

Opportunities for Second-Eighth Graders

This brochure highlights most of the volunteer opportunities for children and youth in 2nd to 8th grade. There are many ways children and youth, who have not yet been confirmed, can share their time and talents at Unity. Grown-ups and teenagers aren't the only people with talents from God. God is calling us ALL to share our gifts of time, talent and treasure, no matter what age!

Acolytes

Acolytes are worship leaders who carry in the light and light the candles at the beginning of worship and carry the light out at the end of the service. They may also help in other worship leadership responsibilities during special services. Training is offered for all fourth, fifth and sixth graders who would like to serve.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

While not old enough to donate blood yet, second through eighth graders are able to help with other parts of Unity's many blood drives. Maybe you'd like to make cookies or brownies for donors to snack on while they rest after giving blood. Or maybe you would like to help with publicity and sign-ups.

Attend Sunday School

Sunday School is a great place to learn more about the Bible, God and your faith. This is also a wonderful time for fellowship with children and youth your age.

Bethelwoods Camp

Our church supports Bethelwoods Camp and Conference Center by giving money and praying for it. It is a great place to meet new friends, learn more about God and your faith, and have tons of fun in the summer. Day camp is available each week during the summer for children who have completed kindergarten through eighth grade (ages 5 - 13). Overnight camps, from a couple of days to an entire week, are available for those who have completed 1st grade and up.

Children In Worship

Children in Worship (CIW) is a special worship service for children ages 4 through 1st grade. Middle School youth (6th through 8th grades) can volunteer at either Sunday morning worship service to be an occasional greeter or helper.

Church Mice

Keep it neat! Helpers are needed to keep offering envelopes and Welcome Pads stocked, as well as pencils sharpened. You could neaten the sanctuary for church during the week or before the Sunday service. Or, you could clean up in between Sunday services (before going to Sunday School).

Communion Preparation

Second through eighth graders can help as part of a team that prepares the communion elements for the Lord's Supper. Training and adult pairing is required.

CROP Hunger Walk

In the fall, the CROP Walk takes place to raise money for the hunger programs of Church World Service. Some of the money raised stays in Fort Mill to help feed hungry people in our community. The rest of the money helps feed hungry people around the world. You can collect sponsors and walk with your family to raise money for the hungry and help bring awareness about hunger in the world.

Dimes for Hunger

Many people in the world—in our own community—do not have access to basic food needs. Unity asks all members to participate in collecting one dime per meal over the course of one month. The money raised goes to hunger programs in Honduras, Guatemala, and in our area. Volunteers help with publicity and participate in this program.

Gardening, Landscaping Care, and Work Days

While the adults are cutting limbs and shaping bushes, you could be spreading mulch or planting seasonal flowers. Flower beds need weeding, leaves need to be raked, and walkways need to be swept. This is a great way to get out and move a little!

Give Money

Giving money to the church is an important part of “sharing” God's gifts. When you give an offering, you are helping to pay for Unity's many ministries, programs, services, and activities, all of which are done to the glory of God.

Growing Christians (GC's) - 4th & 5th grades

Come together with other 4th and 5th graders for fellowship, games, and opportunities to serve God and grow in your faith. GC's meets from 5:00-6:00 pm for 5 weeks in the fall and 5 weeks in the spring during Sunday Night Live. We also occasionally have extra social outings.

Instrumentalist

There are opportunities for instrumentalists for worship services and other programs.

Junior Choir- 2nd-5th grades

Do you like to sing? Junior choir is open to second through fifth graders and practices on Sunday afternoons during the school year. The choir is an important part of the worship service throughout the year.

Youth Choir

This choir is open to all middle and high school students who are interested in singing. This group will most likely meet on a seasonal basis and may sing several times a year for worship services and special occasions such as Christmas and Youth Sunday.

Lay Leader in Worship

Children, youth and adults can assist in worship leadership for regular Sunday worship services and special services. This leadership might include leading the Call to Worship, leading prayers, and reading scripture. Training is required.

Middle School Youth Group- 6th-8th grades

Sixth through eighth graders are invited to join Unity's Middle School Youth Group. Sunday evening group sessions and other events—trips, fundraisers, mission work, and outreach activities— will help you explore your creativity and leadership, your relationship with Jesus Christ, and your role as a disciple of Christ within Unity and in the community.

Musicals / Dramas

There are times throughout the year when some dramatic and musical assistance is needed. If you would like to be included when these events come up, this is for you! It might be a skit for a Congregational Breakfast or a speaking role during a special worship service.

Nursery

Do you enjoy hanging out and playing with young children? Middle school youth are invited to help in Unity's Preschool nursery. Second through Fifth graders are invited to help in Unity's Preschool nursery with a parent.

Nursing Home/Shut-in Visitation

Would you like to go and visit someone who isn't able to get out much, either because they are elderly or because they are ill? A friendly face is a wonderful gift to people who are unable to get out of the house much! Training is required. Adult pairing is also required.

Seasonal Decorations

There are opportunities to set up, decorate, and pack up seasonal decorations for the sanctuary and other areas throughout the church during each season.

Seasonal Ministries

There are special, seasonal projects throughout the year in which second to eighth graders can participate. The Thanksgiving cornucopia is collected and displayed in the sanctuary. During Advent, the Angel Tree is coordinated and displayed. Other projects include Super Bowl Sunday, the collection of eyeglasses, and more.

Send Cards to those in need

Would you like to send cards to people who need to know that there are people thinking of them in their time of need? Training is required. Adult pairing is also required.

Shepherds

New members join our church about four times per year. Often these members are families with children your age. Wouldn't it be nice to help those new children feel welcome, help those new children understand about GCs, youth group, children's choir, Sunday School and more? Shepherds are paired with new members to help make them feel at home in a new place. This is what showing hospitality is all about!

Sunday Night Live

Sunday Night Live (SNL) programming is offered for 2nd and 3rd graders for 5 weeks in the fall and 5 weeks in the spring from 5:00 - 6:00 pm. In the fall, second graders learn about worship, baptism, and communion. Third graders learn how they can use their Bibles to grow closer to God. Both second and third graders explore creative ways to pray in the spring. During SNL, 4th and 5th graders participate in GC's (See Growing Christians) and 6th - 8th graders participate in Middle School Youth Group (see MSYG description.)

Usher/Offering Assistant/Greeter

Would you like to come to church a little early and help hand out bulletins? With adults helping, second through eighth graders make great ushers. Additional work might include passing the offering plate, checking the pews after the service, collecting Welcome Pad sheets after the 11:00 am service, and more. Training is required. Adult pairing is also required. Maybe you are super friendly and like meeting new people. Greeters arrive before either service and welcome members and visitors as they come into the Sanctuary for worship.

Worship Bag Preparation

Worship Bags are available in the Narthex for young children who stay in the worship service on Sunday mornings to help them follow the service and have some hands-on activities to do. Volunteers are needed to replenish Worship Bags following the 11:00 am service or during the week. Training and adult pairing is required.

OPPORTUNITIES BOOKLET

SECOND THROUGH EIGHTH GRADE



"United in Christ's love, we glorify God through worship, nurture, and service to all people."