

Narrative Budget 2023: Youth and Children's Ministries

Our Youth and Children's Ministries provide education and fellowship opportunities for our young people from toddlers to high school youth. A key factor in the future of our church is the effectiveness of our youth and children's ministries. These ministries are important to DCPC for the following reasons:

Youth Ministry

- DCPC Youth Ministry creates a weekly opportunity for students to connect in-person with peers and caring adults in a welcoming and safe environment.
- We teach on topics important to students in their everyday lives and find creative ways to demonstrate God's love for them.
- We also provide students with opportunities to discover how they were created by God to make a difference in the world by loving others in our church and in our community.
- We help connect parents with resources to support them in their incredibly important role as the primary influence on their child's life and faith.

Children's Ministry

- Children need a place to dive into stories of our faith, to consider their relationship with God, and to build friendships within the church. Our Sunday School and Wednesday afternoon classes are vibrant and growing, with attendance well above and beyond pre-pandemic numbers.
- We mark important developmental moments with our Milestone Classes: 1st Grade Worship & Sacraments, 2nd Grade Prayer, 3rd Grade Bible, 4th Grade Discipleship, and 5th Grade Faith & Sexuality. Children are encouraged to connect their faith with life and worship, while asking big questions in a safe space.
- Special events and holidays are important for families to connect with other families at church. We offer two Easter egg hunts, a MLK Jr. Day service/learning opportunity, Summer Bible School, and resources to mark the Lent and Advent seasons at home.
- Children are the future of the church, but also have real faith and relationships with Jesus in the present. As children face the joys and challenges of life, DCPC wants to be there with encouragement, a library of resources, and people who love them.