



Mission Statement

“Helping children with special needs engage in the local church”

Vision

“To facilitate a Christ-centered environment where children with special needs and their families can be refreshed, encouraged, and ministered to through the word of God.”

Purpose

Our goal is inclusion in as much Children's Church activities as feasible with a planned pull out using appropriate materials and sensory equipment.

The Engage program will be offered during the 9:00am Sunday service. We'd love to speak with you in person and provide you with our parent packet prior to your child's first participation with Engage. If you would like more information, you're welcome to email us at engage@fccenter.net or call Elijah Tracy at 419-782-2100.

Engage Guidelines:

- Children grades K-6 who require assistance or who have physical or behavioral concerns that extend beyond the capabilities of the volunteers in the Children's Ministry classrooms.
- The behavior of your child must be able to be controlled within the Engage environment and with the volunteers that are available.

Policies

- An intake sheet must be completed prior to your child's first day in the Engage classroom in order to help us better serve and minister to your child.
- Signatures indicating agreement with all guidelines, policies and procedures must be completed before your child's inclusion in the Engage program.
- The Engage staff consists of volunteers that may have limited special needs training but who are passionate about children with special needs and who desire to provide an atmosphere conducive to ministering the word of God to your child. FCC and the Engage volunteers will provide a safe and loving environment for your child to the best of our abilities. However, we understand that accidents do happen, especially when there are children involved! You, as parent or guardian of a child who wishes to be involved in Engage, will be asked to review and sign a Waiver of Liability prior to your child participating in any Engage events.
- If your child requires any assistance at all with toileting (beyond assistance with hand washing or clothing fasteners), we ask that a parent or caregiver handle these needs.

- We ask that a parent or caregiver is present at all times during the service and that you attend to the number system (cards with your child's number will be given to you at each service) while we are with your child in the case of an accident, unmanageable behaviors or for any toileting needs that may arise. **At no point is it acceptable for the parent or caregiver to leave the church during service time while the child is participating in class.**
- If, at any time, the staff/volunteers feel uncomfortable with a medical or behavioral needs, parents may be asked to meet with our staff in order to consider continued placement or to provide further feedback so that we can serve your child best.

Our goal is to provide support for your child so that he/she can participate in the Children's Church ministry with other peers your child's age. This will provide them with the opportunity to worship and learn about Jesus through stories, games, and other activities. If, at any time, remaining in the Children's Ministry classroom is too difficult for your child, we will return to the Engage classroom where he/she can self regulate their emotions or just take a much needed break in the midst of a variety of sensory equipment, including trampolines, swings, and a large crash pit. We are very excited that you are interested in partnering with us in this endeavor and look forward to amazing things taking place through Engage!