

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF OAKLAND

A VISION FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

We seek to make First Presbyterian Church a community where:

We are an extended family with members of all ages:

- we honor our baptismal vows by nurturing all children in our care;
- we develop caring relationships with children and youth in our community;
- we support parents and join them in the faith development of their children;
- we recognize the vulnerability of children and protect them from harm.

We welcome children and youth:

- we allow children to act like children;
- we affirm each child's unique personality and God-given gifts;
- we offer worship services and church events that are relevant and accessible to them;
- we offer God's grace to children and youth beyond our church community.

We take children and youth seriously:

- children, youth and adults all share in ministry;
- children and youth are trusted with responsibilities.

We encourage children and youth to know and follow Jesus:

- they hear the stories of the Bible;
- they have a forum for addressing their spiritual questions and concerns;
- they learn ways to express their faith
- they see love and respect modeled by the community and practice it themselves;
- they have opportunities to respond to God's love in community.

We covenant to make this vision a reality both now and in times to come.