



## Benchmarks for Children and Youth at Shandon Presbyterian Church

Age Group	Milestones/Gifts	God	Bible	Worship	Concepts	Presbyterian Heritage	Mission/Stewardship
<b>Cribb/ Toddlers/ Twos</b>	Baptism Receive First Bible: <u>The Beginner's Bible</u>	God is love	The Story of God in our lives.	Baptism Meal Prayers Going to bed prayers Singing	Love	Baptizing Infants = Grace, adoption into church family	Be Kind Be a friend
<b>Threes/ Fours</b>		God as Creator	The Story of God in our lives. Emphasis on Jesus birth and creation.	Choir Singing Time for Young Disciples	Creation	Belonging to God	Offering Collection
<b>Fives- 1<sup>st</sup> Grade</b>	Receive Books: <u>A Children's Guide to Worship</u> And <u>Come Worship with Me</u>	Jesus is God's Son	Old Testament = People of Israel  New Testament = Story of Jesus and his followers.	Worship Readiness: Receive Communion Music Programs: Bells and singing Liturgical Seasons	Created in the image of God	Communion	Donations for Backpack Ministry Harvest Hope Family Promise Gift Tree
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade</b>	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Bible: The Adventure Bible NRSV	God as Holy Spirit	Locate scripture by book, chapter and verse. Prophets and disciples.	The Lord's Prayer Apostles Creed Gloria Patri	Prayer as a regular part of life	Prayer as a direct link to God (No middle-person)	Help pack backpacks Rise Against Hunger
<b>4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>		Triune God	Have basic knowledge of book groupings: Pentateuch, historical books, wisdom,	What is Liturgy? Ushering	God is everywhere. We are never alone. Body of Christ	Covenant	Making cards for people on the prayer list

			prophets, gospels, NT historical books, apocalyptic, etc. Emphasis on 10 commandments and covenants.				
<b>6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	<u>Connect Bible NRSV</u> by Spark House for 6 <sup>th</sup> graders.	God is just and merciful  God is sovereign	Paul's letters—focus on the early church. Minor prophets and basic knowledge of historical context and how that informs our reading.	Meaning of the order of Worship Youth Choir Acolyte	Justice, righteousness, peacemaking.  Sin and obedience  Discipleship	Grace by Faith and not works  The church is reformed and always being reformed.	Montreat Middle School Conference Local Mission Projects Bridge Mission Trip CROSS Mission Trip Souper Bowl of Caring Women's Shelter Shopping Treats on the Street Parents' Night Out
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class</b>	Join the Church  Books: <u>The Christian Doctrine</u> by: Shirley Guthrie	Articulate personal relationship with God	Confirmation Curriculum	Sacraments of Baptism and Communion	Membership	Share Faith Statement before Session Presbyterian Polity The Constitution (Book of Order and Book of Confessions) Church Governing Structures	Pledging Serving on church committees
<b>9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade</b>	Seniors Receive Bible before Graduation on Youth Sunday: <u>Harper Collins Study Bible NRSV</u>	Theodicy: If God is powerful, and God is good, how does evil exist?	Source theory and historical criticism. Working knowledge of the order of the books of the bible. Attention to more difficult/confusing texts such as Revelation.	Seniors Preach at Youth Sunday Read Liturgy Acolyte	Stewardship Calling	Ordination and installation  Great Cloud of Witnesses	Montreat Youth Conference Enablers at Massanetta – 10 - 12 International Mission Trip CROSS Mission Trip Bridge Mission Trip Souper Bowl of Caring Women's Shelter Shopping Treats on the Street Parents' Night Out Pledging

*\*Adopted from Benchmarks Table created by Ginger Evans at Second Presbyterian Church in Richmond, VA.*