



Dear Life group leader,

Trunk or Treat is only 7 weeks from the time we start life groups and one of the biggest events of our church. If this announcement gives you anxious thoughts, then I hope I can change that in this letter!

Let's talk about why we do this: We do this as a service to our community. We provide a safe, fun, non-spooky event for families to come to. We want the emphasis to be on serving the families who come. It's not about winning prizes for being the most creative or spending the most amount of time or money. This means that, even if your group will never be the best, or even close to the best, (or have the most adorable baby animals,) it is okay to still participate. We need you to participate! The people who come aren't going to judge your group as less than the best.

This year we have tried to help those who struggle with ideas by setting a general theme for the two children's ministry hallways. Anyone who wants can participate; you do not need to be involved in a life group. The theme for the Backyard is a farmer/harvest theme. We're looking for farmers, hobos, scarecrows, farm animal costumes, etc. It doesn't take a lot of time to come up with a flannel shirt and jeans, straw hat or bandana tied around your neck to look like you belong to this hall! The other hallway will be a 1920's theme to match the hall décor. Again, this is an easy theme to dress up to. I would suggest for women: long pleated skirts and collared blouses, flapper style dresses, pearls, feathered headbands, hats and gloves. For the men I would suggest: vests, suspenders, straw boater or newsboy hats, and bowties.

Also, this year we will be having rooms in the children's ministry open to groups who do not want to be outside. You can come and decorate a small spot inside a room and pass out candy. We will still have inflatables, a decorated trunk section and an interactive section for those groups who want to provide an interactive experience. We are also moving the donuts and cider table outdoors to a covered canopy by the playground so that the hallway is not as crowded or a mess.

Please discuss what your group's role will be in this year's Trunk or Treat by the end of September. Please make sure that you sign your group up online before October 21st. There will be a whole page dedicated to information about Trunk or Treat and a link to the sign-up form by Sept. 9th. We need to know so that we can save you a spot.

Of course, there will still be some other ways to serve including parking, child care help for those who are setting up from 3:30-5:00 p.m., inflatable help, set up, tear down, and help with greeting and the after party. The after party for everyone who helps will be inside this year so that we can see and be warm and have a better time.

If there is anything I can do to help you, please feel free to contact me. I hope that your group has a wonderful time as you serve together!

Cindy Thornton

Children's Ministry Director