

## What the stats say...

We want the best for our children. We want them to be happy, healthy and to succeed so that they can live a fulfilling life.

Statistics show that church involvement helps children thrive and make better decisions in life. Here are the results of research done by the Search Institute ([www.search-institute.org](http://www.search-institute.org)):

Young people who are active in religious communities are 39% less likely to engage in ten high-risk behaviour patterns, especially use of tobacco, illicit drugs, school problems, alcohol abuse, antisocial behaviour, and drinking and driving.

In addition, they are, on average 26% more likely to have eight indicators of thriving, especially getting good grades in school, resisting danger, maintaining physical health, and leadership.



## Come and join us!

Our doors are open and we welcome you and your children in our church:

The Presbyterian Church in Canada  
50 Wynford Dr.,  
Toronto ON M3C 1J7  
1-800-619-7301



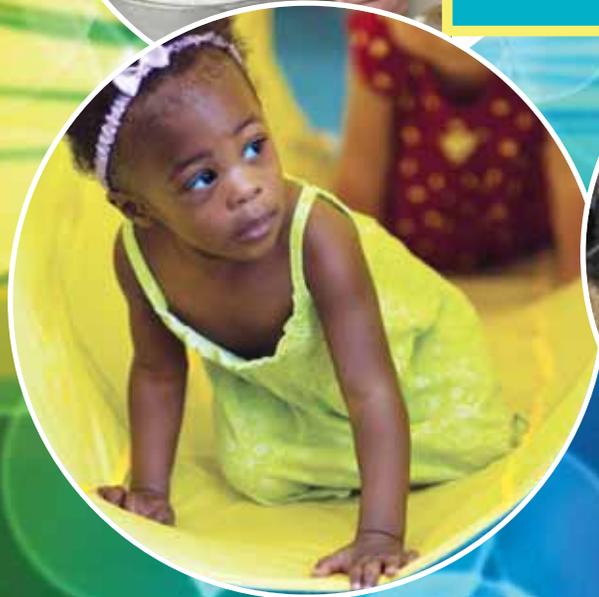
# Why bring your child to church?

explore  
belonging  
acceptance  
community  
leadership  
love

# Parents say, “I take my child to church to...”



- be with friends
- make sense of suffering and death
- be safe, accepted, encouraged, hopeful, and loved
- connect with older generations
- learn leadership skills, teambuilding, mediating, critical thinking
- learn about Christianity and other faiths
- discover the great stories of the Bible
- discover Jesus as a friend
- learn tolerance and respect in a multicultural society
- gain a global perspective
- experience prayer
- talk about issues related to growing up
- eat together
- have a sense of community and belonging
- develop calmness in a fast paced world



## Children and Spiritual Questing

Most children are curious about God.

They ask questions about God; they wonder about prayers and the religious rituals of others families.

They wonder about life's crises – illness, death, tragedy.

Even when there is no formal religious training at school, church or home, most children are naturally curious about God and religion.

