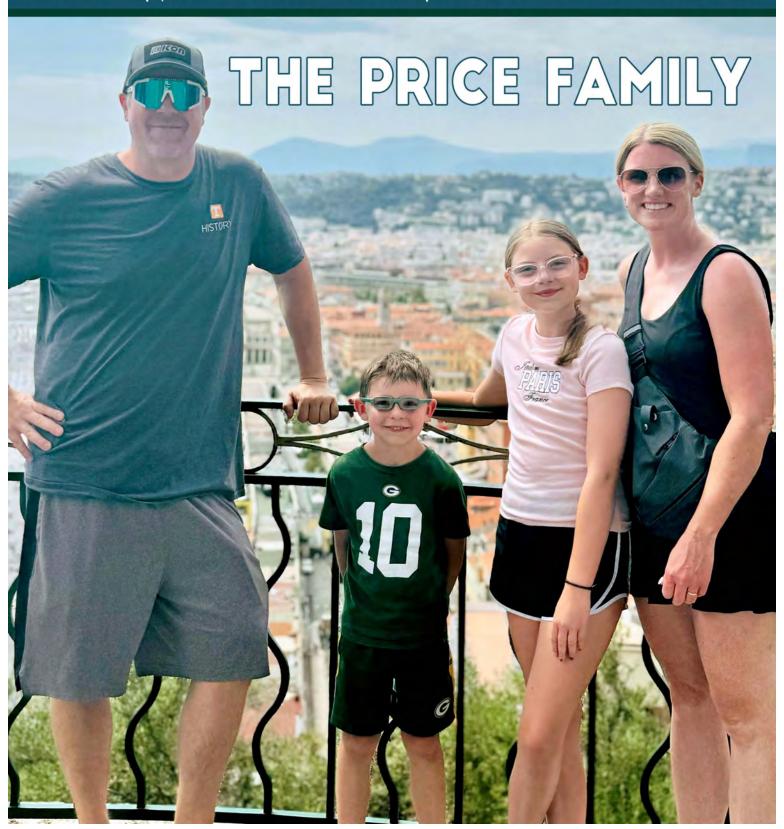


# FAMILY MINISTRIES

A monthly publication for Munsey Youth and KidMin families



# SUNDAY SCHOOL

Munsey offers a variety of Sunday School classes for all ages from 10:00 to 10:45am, and parents are welcome to drop their children off at 9:50am to get to their adult classes by 10:00am. 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders meet on the Elementary Children's Hallway. 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> graders meet in Room 209, and 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders meet in Room 210. Babies and toddlers meet in the Green Room, and three-year-olds - kindergartners meet in the Blue Room. Both the Green Room and Blue Room are located on the Preschool Hallway. At the conclusion of Sunday School, parents of children younger than age 6 can choose to bring their children to worship or keep them in the nursery for playtime.

# EASTER THANK YOU

Many thanks to the volunteers who donated candy, stuffed eggs, came out early or stayed late to help, or otherwise assisted with this year's Community Easter Egg Hunt! We served close to 200 kids even after the rain caused a change in date, time, and venue. Check out the photos of kids (of all ages) having a blast on page 4.

# **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Embark on an exciting journey with *Road Trip VBS*, based on Joshua 1:9 – "The LORD your God is with you wherever you go." Discover God's presence everywhere as we explore new places, make new friends, and experience God's goodness together.

Join us in a fun-filled adventure on the open road, taking all the kids (Travelers) on thrilling journeys to exciting destinations. Led by the Navigator and an adventurous pup, Scout, kids will learn that God is always with them. Through engaging stories from the Navigators' Guide (the Bible), Travelers will delve into timeless tales of faith from the Old and New Testaments. Get ready for twists, turns, and excitement as they face new challenges and find strength in God's presence on this unforgettable trip!

Road trips are a great way to build strong relationships and create indelible memories. This makes *Road Trip VBS* not only a fun experience for kids, but also an opportunity for them to strengthen their faith and bond with others in their community. With engaging activities, interactive games, and meaningful lessons, children will have a blast while they grow in their understanding of God's love and promises for everyone.

Registration opens this month for Munsey Kids' Road Trip adventures! **June 16-19, 9:00am - 12:30pm**, for ages 3 years – (rising) 7th grade. Registration will once again be staggered to give priority to our Munsey kids while ensuring we have adequate staffing for a successful and enjoyable VBS. Registration will be open exclusively to our Munsey families and to families enrolled in Munsey Preschool & Kindergarten **May 1-15**. You may register throughout the month, but registering during this window will ensure a spot for your child. The remaining available spots will open to the community beginning **May 16**. If you have questions, please contact Charity at <a href="mailto:charity.damrau@munsey.org">charity.damrau@munsey.org</a>. Registration is required and spots are limited, so please register early!

YOU are needed make VBS a success! Sign up to volunteer or register your child today at munsey.org/vbs.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUMMER KICK-OFF

Wednesday night programming breaks for summer on **May 14**. That evening, all preschool, elementary, and HWY 56 kids will meet together for summer kick-off at 6:00pm! Weather permitting, we'll be getting wet, so dress in quick-dry clothing and bring a towel. See you there!

# SAVE THE DATE: MUNSEY KIDS PARENTS' MEETING

Successful kids have a great support system at home – and that's especially true in their spiritual lives! We're already planning an amazing 2025-26 year for our Munsey Kids, and we want to partner with our families. Please make plans to join us on **Sunday, August 17**, for a "Lunch and Launch" for how to help your child in their faith journey.

# PRESCHOOL LESSONS



We all know that preschool kids are filled with the wiggles. But instead of fighting it, we're inviting it! During "3, 2, 1... Freeze!" the preschool kids will put the true Bible story into motion before freezing in place. Each time the wiggle worms come to a halt, they'll discover another piece of the story. It's an action-packed way for preschoolers to learn about the early church and to discover they can be an active part of a community of believers.

10.1	The Believers Share Their Stuff	Key Verse: Matthew 18:20
Apr 27	Big Idea: I can share with people at church.	Bible Basis: Acts 2:42-47, 4:32-37
10.2	Peter Heals a Man Who Can't Walk	Key Verse: Matthew 18:20
May 4	Big Idea: I can learn about Jesus at church.	Bible Basis: Acts 3
10.3	Peter's Great Escape	Key Verse: Matthew 18:20
May 11	Big Idea: I can pray for my friends at church.	Bible Basis: Acts 12:1-19
10.4	Peter Tells Cornelius about Jesus	Key Verse: Mark 16:15
May 18	Big Idea: I can tell others about Jesus.	Bible Basis: Acts 10
10.5	Paul and Silas in Jail	Key Verse: Mark 16:15
May 25	Big Idea: I can tell others about Jesus.	Bible Basis: Acts 16:16-40

# **ELEMENTARY LESSONS**



Think about some of the most popular toys ever—Legos®, Lincoln Logs®, Building Blocks. These are classic and timeless toys! Why? Because people have always enjoyed building things. During "The Big Build" series, kids will have a chance to put their building skills to use while they hear stories about how God used ordinary people to build the early Church.

10.1	Jesus Appears to Thomas	Key Verse: John 20:29
May 4	Big Idea: Jesus wants us to have faith in Him, even though we can't see Him.	Bible Basis: Luke 24:13-53; John 20:11-29; Acts 1:6-11
10.2	The Great Commission	Key Verse: Matthew 28:19
May 11	Big Idea: God wants everyone to know the good news of Jesus, so I can share my faith with others.	Bible Basis: Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:1-11
10.3	The Believers Form a Community	Key Verse: Acts 2:44
May 18	Big Idea: God wants us to share our life with other believers.	Bible Basis: Acts 2:42-47
10.4	Peter and John Before the Council	Key Verse: Acts 1:8a, c
May 25	Big Idea: The Holy Spirit gives us the courage to boldly tell others about Jesus.	Bible Basis: Acts 3:1-4:22
10.5	God's Story in Our Life	Key Verse: 1 John 3:1a
Jun 1	Big Idea: God's story of love and redemption continues today in the lives of His children.	Bible Basis: 1 John 3:1-10

# **EGG HUNT PHOTOS**





























# WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

- Sunday School: meets weekly on the Youth floor at 10:00am, with fellowship and snacks at 9:45am
- Life Groups: Wednesday nights on the Youth floor from 6:00-7:15pm through May 14
- Prayer Breakfast: Thursday mornings from 6:30-7:00am through May 15 at the W. Market St. Chick-fil-A for high school students. Transportation is not provided to the school, and students need money for breakfast.

# YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

Our May Youth Fellowship is on May 4 from 5:00-7:00pm at Ole's Guacamoles (1805 N Roan St.), and all 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome! We will be celebrating the end of the year with a fun dinner out. Please send money with your youth. Please let Mindy Moore (mindy.moore@munsey.org) know by April 30 if your youth plans to go.

# MIDDLE SCHOOL PICK-UP

Middle School Pick-Up for 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders is on **Wednesday, May 7**. We'll pick up from Liberty Bell and Indian Trail. We will be going to Paradise Acers to play mini golf, and students from other schools are welcome to join us there. They will need \$12 cash to golf and any extra money for any snacks they might want. Please let Mindy Moore (mindy.moore@munsey.org) know by May 5 if you plan to join in on the fun.

# ON THE COVER - MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT FROM CASEY AND JAMIE PRICE

For us, Munsey represents an oasis of reasoned Christian practice firmly emplaced within East Tennessee's ephemeral religious landscape. Jamie and I experienced incredibly disparate upbringings regarding church life despite similar backgrounds. It took us many years to synthesize each perspective into a viable analytical framework for growing together as Christians. During our process, we attended several types of local churches. Some more traditional congregations seemed parochial and alienating. We attended other less traditional congregations that tend to materialize in old Dollar General buildings, which felt like a mixture of a 90s rock concert and a live infomercial. We realized many of these churches espoused values predicated on fear and insularity, often reflecting mercurial interpretations of trendy social issues. These experiences helped us define the nature of the type of congregation we sought to augment. After having two children, we realized the necessity of finding a church aligned with our journey to understand Jesus's teachings better and how to implement them in our interactions with others.

We have known Jay and Sunny Sandos, as well as Dr. Tom Lee, for many years. We knew both emphasized the same Christian attributes we value and had witnessed them many times implementing these in their lives. We began attending Munsey, hoping that others in the congregation would reflect the same thoughtful approach to Christian life as they do. Munsey's members exceeded our expectations. Upon attending Sunday School at Dr. Lee's invitation, we found members of the group conducting the communal and often vexing theological work required to better understand and incorporate the teachings in an ancient text few of us can read. The discussion reflected the type of critical engagement with Biblical texts we find fosters a holistic perspective of God's connection with each of us individually and collectively. We knew we were among our people. We thank everyone that has been so welcoming to us and each other. We are proud to be a part of a church community in East Tennessee that exemplifies Christianity's foundational tenant of love for God and each other, tout le monde.

# FAMILY MINISTRIES STAFF RECEPTION

We've been delighted to bring Charity Damrau and Mindy Moore on board this year as our Directors of Children's and Youth Ministries, and our Staff-Parish Relations Committee invites you to drop by the Gathering Place after 11:00 worship on **Sunday, May 18**, to warmly welcome them and their families to Munsey. Charity and Mindy have already been doing such good work with our children, youth, and their families, and we are so very grateful to have them on our Family Ministries Staff. We know you'll want to drop by and get to know them and their families on May 18 and extend a warm Munsey welcome to them!

# **MAY YOUTH PHOTOS**



**HWY 56** 









# **CONTACT YOUR STAFF**



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