



# "First Steps in Music"

is coming soon to:

## The Gap Uniting Church

### What is "First Steps in Music"?

"First Steps in Music" is a series of group music classes intended for babies to five year old children. The music classes use folk and traditional songs/ rhymes and classical music to help children grow to be tuneful, beatful and artful. The music series has been written by John Feierabend PhD who is a leading expert in early childhood music education.

### What happens in a class?

**Birth to 3 years:** In these classes, children will be bounced, wiggled and tickled by their parents/carers. Children will be encouraged to tap, clap and explore different instruments. And children, with the help of their helper, will participate in simple circle games and movement to music activities. Each class ends with a beautiful lullaby to soothe and relax the children.

**Three-five years:** In these classes, children will explore pitch with fun vocal warm-ups, sing simple songs, make up their own songs and listen to expressive song tales. Children will also be able to participate in many different movement activities:

**Movement exploration:** these activities help children develop body coordination as well as expressive sensitivity. Children might whirl and stop, do glue dancing, build an imaginary house, play mirrors and walk through a room full of jelly in movement exploration.

**Movement for form and expression:** these activities help children experience the expressive qualities in music through movement. During this time, children might participate in fingerplays, action songs and circle games.

**Beat motion activities-** these activities help children develop a feeling for how the beat coincides with a song or rhyme. Children might bounce, swing, flap, pound, walk or play an instrument to discover the beat.

## **Who will take the classes?**

Katherine Ruhle will be the teacher for the "First Steps in Music" classes. Katherine completed a Bachelor of Music degree in 1998 and has specialized in early childhood music education since. She has taught early childhood music and movement classes in preschools, daycare centers, music academies and even a gym and she is excited to be able to work with The Gap Uniting Church to provide these music classes for the community.

## **When do the classes start?**

Classes will start on Tuesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb, 2010 (second week of the school term) and run during the school term.

At this stage, classes for 2010 will be as follows:

Tuesdays:        3 -5 years:        9.15 – 10am

Wednesday:     Babies:                11 -11.30am

Thursday:        3-5 years:            9.15 -10am

                         1-3 years:            10.15-10.45

Please note: We are happy for older/younger siblings to join in the music classes as long as they do not disturb the rest of the class.

## **Cost?**

\$5 per family, per class.

We also ask that families pay a yearly \$10 administration and resource fee.

Although families only need to pay for the lessons they attend, we do ask that families commit to attending classes regularly so that everyone can gain the maximum benefits from the music classes.

## **To book in or to get more information, please contact the church office:**

The Gap Uniting Church

Ph: 3300 2712

(office hours 9.00am - 12.00pm)