



LOGOS - Young Disciples Club



**First United Methodist Church**

**200 Market Street**

Young Disciple’s Club is a ministry that engages our young people in the life of the church by giving them opportunities to:

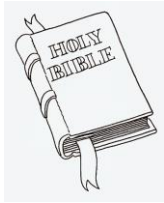
- Build & develop loving, nurturing relationships with other children and adults. Children are loved and accepted for just being themselves.
- Experience Christian fellowship through creative recreational activities, group study of contemporary & Biblical values, and through sharing a meal together.
- Learn & practice what it means to be a “Child of God” and a disciple of Christ.

### Elements of our Weekly Outreach Ministry

In local churches, our ministry teams build inter-generational relationships between our young people and caring, Christian adults through a four-part weekly agenda that includes:

#### Acts 2:42 (NRSV)

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayers.



**Bible Study** – nurturing youth and children into intelligent, obedient, and Biblically informed disciples of Jesus.



**Family Time** – providing a joyous, cross-generational celebration for each person over a shared meal as we experience the family of God. **We will be talking about God Sightings – Where did you see Jesus this week?**



**Faith Building** – developing responsibility for and practice in offering our personal and corporate gifts to God because Worship is our primary service as disciples.



**Recreation Play** – experiencing great fun at the expense of no one else.

<b>GRADES</b>	<b>3:10 – 3:30</b>	<b>3:30 – 4:00</b>	<b>4:00 – 4:30</b>	<b>4:30 – 5:15</b>	<b>5:15 - 6:00</b>	<b>6:00PM</b>
<b>K-2</b>	Arrival and Snack	<b>Gym</b>	Craft	Bible Study	Dinner	DISMISSAL FROM GYM
<b>3 - 5</b>	Arrival and Snack	<b>Faith Building</b>	Recreation or <b>Special Activity</b>	Bible Study	Dinner	DISMISSAL FROM GYM
<b>6-12</b>	Arrival and Snack	Helping with Activities	Helping with Activities	Bible Study	Dinner	

(TENTATIVE SCHEDULE)

In doing this ministry over many years, it's been discovered that there is a powerful impact on children and youth. This ministry can bring energy and vibrancy to the entire congregation in these ways:

- Offers our clergy an opportunity to build relationships with members of all ages.
- Not only does this ministry meet the needs of youth, but it is a valuable tool for family involvement and renewal, as parent and other members of the church are drawn into active participation.
- Applies the concept of "call" to staff ministries throughout the church.
- Brings a vibrant form of energy to worship through the participation & leadership of our young people.
- Provides a focal point and source of energy for a church's transformation.

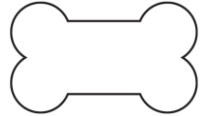
#### **HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD GROW IN THIS MINISTRY**

We insist upon regular attendance in the program on Wednesdays and to be in worship on Sunday mornings from each family.

Fulfill your commitment in your assigned area of this ministry.

Ask your child about what they're doing each week! What was his/her recreation? What did they learn during Bible study? Your interest is one of the most important attributes in their life.

This ministry goes beyond just offering an after-school program. It enables a local church to offer its young people the positive aspect of summer camp on a weekly basis. The elements of a thriving weekly ministry can also be what will transform children & youth into life-long disciples, and transform congregations into healthy, effective bodies of Christ.



“BONES”: The Structural Elements of our Ministry – Refreshed & Refined!!

- Christ-Centered** Everything we say and do in this program is guided by the example of Jesus Christ.
- Authentic Relationships** Everyone strives to intentionally model Christ-like relationships in the way they think, care, and decide about others.
- Called to Serve** The process of call is used to staff this Ministry.
- Worship** **Everyone** participates in weekly worship.
- Four Parts** Students participate in all parts of this ministry, every week.
- Clergy Support** There is ongoing clergy leadership and participation.
- Youth Intentionally** Ministry with youth is where the accumulated effects of this system of Christian Nurture reach their fullest potential.
- Weekly Bridge** It is our hope that this ministry will bridge the relational gap between weekly worship and gives Christian focus to everyday life.
- Family Investment** This ministry is supported by fees paid by participating families. Parents make a commitment to an annual meeting and to the weekly ministry.

#### **DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE**

Because an ongoing discipline problem creates a situation which is neither fair to the child involved or the other children or the leader, the following procedures will be used for repetitive problems:

- Step One** The teacher or leader will deal with the student in a firm and loving manner. If the problem continues, the leader will refer the child to:
- Step Two** The Program Director who will then contact the parent.

**We proceed from the conviction that the church’s nurture of young people into  
Christian Discipleship is more important than all forms of secular education put together!**

## Parental Participation

The Ministry Board encourages parents to serve in some area of the program. Since the staff of this program is mainly voluntary, your help is greatly appreciated to keep this ministry going. Also, the “**morale boosting**” effect of your physical presence and visible support is important to your student.

You can “**serve**” in one or more of the following areas:

**Table Decorator** – This person helps in transforming the dining hall into someplace special. The **Dinner Dean** plans the weekly themes that are followed out in decorating the hall.

**Table Parent** – These amazing people are the key to the dinner hour. They sit with the same group of students each week. Their role is: (1) to oversee dinner; (2) but more importantly, to **develop relationships** with and among the students at their table, modeling Christian parenthood and helping the kids practice being “**Children of God**”. We sometimes receive calls in the early afternoon on Wednesdays that a table parent may not be able to attend, so having a number of people sign up for this area helps getting a sub easier on short notice.

**Kitchen Cook Team Member** – This person serves on a cook team helping with food preparation and/or cleans up in the kitchen and Founders Hall (dining hall). Parts of this job could be done earlier in the day (depending on what’s on the menu). We have different shifts available as well as alternate weeks to help out. (3:30 – 5pm or 5:00 – 6:30pm)

**Bible Study Leader** – These folks teach a weekly Bible study class. They become personally involved with their students, contacting them when they miss class, etc. The leaders meet together weekly during dinner for prayer and discussion.

**Recreation Leader** – This person will lead a mini-class in an area that they are gifted in: knitting, crafts, flower arranging, sports, playing board games, sewing, etc. These classes are geared toward however long it takes to complete the craft and last ½ hour.



### **Registration & Tuition**

Tuition for the program is as follows: \$100 for the first child, \$75 for the second child, \$50 for the third child, and \$25 for each additional child in the family. Confidential Scholarships are available, upon request through the director (Heidi Ketzko). We do require parents needing a scholarship to contribute \$25 by the end of the program year. This request must come from the parent(s). This tuition covers meals, study, and recreation materials. Payments may be made in installments throughout the program year. If other arrangements are necessary, please contact Heidi Ketzko. **NO CHILD** will be turned away from this Family Ministry.

### **Registration Procedures**

- Registration must be completed by at least one parent attending a scheduled parent meeting and filling out the necessary paperwork. If neither parent is able to attend a meeting, they must contact Heidi Ketzko to arrange a meeting at another date prior to the program beginning.
- Parents are encouraged to sign up for some sort of supporting participation in the program (as noted on the previous page).

### **Our CANCELLATION POLICY**

Our program **will** be cancelled if school has been cancelled. We will still have this program even if after school activities are cancelled. If you choose not to send your child or wish to pick them up early because of weather conditions, please contact us so we can make adjustments in the program. Please talk to your student and make sure they are aware of our policy. If you choose to pick up your child early from the program for any reason throughout the year, please contact the church and sign your student out with the program director, Heidi Ketzko.

### **Transportation**

We will provide transportation for **WAEC and St. Joe's** students. There will be a permission slip to be filled out prior to the beginning of the program so that we can contact the schools with busing information. Students attending **BWMS** will walk.

### **SAFE SANCTUARIES**

In Mark 10:14, Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Because the church is a community of faith and is meant to be a safe haven and sanctuary, we have implemented a "**SAFE SANCTUARIES**" policy. With everything happening in our world today, it would be foolish not to acknowledge the risks to our children and those who work with them as we attempt to minister with our children.

The "**SAFE SANCTUARIES**" policy for this congregation includes reasonable safety measures, prudent operational procedures, and a clearly defined procedure for reporting and dealing with suspected incidents of abuse. One of these measures is to obtain Act 33 Clearance (Request for Criminal Record Check) and Act 34 Clearance (PA Child Abuse History Clearance) for those who work closely with the children and youth. The cost is to be incurred by the church. Many of you will be asked to comply with these measures. This is all so that each child will be "... surrounded by steadfast love ... established in the faith, and confirmed and strengthened in the way that leads to life eternal." (Baptismal Covenant

II, United Methodist Hymnal, p. 44)