



Del Rey Kids MINISTRY REPORT 2015

Our goal in Children's Ministry is to support the mission of Del Rey Church by partnering with parents to disciple children. We are thrilled to encourage family discipleship and partner with families as they study through the Bible with their children. Kid's Church and Del Rey Parochial Academy are just two of the ministries that God is using at Del Rey to equip parents to train up their children in the ways of the Lord. We are thankful for Adam Payton and his leadership in Awana and Youth Ministries.

Generations of Grace, our elementary curriculum, is a 3-year study through the historical books of the Bible. In 2015 Kid's Church completed a study of the New Testament books of Matthew, Acts and Revelation. We have been surveying the Bible for 6 years at Del Rey so we just completed our second rotation. This is significant for 6th and 7th graders who have been attending Del Rey with their family because this means they have completed a study of the bible twice. Our toddler curriculum is from Children Desiring God and contains 8 key lessons to reinforce the goodness and truth of God.

Our prayer is that Kid's Church would be more meaningful than a short lesson on Sunday mornings for children; we pray that God will use it as a joyful springboard for your family discipleship. Parent resources have been posted on the Del Rey Church blog with the title, Scripture passage, discussion questions and suggestions for actions to practice and commit to prayer for each lesson (<http://delreychurch.com/blog>). If you want a hard copy of the parent guide we have those available for free. Generations of Grace curriculum recently published a Family Devotional that corresponds with our bible survey curriculum. (You can purchase materials at: <http://generationsofgrace.squarespace.com/products/>). We pray that God gives us a passion and desire to lead our children well.

The majority of our resources, prayers and energy in Children's Ministry is poured into our Sunday morning Kids' Church classes. In 2015, we had a flux of 100-130 children attend Kid's Church on a given week which means we constantly pray the Lord will bring more volunteers. We are so excited for the growth the Lord is bringing to Del Rey Church and we are glad to partner with new families and welcome new babes into our community. In the fall, the 9am service saw a dramatic increase in attendance with families of young children. The 9am service is a great service for little ones because it doesn't conflict with naptime and many families are able to attend the first service, take their kids home to rest and attend a Sunday afternoon community group as well. It is so encouraging to see families prioritize Sunday worship and community. With attendance being higher at the first service we are in need of help with the 9am especially.

We pray that as God raises up additional servants the load will become lighter and the service sweeter and ministry even more joyful. With a deeper rotation of teachers, we could provide smaller class sizes and that would be a blessing to our entire community. If you are not already serving in a ministry at Del Rey Church, consider serving in Kid's Church even for a short time. If many people made a small commitment to serve once a month it would lighten the load for our entire team and be an encouragement to those already serving. We could also use servants willing to volunteer on a regular basis to provide consistent teaching and leadership for our classes. So whether you are someone who can commit once a month or can only serve

during the summer, there is a place for you in Kid's Church. Perhaps you don't feel you have the skills necessary to volunteer in this ministry. We need people to help set out snack, supervise on the playground, sweep and tidy up after class, lead worship, prepare crafts, taste test a few Goldfish and lots of other interesting jobs in addition to teaching the Bible lesson and sharing the truth of God. So if you like to eat Goldfish crackers and play trains we can definitely find you a place in Kids' Church. If you hate to eat Goldfish and play trains, it's okay, there are lots of ways to get involved. There are so many opportunities to serve and we ask that you would prayerfully consider joining the team. Many hands make light work and it would be an encouragement to our team of volunteers to see additional servants join in Kid's Church.

With that said, Kid's Church has some of the most sacrificial, thoughtful and generous servants who volunteer and they are wonderful. Del Rey Church could not minister the way we do without the faithfulness of our Kid's Church volunteers. Many of them put in extra hours, arrive very early, serve behind the scenes and organize their curriculum in advance. Drew Holland took on a large role in Kid's Church this year by consistently leading worship for both services. God has used him to teach hymns to our children and give them a love and appreciation for rich worship. It was a blessing to have our Kid's Church sing for Easter and Christmas this year. Shannon Tracy is a blessed assistant in Kid's Church and it has been a joy and pleasure to serve with her. She is excellent at curriculum preparation, managing volunteers and directing the children's services on Sunday's mornings and is a vital part of the ministry. Please, take a moment to thank a Kids' Church teacher! And ask them about serving. They would be encouraged sharing ways to get involved.

Del Rey Parochial Academy had a fantastic new development this year as we launched an on-campus program for students that meets once a week to learn history, science, art and literature. Many great programs for homeschoolers are currently available but we are thankful to have a church-based school to support the needs of our own community in a unique way. The fellowship in learning is encouraging and it has been great to add the cooperative aspect to our program as we develop a modern one-room-school house for our Del Rey family. We pray that one day we might have the resources to host an after-school program for DRC students attending traditional school so that they might be enriched by an extension of Del Rey Parochial Academy as well. It is a blessing to have Mary Woodhams, Leah Criscuolo and Kristi Williamson teaching classes and Pastor Tony leading our morning chapel. Thank you for all you do for our DRP families!

The children of our congregation are precious and vital to our community. I am personally so encouraged by the faithful service of our volunteers who care for the families of our community and truly enjoy our children. Please thank them and prayerfully consider how you might be able to serve in Kid's Church if you aren't serving in another ministry already.

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