



## Faithful Friends Jr. & Teens A Ministry of Parkside Church for Children & Youth with Special Needs

### A Letter to Parents and Caregivers

We are delighted to have this opportunity to minister to your child and your family through Faithful Friends, Jr. Our vision for FF, Jr. is that every person at Parkside Church, regardless of abilities, intellect and skills would become a committed follower of Jesus Christ. *What does this mean?* We desire that this ministry will:

- Be a safe place for children to experience and know the love of Christ;
- Allow parents/caregivers to worship, free from worry about their children;
- Be a support group for families with children who have special needs.

We desire to do more than just provide a room—we want to *feed children's souls*. We want to show your child Christ's love! *How do we do this?* By praying with and for children with special needs whom God brings to our ministry. By teaching God's Word in ways that are meaningful to them. By manifesting good deeds to children with special needs and their families in our care of them. By loving them!

To aid you in transitioning your child into this ministry, we request the following:

1. Please fill out and return the FF Jr. Registration before placing your child in the ministry. This allows us to contact you to discuss your child's specific needs, assure adequate staffing for your child, and prepare special materials that may be needed. If your child will be integrating into one of our typical Sunday School classes, we still ask you to complete the registration, as it helps us prepare the classroom teacher and/or mentor to welcome your child.
2. For your child's first week(s), we ask that one parent attends WITH your child. This way you can observe firsthand what your child will be doing, interact with the classroom teacher and helpers, and offer helpful input about how we can best care for your child.
3. After the initial week(s) in the classroom, our team will confirm with you about leaving your child and attending worship. A security number will be issued to you and your child. This number allows us to page you on the screen if you are needed during the service and is the one you provide in order to pick your child up from the classroom.

What do we do each week? **We have fun!** We sing songs, learn from the Bible, enjoy arts & crafts, play, and eat snacks. All these activities are geared toward engaging the interests and abilities of your child. Our desired ratio is 1:1 so that each child has loving care and meaningful interactions.

***We look forward to the opportunities God gives us to minister to your child and your family. Please contact Renee Pecek in the church office if you'd like to be put in touch with our ministry leaders.***



# Faithful Friends Jr. & Teens Registration



To help us better understand your child's gifts, interests and challenges, please fill out the information below and return to the church office (ATTN: Julie Pelletier) or to a FF, Jr. or Teens leader. **Please be detailed and be sure to answer questions all pages.** Thank you!

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname? \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Grade Level if attending school \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name (First & Last) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name (First & Last) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

My child's specific diagnosis is: \_\_\_\_\_

My child's strengths/interests are: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

My child has difficulty with: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Restroom habits: \_\_\_\_\_

Other information that would be helpful for the class leaders to know  
(Communication mode [if not verbal], favorite activities or toys, etc.):

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What would be 2 goals (desires) you would like for your child in our FF, Jr. or Teens ministry?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE COMPLETE REVERSE SIDE

Please check any special concerns your child has:

Food allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Other allergies: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Medications: For Emergency purposes only. We do not administer medications.

Name/Dosage	Dosage to be Administered	Time to Administer

**If a medical incident/emergency should occur while your child is in our care (i.e., seizure, etc.), please indicate how we should respond** (Ex: call you immediately, call 9-1-1 immediately, etc):

\_\_\_\_\_

*I affirm that all of the above information is accurate, and I grant permission for those giving care to my child to respond to a medical incident/emergency in the manner I have outlined above. If necessary, I authorize the staff of Faithful Friends, Jr. to administer medications as indicated above. I grant permission for the above information to be given to leaders who will be working with my child. I understand that this information will be kept in confidence by the staff.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Caregiver

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**PLEASE COMPLETE NEXT PAGE**

What is the best way to encourage your child to transition?

What is the best reward for your child?

What current behaviors are you dealing with at home? How do you want us to handle these behaviors?

If your child is having great difficulty in our class time (emotionally, behaviorally), what is the best way, in your experience to comfort or transition your child?

What behavior goals do you currently have that we may be able to reinforce?

Are there specific dietary needs? What is your child's favorite snacks?

### **Class agenda**

**Free time activities:** Do you have specific activities you know your child would enjoy or benefit from? Are there favorite toys your child loves? Also, if you ever feel we use the same toy or activity too much, please give us feedback or suggestions.

**Worship:** Any songs or instruments your child enjoys?

**Story:** Does your child read? Would they benefit from a one on one story time, or is corporate story satisfactory? Some kids do both, some like to read directly from the Bible themselves, some like to be read to one on one in a quiet setting.....

**Craft:** Includes Bible verse tracing/ memorization, coloring sheet and simple craft. Some kids really dislike crafts—do you want us to try to have your child do the craft?