

What is God's Champions?

God's Champions is a ministry here at Danville First Baptist Church for children with special needs ranging from toddler to senior high. As the program grows we will include all special needs individuals.

God's Champions' goals are to:

- **SUPPORT** - Individuals worship God and learn about Jesus in a way that is understandable and meaningful to them. We strive to provide a safe, loving, and acceptable atmosphere for the individual and their family.
- **EDUCATE** - God's Champions ministry also provides education to teachers, congregation, and children of the church about special needs and how to best support them.
- **OUTREACH** - We would like to eventually reach out to the special need community and families and provide programs like respite care, day out for moms, dads and siblings. We want to reach out to families affected by special needs to show God's love to them.

How does the ministry work?

When God's Champions is notified that the family of a child with special needs would like to be part of the ministry, they will be given an in-depth Family Survey form. The coordinator will contact the family and ask any additional questions and allow the family to ask any questions. If the family wants to, they can come see the classroom and tour the church prior to coming.

Pertinent information from the Family Survey will be given to individuals who need to know and are involved with the child (teachers and Buddies). From the information, we will work with teachers to help adapt lessons and activities to better teach the child. It is VERY important that all information is kept confidential!!

Buddies are given to those who need more individualized help. The goal is to keep all children in the classroom with their classmates.

How is God's Champions used?

God's Champion can be utilized when a child comes and has special needs. But this is not the only time. God's Champions can be utilized when a:

- child comes with behavioral problems
- child comes and needs one on one attention
- teacher believes a buddy would really help a child excel

This ministry should be thought of as being 'extra hands' or giving 'extra love' to someone who really needs it.

Volunteer Opportunities

All volunteers are required to attend a mandatory training session at least once a year. Check out the following positions!

Buddies: Pair up with an awesome child who could use some extra support while participating in class. This is a month-on/month-off position that takes place during Sunday Bible School (9:15am) or Children's Church (10:30am).

Curriculum Helper: Assist the Curriculum Coordinator in modifying the curriculum used in the classroom for a child with special needs. Example: cut out pictures for stories, make schedules, memory verse strips, make busy boxes pertaining to lessons, etc.

Outreach and Educational Activities Volunteer:

We look for volunteers to help in all different roles during our educational and outreach events. We will have these events a few times a year. For example: Trunk-r-Treat, Disability Awareness Sunday and various training sessions at FBC.