
YOUTH MINISTRY

Sonia Donnelly, Director



How do you measure success? In Christianity, "success" is defined as living a life that honors God, aligns with His will, and brings glory to Him, rather than worldly measures like wealth, fame, or power. Christian success is about faithfulness, character, and purpose in life that is done in a way pleasing to God rather than the outworld achievements valued by the world.

How can we measure the success of our Youth Programs? We all know that for many, many years we have hosted a successful summer VBS program where the kids have fun learning about God, Love, and Fellowship. We have been blessed with donations year after year to keep it going, with beautiful weather, and with amazing volunteers who share unconditional love without hesitation. Because of this wonderful program, every fall we welcome more kids into our Wednesday Young Disciples programs. This year we are blessed to have over 85 kids registered, and that number continues to climb weekly as some of those kids bring friends and other new kids show up to join us on Wednesdays.

Our success as a Church can be shown in the kids that excitedly walk through the doors every week ready to learn about the life of Jesus, the kids who cheer on Pastor Bob like a celebrity, and the kids who leave our doors every week excited to be the change in the world around them. These kids come from a variety of backgrounds, are members of other local churches or unchurched, and range from almost 4 to High School students. This Church is amazing in its support of the youth, and it is thanks to all of you that we have these robust programs for our whole community.

If you would like to help in any way with our youth, please email me at soniadfpc@gmail.com. From helping with our annual events like Fall Fest and the Easter EGGSTRAVAGANZA, to helping more regularly in the kitchen for snacks, there is a place for everyone. Working with the youth is one of the most rewarding experiences - you are invited to stop by any Wednesday between 3:30p.m.-4:00p.m. and share a snack and conversation with the kids!





FALL FEST

and

Pie / Sweets Auction

Date: Wednesday, October 15th

Time: 5:00p.m. - 7:00p.m.

Place: Fellowship Hall



Our annual **Fall Fest** is on Wednesday, October 15th, from 5:00p.m.-7:00p.m. and is open to the WHOLE congregation! Come and join us for a delicious dinner, crafts and games, and a fun time together. You do not need to be a kid - or have a kid! - to join in the fun. Bring your family or a friend and join us in spending time together as a (Church) family!

Candy Needed: We need donations of candy for this event - if you weren't aware, sugar is a main food group for kids ages 4-18 and they love it in all flavors, colors and shapes! As we have in years past, we plan to have goody bags for the kids to take home that include candy, trinkets, and a hot drink mix so we welcome donations of any of these items. They can be dropped off in the bowl in the Fireside Room near the sign-up table.



Operation Christmas Child: The Shoebox Project

Shoeboxes will soon be available in the Fireside Room. And once again, our youth will be filling them on Wednesdays during their group time, so you can either fill your own shoebox or drop off items listed below for them to use. The deadline for dropping off shoeboxes at our Church is **November 16th**. Please include a check for **\$10.00** to **Samaritan's Purse** for shipping. Here are some ideas on what can be packed in the shoeboxes:

Toys: soccer ball (with pump), doll, stuffed animal, shoes, musical instrument; cars, jump ropes, yo-yos, toys that light up and make noise (w/extra batteries)

Accessories: socks, hats, sunglasses, hair clips, jewelry, watches, flashlights (w/batteries)

School Supplies: pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, markers, coloring/picture books, notebooks, paper, solar calculators

Non-Liquid Hygiene Items: toothbrushes, bar soap, washcloths, combs

Do NOT Include: candy, toothpaste, gum; seeds, food; used/damaged items; scary/war-related items; liquids, lotions; medications/vitamins; breakable items/glass containers; aerosol cans.