



The Children's Ministry of Hopewell Moravian Church exists to glorify God through teaching children and encouraging parents, so that the gospel may be spread among our children, families may be supported, and the church may be strengthened.

We encourage children to participate in the **Worship Service** as Greeters, Ushers, and Lay Readers as parents feel appropriate.

Hopewell also offers a **Nursery** each Sunday during the Worship Service for infants and toddlers up to five years of age

Each Sunday, all children are welcome and encouraged to participate in a **Children's Story Sermon** during worship that will be based on the Scripture readings for the day, and presented by a lay member of the congregation.

When the Story Sermon is concluded, children, from kindergarten through elementary school age, are invited to attend **Children's Church** in the classroom closest to the sanctuary. During this time, children typically learn a Bible lesson and complete a craft related to the lesson.

We ask that parents make the determination when it is appropriate for their child(ren) to stay in the Worship Service or to leave for Children's Church. While Children's Church is geared toward younger children, there may also be opportunities for older children to act as helpers to Mrs. Gina Hill in Children's Church. Again, we ask that parents participate in these decisions.

Safe Sanctuary Policy

Hopewell Moravian Church has developed policies and guidelines for the protection and well-being of children, youth and vulnerable adults.

The purpose of this policy is to demonstrate our absolute and unwavering commitment to the safety and security, as well as the spiritual, physical, and emotional growth of our children, youth, and vulnerable adults who come to us. A secondary value of the policy is that it also helps to protect our paid staff and our volunteers from potential allegations of abuse.

Our Safe Sanctuary policy applies to all church paid staff and volunteers working with programs and activities involving children, youth, and vulnerable adults.

We have a written policy of what to do if an incident is suspected, witnessed, or reported. If there is a need to make a report, this policy is intended to give the adult in charge a good understanding of what s/he needs to do during a potentially stressful time.

Those persons who are supervising children, such as Sunday school teachers, nursery volunteers, kid's club leaders, and Vacation Bible School leaders must have a criminal background check and drug screen done by a staff member of the Moravian Church, Southern Province. As a sign of enthusiastic support for this policy, the members of Hopewell's Joint Leadership Board were the first to have undergone the process of submitting to a background check and the drug screen.

The children's' Sunday School rooms and Preschool rooms are outfitted with doors with windows to allow viewing of activities in those rooms at any time.

We have a written policy in place to safely track and handle rescue medications such as asthma inhalers or EpiPens during church events, especially those events occurring offsite, or when parents are not in attendance.

Anyone involved in ministry to children, youth, or vulnerable adults at Hopewell as a paid staff member, or as a volunteer, must participate in the drug screening and Criminal Records as well as signing off on the Safe Sanctuary Policy as a whole.

The complete Safe Sanctuary Policy is often available at the inside mailboxes in the main hallway, or may be requested through the Church Office.

If you have any questions about Hopewell's Ministry to Children, please contact our pastor at your convenience. We are glad to welcome children to our activities and into our community of faith. In doing so, we imitate Jesus, who said:

Other Ways Children Can Participate

Hopewell Moravian Church has other opportunities for children to be active in God's church!

Sunday Worship

Older children serve key functions in weekly worship services as readers, ushers, and greeters. These easy to perform tasks are wonderful ways for kids to feel connected to Sunday worship in a new and more mature manner. Holidays also afford the opportunity for all ages



“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” (Matt. 19:14, NIV)

of children to be an integral part of worship through music and special programs in addition to the usual opportunities to serve.

Lovefeasts

Our Moravian tradition of the sharing of a Lovefeast is a wonderful opportunity to partake in a special service. Thanksgiving, Christmas, Palm Sunday are celebrated with a Lovefeast that both the congregation and community look forward to each year. Children often help as greeters, readers, musicians, ushers, and deiners, who serve buns and coffee to the congregation.

Contact us:

By phone at 336-788-2289 (church office)

By email at hmc701@triad.twcbc.com

Through our website at HopewellMoravianNC.org

Our people most involved in Children's Ministries:

The Rev. Walter Bishop—Pastor

Ms. Gina Hill—Children's Church

Ms. Shannon Kibler— Sunday School Superintendent

Mr. Todd Kibler—Director of Music Ministry

Ms. Nancy Worley—Preschool Director



**701 Hopewell Church Road
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"A community of believers established on this hilltop to be a light in our community."