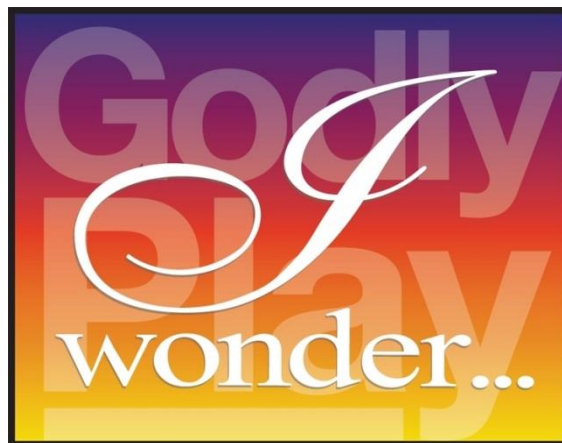


The heart of Godly Play is:

- ♥ creating a sacred space
- ♥ building community, and
- ♥ learning Bible stories



The Story of the Boy
Jesus in the Temple



Montclair Presbyterian Church

5701 Thornhill Drive
Oakland, CA 94611

Contact:

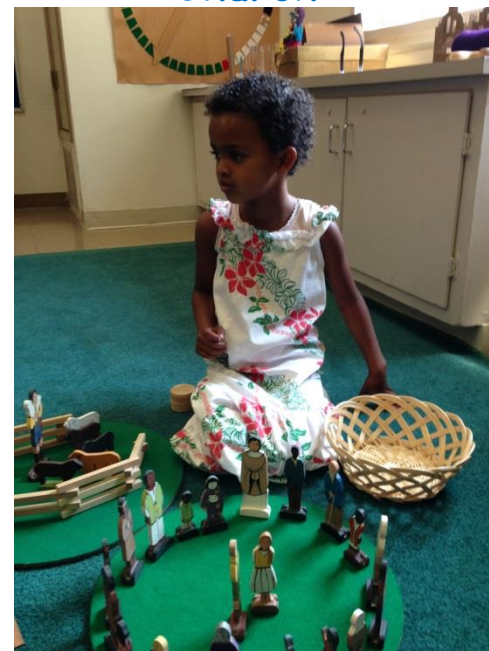
Talitha Phillips,
Associate Pastor

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(510) 339-1131

Godly Play

Pre-K - Middle School
Montclair Presbyterian
Church



Godly Play
is a Montessori-based
Sunday school curriculum
that promotes biblical knowledge
and nurtures each child's
spirituality.

What is Godly Play?

Godly Play helps children become more fully aware of the mystery of God's presence in their lives. Godly Play supports children as they discover the art of Christian language—parable, sacred story, silence and liturgical action.

When Christian language is learned by the Godly Play approach, it is learned as a means to know God and to make meaning of our lives. This approach is quite different from the traditional model in which a teacher tells children what they need to know. Godly Play is not about things that are simple or about learning lessons or keeping children entertained. Godly Play is about locating each lesson in the whole of the Christian story and involving the creative process to discover the depths of meaning for individuals.

Source: Godly Play Foundation, 2011

What is the Class Format?

Children start in Celebration at 10:00 a.m. with the congregation. Following a special time with children, the children go to their Godly Play classroom at around 10:15 a.m. Before entering the classroom, each child is welcomed by a Greeter into the sacred space. The Storyteller also welcomes each child into a gathering circle and tells a biblical story using beautiful hand-crafted story pieces. After the story, the storyteller asks open-ended "wondering questions". There are no answers given by the Storyteller, thus it is up to the child to explore answers for themselves. Then, each child is invited into a reflective art response time. The hour ends at 11:15 a.m. after a closing circle that includes prayers and a feast (similar to communion).



In Godly Play children discover a place:

- ♥ To be with God
- ♥ To slow down
- ♥ To hear the stories of God
- ♥ To speak more softly
- ♥ To talk to God through artwork and prayer



The Story of the Holy Family

Ages:

Room 1: Pre - K through 3rd grade

Room 4: 4th grade through Middle School

Younger Children go to the nursery/wiggle room