

open hearts
open minds
open doors



The people of The United Methodist Church*

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU IN YOUR MINISTRY

Interpreter Magazine

www.interpretermagazine.org

Discipleship Resources

www.discipleshipresources.org

Look for the following titles:

- *Children Worship!*
- *Director's Manual for Weekday Ministries*
- *A Faithful Future: Teaching and Learning for Discipleship*
- *Safe Sanctuaries: Reducing the Risk of Child Abuse in the Church*
- *Safe Sanctuaries for Children and Youth: Reducing the Risk of Abuse in the Church*
- *Out of the Basement: A Holistic Approach to Children's Ministry*
- *Sprouts: Covenant Discipleship with Children*
- *What Every Leader Needs to Know*

General Board of Discipleship website:

www.gbod.org

South Carolina Annual Conference Website:

www.umcsc.org

For further guidance or help, please contact
Rev. Doug Gilliland or Rev. Traci Bennett.
We are here to serve in ministry with you!

Doug: dwgilliland@charterinternet.com
Traci: tsbennett@charterinternet.com

CANNON'S CAMP GROUND UNITED METHODIST

AGE LEVEL CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

"To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."

1 Corinthians 12:7

The primary task of Children's Ministries is to address the concerns and conditions of children in our community and Cannon's Camp Ground United Methodist Church so that they may grow in their understanding of themselves and the Christian faith, and that their quality of life may be improved.

DURATION OF SERVICE

MINIMUM OF ONE YEAR AND MAXIMUM OF THREE YEARS (YOU MAY SERVE AGAIN AFTER A ONE-YEAR SABBATICAL)

SKILLS AND INTERESTS TO HELP YOU IN YOUR MINISTRY

- Ability to listen to and communicate with children and adults.
- Genuine interest in responding to the concerns and hopes of children in our community and church.
- Ability to work with other volunteers and committees.
- Skills for researching issues and programs relating to children in your community and church.

If you need to access the Internet for additional help, please contact the church office. We will have a computer set up for your use as members of the Church Council and Cannon's Camp Ground United Methodist Church.



Reflect upon these questions. Your responses will help you think about the children of your community and Cannon's Camp Ground United Methodist Church, and how our congregation's children's ministries might serve them best.

1. What three concerns and what three hopes do you believe children have about their community and their faith? How do these relate to living as Christian disciples and good neighbors?
2. What three experiences might help children understand more about how the Bible and the Christian faith can be resources for daily living?
3. How could the quality of life be improved for at least one specific group of children in our community?
4. What existing or new program ministries should our congregation sponsor for these children?

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS A COORDINATOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

1. Study the hopes and concerns of children in our community and congregation, to determine how our congregation might serve them and how they might serve one another.
2. Become familiar with the overall goals of the congregation and how these may be achieved through the congregation's ministry with children.
3. Encourage extending the goals of the congregation to include children.
4. Help plan and carry out a varied and wide-ranging program with children, including worship, study, fellowship, and service opportunities.
5. Be a liaison with organizations, people, and resources related to children.
6. Be a member of the Children's Council of Cannon's Camp Ground United Methodist Church by attending meetings, helping plan agendas, helping invite volunteers into ministry with children in areas other than Christian Education (special programs, Vacation Bible School, etc.), and representing children's ministries at the Church Council and Charge Conference.
7. Invite and coordinate volunteers for the three nurseries (Infant, Toddlers, and Wee Kids), and provide a comprehensive schedule of volunteers for each Sunday as well as for special events.
8. Work with the Church Council and others to make children's ministries in our church as safe as possible for children and for those who work with them (developing nursery policies, expectations, etc.)
9. Keep the congregation informed about the hopes and concerns of children in our community, the goals of children's ministries, and the resources available that will help all of us reach these goals.

GETTING STARTED

- Revisit the responses to the questions you answered earlier.
- Attend Children's Council meetings, bringing with you hopes and concerns.
- Learn what life is like for children in our community. Ask questions! Listen!
- Talk to people in our congregation and in other congregations who have responsibilities similar to yours..
- Evaluate the present opportunities available to children in our community and church. What is working well? Where are there weaknesses? What are the gaps?
- Invite others to help you in your planning and work.
- Participate in training experiences.

"For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in His steps."

1 Peter 2:21