

Words of Wisdom Odds, Ends, and Trouble Shooting

Quotes from those who have been there!

I've made sure that the Special Needs programs are easy to find on our website, and not hidden somewhere. If someone is looking for a church that welcomes special needs, then they can easily see that we do. All they have to do is look under ministries, and they will find us, along side all the other ministries in the church.

We recently purchased a cell-phone which we call the "Special Kids Hot-Line" . The idea is that volunteers, teachers and/or church staff can use it to immediately get help (on Sunday morning especially) for this type of situation. Currently, we are rotating carrying the cell phone between several committee members. We also ordered business cards and fridge magnets showing the hot-line number and our email address so that folks can easily reach us.

A parent may feel that the child does not need a "Classroom Companion", yet the teacher is providing feedback that some additional help is needed. One option is placing a volunteer "teacher's helper" in that class not specifically dedicated to that particular child.

One issue was determining where Special Needs Ministry fits into the overall church committee structure and with which staff to align. Because we potentially support persons with special needs of all ages, we don't really align with Children's Ministry or with Youth. It was recently decided to align us with Congregational Care - which appears to be a good fit.