

Dear KCC Community,

Happy Spring! The time of promise and renewal is in the air as the bees, other insects and birds enjoy the blooming flowers. I'm feeling the buzz of spring and upcoming events this month at KCC. I'm especially looking forward to the events of Holy Week because the 1st through 6th grade Sunday School classes are taking a closer look at each day from Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday.



WE NEED EASTER EGGS! Can you help us out and contribute a dozen eggs on Easter Sunday by 9:30 AM? Please sign up in Lander Hall or contact Barbara (barbara@kensingtonucc.com). The children and youth look forward to the annual Easter Sunday tradition of dyeing eggs, making a holiday craft and making resurrection rolls (a treat with a surprise!). Please help us make it extra special.

KCC is a Safe Haven for Families. Something that I try to keep “front and center” when doing my job is to remember that children and youth are learning social skills and going through new and different stages. When the teachers and I notice different behavior, we talk to the parents/caregivers. Since I don't know what else is going on in their lives, my approach is to show love and understanding to the whole family as the parents/caregivers and child (children) navigate life. When I start from a place of love, not just as a staff member but as a congregant who believes in the values of this church, I reassure families that KCC is a safe place. I believe we as congregants share this responsibility to maintain a safe place where children, youth and families feel safe to nurture and develop their inner spiritual lives.

Survey Results

Thank you for taking the time to thoughtfully respond to the survey in February. As promised, the results are listed below. Your feedback through the survey and other forms of communication has been enormously helpful since faith formation is important to the life and growth of KCC. I welcome your feedback and participation in all forms.



Enjoy this month of life exploding in nature and take some quiet moments to contemplate Jesus' life and resurrection.

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Me contemplating in nature.

February Sunday School Program Survey Results

1. What were your impressions of the **Christmas Program**? Would you prefer a similar program next year?

Very nice. Simple and not complicated. It made me feel peaceful.

Program was great.

Wonderful. Definitely.

I was home sick with bronchitis, so missed the show. However, it seemed pretty low-key (didn't stress out my child)-I appreciate that since there is so much going on for her during the Christmas/Advent season. The tree mosaic was wonderful.

I have no preferences, I like that we use the enthusiasm of our parents in different ways each year. If the sense is that it's too much at that time of year, I applaud the simplicity.

Blank.

Sorry I missed it.

2. What is your impression of the **nursery and Sunday School classrooms**? How do you feel when you visit the nursery, classrooms and walk through the Sunday School hallway?

N/A

Welcoming classrooms.

N/A

Welcoming! Kids seem accepted for who they are.

Haven't been there in a while.

High energy in positive way.

Clean, welcoming. My son always has a lot of fun in nursery.

3. How can Barbara and the Sunday School teachers improve communication and spiritual education for children, youth, families and the church community?

She is already doing a great job.

Welcoming classrooms.

Barbara's Moment with the youth is usually over their heads in examples and is too long. The idea, such as love or kindness is good. Short and sweet with examples from their lives. Even adults comment we don't get to her point.

Not sure if I'm missing some communication (emails to parents?) but I seem to get my info about Sunday school from the insert in the service program. This is totally fine, but if I happen to miss church one weekend, I might not be aware of a pre-service rehearsal? This is usually not an issue. The message from Barbara in the Chimes is a nice new feature.

No comment.

No comment.

Can't comment because I have no experience with Sunday school except with nursery program.

4. What are the strengths of the Sunday School Program?

Things look organized. Kids look happy.

Dedicated teachers.

Everything.

Not sure I see enough behind the scenes to know—but I do see that my daughter feels confident going to class, which tells me something about how she must feel during the class (welcomed, accepted, loved).

No comment.

Children enjoy going to Sunday School, which is a major achievement, enjoy going to church school.

Can't comment because I have no experience with Sunday school except with nursery program.

5. What needs improvement in the Sunday School Program?

No comment.

Children's moments too lengthy and not age appropriate. Children should not be allowed to walk around during children's sermon. They can learn to sit for a few minutes.

Barbara's Moment with the youth is usually over their heads in examples and is too long. The idea, such as love or kindness is good. Short and sweet with examples from their lives. Even adults comment we don't get to her point.

Not sure.

No comment.

No comment.

Can't comment because I have no experience with Sunday school except with nursery program.

6. Please add additional comments regarding your vision of Sunday School at KCC. (Optional)

No comment.

No comment.

It's wonderful as it is.

One of my Sunday School teachers taught us to meditate using visualization. This is something I still return to on occasion, much more so than the more traditional Bible teachings (although they are certainly important, and I appreciate having that basic knowledge). I guess I bring this up because I'm often reminded of how centering and peaceful I felt during those meditations during Barbara's children's moment in church. I love Barbara's style and message. (This [the visualization] was a regular feature of our class for the entire year that he taught our class. Maybe 5-10 minutes towards the end of each class.)

I like the visible projects, performances, readings, and little ways the kids and youth participate and lead in the church. I would like each class to lead us in prayers/mission/understanding of a group in need-Different grades =different focus (1st and younger = animals, 2nd- ? =orphanage, ? - 6th = ? housing, and 7th and up = human trafficking).

We appreciate how the Sunday School@KCC is welcoming not only to people of all walks, but that our kids find it welcoming. We used to have to drag our kids to church, but now, they are finding their own faith community to be from and learn about God. To know more about our loving God and embrace going to church as a lifestyle is a huge blessing! Thank you.

No comment.