

Wonderful Wednesday at Community Church **Guardian Handbook**

Welcome

Wonderful Wednesday is a free ministry of Community Church and is a Bible-based after school program that promotes spiritual and educational growth to elementary-aged students. Students are given opportunities to learn about God and His Word as well as participate in a variety of classes that offer life skills, hobby training, or are just plain fun! We look forward to a fun year!

Registration

Children must be in Kindergarten through 5th grade to participate in Wonderful Wednesday. New students may only begin at the start of a term and all enrollment forms must be handed in by the guardian to the Community UMC office the Friday before the start of each term. Enrollment Forms are available in the church office and on the church's website at communityumc.church/wonderfulwednesday.

Fee

There is no fee for Wonderful Wednesday. However, you may incur a charge for consistent late pick-ups of your child(ren). Please see our Late Pick-up Policy for more information.

Hours of Operation

Wednesdays: 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

School pick-up only available from Fruitland Park Elementary School

Contact Information

Please e-mail or call us if you have any questions or concerns. Also, please let us know if any of your contact information changes at any time.

Director: Faye Umble

Phone: (church) 352-787-1829 (cell) 717-679-3138

Email: kidsmin.cumc@gmail.com Fax: 352-787-9386

Website: communityumc.church

Attendance Policy



When enrolling for Wonderful Wednesdays, it will be understood that your child will attend the program regularly. Occasional absences are understood and expected, but if your child cannot attend on any given day for any reason, please contact us ahead of time as a courtesy.

Please understand that excessive absences become a problem when there are other children waiting to come into the program. Therefore, if your child does not attend regularly and misses three (3) Wednesdays out of a term, you will be contacted and asked to verify that you still wish to have your child(ren) continue in the program. If you wish to continue with the program, we will work with you to gain faithful attendance. Although, should absenteeism (without cause) continue to be a problem, we will withdraw your child(ren) from the program.

Discipline/Behavior Policy

Behavior Commitment:

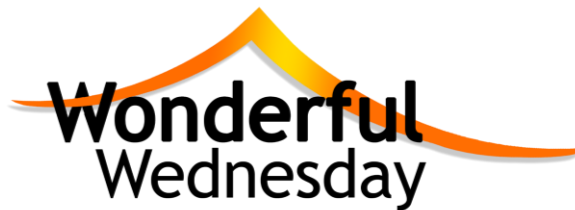
- Each child is responsible for their actions.
- Each child will show respect to other children, adults, and self.
- Each child will respect and take care of church and personal property.
- Each child is to be in control of themselves.
- Each child is to be actively involved in the program activities.

A child makes decisions about their behavior. When these decisions do not meet the above standards, it may be necessary for an adult to intervene and assist with more appropriate decision making. Age appropriate, constructive disciplinary practices are used for the children in our care in the following order:

- Discussion with the child about appropriate behavior
- A "time out" from the ongoing activity
- A "time out" and discussion with the Director
- A call to parents/guardian and a request for early pick up

Please note that continued inappropriate behavior throughout a specific day may lead to the child being sent home early or being suspended depending on the severity of the behavior.

In the case of severe behavior, which is defined as that which physically or verbally inhibits the learning process or threatens the safety of the student, other students or



adults, you (the guardian) will be notified immediately and asked to pick up your child. If your child continues to pick fights, bully, or cause arguments, they will be subject to suspension or asked to leave the program for the safety and happiness of the other children.

We will do all we can to work with you and your child on developing appropriate behaviors. We hope that you will work alongside us towards building quality character in our children.

Dismissal Policy

Dismissal begins at 5:00 pm outside the Sanctuary. Children are dismissed from their classes into the Sanctuary. Guardians must sign out their child(ren) outside the Sanctuary before preceding inside to pick-up their child(ren).

When signing a child up for the program, each guardian signs and returns a copy of the Dismissal Authorization Form stating that they are aware that their child needs to be picked up or walk home by 5:20 pm at the latest. This time is set in order to be courteous to our volunteers and staff that have commitments after Wonderful Wednesday.

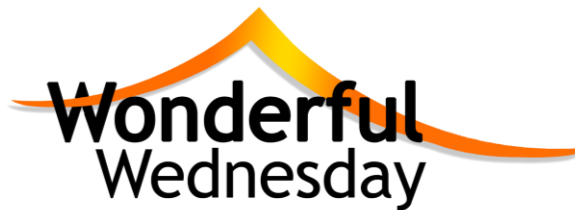
If the guardian arrives after 5:20 pm., it will be considered a first offense. The guardian will be given a verbal confirmation that they are aware of the late pick-up policy. It will be marked on the child's information sheet that a first offense has occurred, and a copy of the pick-up policy will be given to the guardian.

The following charges will begin accruing after 5:25 pm:

- The second offence will result in a \$1.00 per minute charge.
- The third offence will result in a \$2.00 per minute charge.
- The fourth offence will result in a \$2.00 per minute charge, as well as attending a meeting with the director to plan on how to eliminate late pick-ups and to determine whether their child(ren) will continue with the program.

Note that any late pick-up offences will count toward the parent that initially signed the child up for the program, even if it is due to lateness of someone else on the pick-up list.

Additionally, we understand that occasionally it is unavoidable to be late, and individual cases will be dealt with on an individual basis. In these cases, a phone call is greatly



appreciated. Please do not hesitate to call. It is always good to be able to tell the child(ren) that their guardian was delayed and will be here momentarily.

If we have not heard from the parent by 5:20 pm., we will try and contact them. If we are unable to make contact with them (or anyone else on their emergency contact/authorized pick-up list) by 5:45 pm., the police will be contacted for their assistance in finding the parent. At that point, Community UMC, the Wonderful Wednesdays Director, and/or Law Enforcement Agencies have full discretion as to what the outcome with the child(ren) should be. A possible solution could be having the child(ren) remain with or be taken by the Law Enforcement Agency.

Please make sure that we have updated contact information on file. This will make things easier should a situation ever arise that the guardian needs to be contacted about, such as illness, an accident, or a disciplinary problem.

Early Pick-Up

If you need to arrive early (before 4:45 pm) to pick-up your child(ren), please come inside through the main doors by the Church Office. We have a Hall Monitor Station in the hallway with someone posted to help you. After 4:45 pm, you can sign out your child at the regular pick-up area outside the Sanctuary.

Inclement Weather Policy

Throughout the year, we may have days when the weather affects student pick-up or the safety of the students. Following is our plan of action and procedures for hurricanes and tornadoes.

Severe Weather Procedures

- Tornado – If a tornado warning has been issued at Fruitland Park Elementary School before Wonderful Wednesday begins and afterschool classes and events have been canceled, we will also cancel the program for the day and you will need to pick up your child(ren) at the school or usual pick up location. In the case of a tornado or severe weather after Wonderful Wednesday has begun, students and teachers will assemble in the Family Life Center. We encourage you to come and pick up your child(ren) as soon as it is possible and safe to do so.



- Hurricane – If Fruitland Park Elementary is closed due to severe weather from a hurricane or tropical storm, then Wonderful Wednesday will also be canceled for that day.

The Family Show

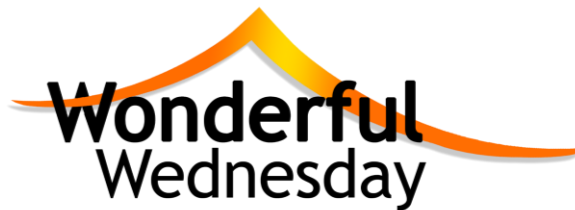
At the end of each term we put on a Family Show. Your child(ren) will begin the day like usual, but instead of going to classes, we begin practicing for our audience. Starting promptly at 4:15 pm, guardians, family members, and friends are invited to the Sanctuary to see what their child(ren) have learned that term. Performance based classes will show their routines and other classes will have tables set up in the lobby for your perusal. We encourage you to look at each class, meet the teachers, ask questions, and get to know our volunteers! This also gives your child(ren) a preview of other classes that may interest them. At the end of the show, your child(ren) will have a chance to sign up for classes for the next term.

Camp Day

Wonderful Wednesday will once again be working in partnership with the Warren Willis Camp and their Afterschool Adventures program. This means we get to enjoy a Camp Day one day each term. Your child(ren) will arrive at Wonderful Wednesday in the usual way and then will be bused to the camp for the afternoon. Your child(ren) will enjoy swimming, gaga ball, and other camp activities depending on the season and the weather. You will be notified beforehand what your child(ren) will need to bring or be prepared for. We will return to Community Church for pick-up by 5:00 pm. There is no cost for these field trips. For more information regarding the Warren Willis Camp and the Afterschool Adventures program, please visit their website at www.wwumccc.org or give them a call at 352-787-4345.

Thank You

Thank you for the time you have spent learning about our policies and plans. Our hope is you will keep this copy of the Guardian Handbook and refer back to it if you have any questions or concerns. If you need further information, or simply have a question, feel free to give us a call at 352-787-1829 or email us at kidsmin.cumc@gmail.com. We look forward to the opportunity of working with you and your child(ren) this year.



Opportunities for Families

You, your family, and your friends are invited to join us for fellowship, worship, or to experience Christian Education opportunities. We hope to see you soon!

Sunday

8:00 am	*Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary
9:30 am	*Contemporary Worship Service, Family Life Center
9:30 am	*Sunday School Opportunities, Education Building (For all ages – Nursery - Adults)
11:00 am	*Traditional Worship Service, Sanctuary
11:00 am	*Sunday School Opportunities, Education Building (For all ages – Nursery - Adults)
6:00 – 7:30 pm	Connect Preteens (4 th -6 th), Room 202
6:00 – 7:30 pm	Youth Group (7 th -12 th), Family Life Center

Wednesday

4:30 – 6:00 pm	Wednesday Night Dinners, Family Life Center (Adults - \$10 Children - \$5 Families - \$25)
6:15 pm	Kid's Club (Pre-K – 3 rd), Room 202
6:15 pm	Connect Preteens Midweek (4 th -6 th), Room 204
6:15 pm	Youth Midweek (7 th -12 th)
6:15 pm	*Wednesday Night Bible Studies and Classes

* *Nursery Provided*



Daily Schedule

2:00 pm – Wonderful Wednesday begins. Students are picked up from Fruitland Park Elementary School or dropped off by parents or Afterschool Adventures.

2:10 pm – Snack and outdoor play time.

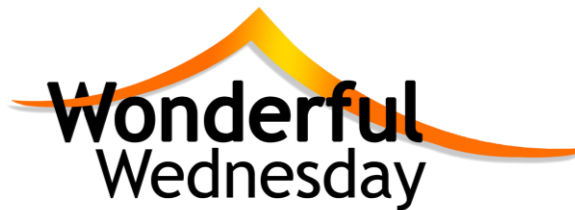
2:45 pm – Students go inside to the Sanctuary. There is time for a water and restroom break and then we have Large Group time. This includes praise and worship and the Bible lesson.

3:30 pm – Students go into the Education Hallway for Class Session 1.

4:00 pm – Students go to Class Session 2.

4:30 pm – Students go to Class Session 3.

5:00 – 5:20 pm – Dismissal and Pick-Up. Pick-Up will occur right outside the Sanctuary. Signs will be posted for your convenience.



Yearly Calendar '23 – '24

Term 1

September 6 – First Day
September 13
September 20
September 27
October 4
October 11 – Family Show
October 18 – Camp Day

Term 3

January 17 – WW Resumes
January 24
January 31
February 7
February 14
February 21 – Family Show
February 28 – Camp Day

Term 2

October 25
November 1
November 8
November 15
November 22 – Thanksgiving Break
November 29
December 6 – Family Show
December 13 – Camp Day

December 20 – Winter Break
December 27 – Winter Break
January 3 – Winter Break
January 10 – Winter Break

Term 4

March 6
March 13 – Spring Break – No WW
March 20
March 27
April 3
April 10
April 17 – Family Show
April 24 – Camp Day – Last Day of
Wonderful Wednesday