

100+ WAYS TO GROW

Children's Ministry

1. Vacation Bible School

Held in early June for one week, 8:30-11:45 a.m.
Needed: teachers, helpers, craft coordinator and helpers, recreation, helpers, kitchen workers.

2. Fall Family Festival

Held on a Sunday afternoon in late October, this is a fun family event with crafts, games, hayrides, and pumpkin decorating. Needed: people to plan and man an activity.

3. Treat Providers

You can't have children's ministry without cookies and treats. Needed: Cookie bakers and treat providers.

4. Sunday School Greeters

People who will be in the hallway before Sunday School class to help new people find their classroom or register.

5. Prayer Partners for Kid's Sunday School Class

You will be given the names and a picture of a Sunday School class and asked to pray weekly for each child by name.

6. Midweek Activities

Help with short-term after-school or summer sessions for children.

7. Nursery Caregiver

Huggers and rockers are needed to provide childcare for young children during worship services and weekday meetings.

8. Nursery Home Visitation

Make home visits to families of new babies and send periodic mailings until the child is old enough for Sunday School.

9. Hanging of the Greens

A fun family event the first Sunday afternoon in Advent. Children decorate their own tree in Fellowship Hall. Needed: people to plan a simple craft for children to make.

Youth Ministry

10. Youth group leader or helper. Work with a team of adults at weekly (usually Sunday evening) youth fellowship meetings.

11. Special Youth Events Helper/Driver

Occasional help with such events as lock-ins, fundraisers, dances, out-of-town trips.

12. Mission Trip Sponsor

You'll never be the same after going on a mission trip with our youth. Adult helpers are needed for driving, working beside and loving kids in a mission setting.

13. Student Ministry Prayer Partners

Receive a list of youth and pray for them by name each week.

14. Confirmation Mentor

You'll be paired up with a confirmation student with whom you'll meet to share his/her confirmation journey.

15. Venturing Crew Helpers

Venturing Crew is a youth development program of the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women 14 to 20 years old. Adult leaders are needed to assist youth develop leadership skills as they plan and implement exciting adventures and service projects.

16. Provide Snacks/Suppers

Youth like to eat! Provide light supper or snacks for Sunday evening meetings.

Education Ministry

17. Sunday School Teacher

Share your gifts by teaching children, youth or adults in a variety of classes.

18. Lead a Short-term Class

We need folks who would lead a 4 to 6 week Bible Study or classes on parenting, marriage, finances, or other subjects.

19. Host a Home Group

Open your home for a short-term study. There's something special about meeting in a home.

20. Sunday School Classes

There are a variety of adult classes that meet on Sunday mornings from 9:00-10:00.

21. Small Groups/Bible Studies

We have many different groups for growth and study. Some are short-term and others meet throughout the year. Ask about what you feel would fit your needs.

22. The Alpha Course

This is a great place to become acquainted in a fun and casual environment. The 11-week course features a weekly meal, contemporary music, instruction about the basics of Christianity and discussion.

23. Library Team

Promote and help organize the church library.

24. Friendship Bible Study Mentor

You'll receive more than you give when you help with this group of young adults who are mentally challenged. They meet the second and fourth Wednesdays during the school year.

25. Craft Closet Organizer

Stock the craft closet and keep it organized and neat so teachers can find things.

26. Decorate Bulletins Boards

We always need new ideas for our bulletin boards.

Evangelism Ministry

27. Assist with New Member Classes

Help with Sunday morning classes where new people learn about the church and its ministries.

28. Sponsor a New Member

Take an interest in a new member (family) by calling them, inviting them to special events, and helping them find their place in the church.

29. Assemble New Member Packets

Prepare the packets of information that are handed out to new members.

30. Lay Sharing

Share your story of what God is doing in your life in worship or through other means.

31. Maintain or Help with Church Website

Worship Team Area

32. Ushers

Help greet and seat people coming to worship. Wear a big welcoming smile!

33. Partners in Faith

Everyone is assigned a month to participate in worship as a greeter, usher, lector, or by sharing special music or serving communion. Be sure to sign up when it's your month.

34. Altar Guild

Contribute to the worship experience by changing the paraments and preparing communion on an assigned month.

35. Home Communion

Assist pastor with communion for the homebound.

36. Wall Hangings/Banners

Help beautify the sanctuary with wall hangings and banners.

37. Bell Choir

Join our ringers who add joy to worship through the music of the bells. No prior music experience necessary.

38. Chancel Choir

For adults and teens who like to sing. The choir practices on Wednesdays at 7:00 and usually sings twice a month in worship.

39. Praise Team/Small Ensembles

If you like to sing with a small group, please let us know.

40. Play an Instrument

We would love to know if God has given you the gift of music, and if you are willing to share this gift in worship.

41. Special Music

Provide special music (vocal or instrumental) on an occasional basis for worship services.

42. Decorate the Sanctuary for Special Services

We want to make our sanctuary as beautiful and welcoming as possible each season of the church year.

43. Pew Crew

Each week the Pew Crew straightens up the racks on the pews so that every-thing is neat and tidy for worship.

44. Children's Activity Bags

Volunteers go through the activity bags each week to make sure that they have everything little ones need help to them find quiet ways to enjoy the worship service.

45. Name Tag Organizer

If you like to alphabetize, this is the job for you. Name tags are put back into their holders so they are ready to be picked up for worship.

46. Van Drivers

This ministry allows those who cannot drive to come to church. Presently, the van is used for the 10:30 worship service.

47. Sound System Help

Adults and youth are trained to work our sound system for services and on other occasions.

48. Video Techs

Adults and youth are trained to work the video equipment for services and on other occasions.

49. Duplicate CD's of our Services.

Each Monday CD copies of the worship service are made to be delivered to homebound members.

Hospitality Team Areas

50. Cooking Team

Help prepare meals for Alpha or other midweek activities.

51. Serve Fellowship Time

Offer a smile and cup of coffee to folks who come to Fellowship Time from 10:00-10:30 Sunday mornings.

52. Sunday Morning Welcome Team

Greet people at the outside doors, or wear an "Ask Me" button to help newcomers.

53. Secret Greeters

Watch for and greet visitors or new people before the service or during fellowship time. Make sure no one goes unnoticed.

Spiritual Retreats

54. Walk to Emmaus

A three-day retreat for deepening your relationship with God. Men and women attend separate weekends.

Mission Ministry

55. Go on a VIM Project

Would you like to be a volunteer in mission? We have opportunities near and far to work with our hands and hearts to touch the lives of people who need help.

56. Habitat for Humanity

Work with others to build or refurbish a home for a family in need.

57. Rescue Mission-meals

We serve meals twice a month and need volunteers to help prepare and serve.

58. Rescue Mission-Handyman/woman

If you like hands-on work, the Rescue Mission always appreciates help with painting, repairs, etc.

59. Food Pantry

Periodically we need someone to take the food that we have collected to the Food Pantry.

60. Meals on Wheels Delivery

Our church helps deliver hot meals to the elderly several times each year.

61. JFON

On the fourth Tuesday of the month, our church hosts an immigration clinic to assist Immigrants with legal matters. Volunteers are needed to help with food, childcare, hospitality and paperwork.

62. Jail Ministry

Make regular visits or help with Bible study at the Correctional Facility.

63. NUMB Ride for Hunger

"Will bike for food" is the motto of this four-day ride that raises funds for Conference hunger programs. Pastor Bill would love to tell you all about it.

64. Cowboy Bike Ride

The Saturday of Memorial weekend, United Methodist Men sponsor a bike ride on the Cowboy Trail beginning in Norfolk to benefit various ministry projects.

65. Community Thanksgiving Dinner Committee

Help plan and recruit volunteers for the community dinner held on Thanksgiving Day at the Immanuel Family Life Center.

66. Volunteer at the Mid-west Mission Distribution Center

Teams of volunteers travel to Chatham, Illinois to sort, assemble, and package items needed in response to disasters.

67. Hispanic/Latino Ministry

Help us find ways to reach out and make connections with our Hispanic and Latino neighbors. Be a welcoming presence at our Movie Nights for our members and Hispanic guests.

Caring Ministries

68. Visit Homebound Members

Consider visiting someone who is homebound. Maybe you could "adopt" them as a second parent or grandparent.

69. Hospital Visitation

Visits church members in the hospital, so they will feel the support of their church family. Training is available.

70. Deliver CD's of the Worship Service

CDs are delivered each week to those who cannot attend church, making them feel more connected

71. Intercessory Prayer

Two groups meet weekly to pray for the needs of the church and to lift individual requests. One group meets Tuesdays at 12:15pm, and the other meets Thursday evenings at 6:00.

72. Birthday Phone Calls

Callers phone people on their birthdays to wish them well.

73. Military Contacts

We want to keep in contact with our military personnel. Help keep addresses up to date and make periodic contacts or organize outreach opportunities for our congregation to members in the military and their families.

74. Meals of Care

A wonderful way to show support for those going through difficult times is a home-cooked meal. These are coordinated through the church.

75. Phone Buddies

Many of our senior members live alone and would like to have someone check in with them at a designated time just to make sure all is well.

76. Transport Folks to Medical Appointments

There is a need for people who would be willing to offer rides to folks who are unable to drive to medical appointments both in Columbus and to out-of-town locations.

77. Handy Man Jobs

Like to lend a helping hand to the elderly or members in need? Jobs may be as simple as changing light bulbs or furnace filters, painting or small repairs.

78. GriefShare

GriefShare sessions are held twice each year for those who have experienced a loss. They are led by caring people who understand what the grief process is and want to help.

79. Parish Nurses

We have a wonderful group of nurses who offer non-invasive help to our members in a variety of ways, including monthly blood pressure screening,

Social Ministries

80. Organize Family Outings/Events

Help plan events to bring families with children together...picnics, campouts, game nights, etc.

81. Adult Social Activities

Help people develop friendships through social activities...road trips, eating out, interest groups

82. 50+ Adult Fellowship

Keystone Fellowship is for adults 50 years and older. It meets the first Friday of each month at the Senior Center for lunch and fellowship.

83. Bike Rides

Participate in or coordinate bike rides for various age groups.

Around the Church

84. Grounds Keeping

Help with the maintenance of our beds and shrubs.

85. Set-up Crew

Sometimes when we have large functions we need help with setting up tables, chairs, etc.

86. Kitchen Cleaning Crew

A group meets monthly on a Saturday morning to give the kitchen a thorough cleaning. Many hands make light work.

87. Painting/Papering Projects

If you're good with a paintbrush or roller, please let us know!

88. Wonderful Work Force

For individuals and groups to work on special repair and fix-up projects, light construction, etc.

Office Help

89. Stuffers

Volunteers are needed to stuff the newsletter and occasionally other mailings. Treats are usually served!

90. Computer Data Entry

From time to time we need someone to enter information into our computer systems.

Other Exciting Ministries

91. Camp Counselors

Adults, college age and older, are needed as counselors in our excellent church camps. You can work for a summer or for a single camp session.

92. Sponsor A Youth for Camp

Sometimes youth need financial help in order to attend camp. What a great gift to give a child.

93. Photography

We can use your shutterbug skills to photograph events in the life of the church.

94. United Methodist Women

Offer many ways to become involved in service and develop friendships. Circles meet monthly with other special events throughout the year.

95. United Methodist Men

A great way to start the day on Wednesdays (6:30 am) is to join the UMM for breakfast and Bible study.

96. Community Garden

Work with an ecumenical group to develop a community garden in partnership with those who are in need of more and better food.

97. Exercise groups

Experience the benefits of exercising with a small group. Tai Chi and other forms of exercise are offered.

98. Empowerment

Is your weight affecting what you want to do with your life? Empowerment offers a loving support group and methods and techniques for reducing your weight and maintaining good health.

99. Quilting Ministry

Quilters meet on Tuesday mornings to make beautiful baby quilts, prayer quilts, lap robes and quilts for troubled youth at Epworth Village.

100. Serve on a Church Committee

The ministry of the church relies on the faithful service of members on a variety of committees or ministry teams. Tell us your interest and we will find a place for you to serve.

Last But Not Least

101. Propose Your Own Ministry.

If God is calling you to start something, let the pastor know. Your ideas are important, too.