
ABOUT

Barnabas Buddies is a program that “buddies” a caring church member with a special needs friend so that they can experience God’s love in a way that meets their needs.

The program is offered during our Sunday morning worship and Bible study times (9:00 & 10:30).

It is offered for anyone with special needs, regardless of age.

All of our Barnabas Buddies are volunteers with no formal special needs training, only big hearts for God and His people.

GOALS

To show families of children with special needs that we believe each child is created in God’s image and can have a relationship with Jesus Christ!

To foster a welcoming atmosphere and a safe and loving environment where persons with special needs can worship God and learn about Jesus.

To provide the support of a caring church member (known as a Barnabas Buddy) for persons with special needs so that he or she can learn about God’s love in a way that meets their individual needs

PROGRAM TIMES

The Barnabas Buddies program is offered on Sunday mornings during both our 9:00 worship and 10:30 Bible study hours.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Barnabas Buddies is provided for 4 yr. olds to 5th grade only during VBS. Volunteers with special needs children can bring their children (any age) to the Barnabas Buddies program only on the days they are serving.

During VBS the children will be in a group with other children their same age. If necessary, there will be a special Barnabas Buddies classroom available.



Barnabas Buddies

Seeking to share the love of Jesus and foster Christian growth to those with special needs and their families.



CONTACT

Derek Ervin | Children’s Minister

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(615) 890-6977

BABC - 1307 N Rutherford Blvd.

ADMITTANCE TO BARNABAS BUDDIES

In order to provide the best care for your family we request a meeting before admission into the Barnabas Buddies ministry. During that meeting we will evaluate the basic needs of your special needs child and go over the details of the ministry.

QUESTIONS?

Who is Barnabas Buddies intended for?

Any person (of any age) with developmental or medical disabilities is appropriate for this program. Barnabas Buddies desires to provide love and care for persons with special needs so that parents/guardians may attend worship and feel their child is being all cared for.

What do we provide?

We seek to provide integration into your child's age appropriate classroom/worship. We believe that interaction with others their age bring benefits to both those with and without special needs. When integration is difficult we will transfer to a steerage classroom where learning can be tailored to meet individual needs (see BB classroom).

BARNABAS BUDDIES CLASSROOM

The Barnabas Buddies classroom is a customizable space used to engage those with special needs. It is full of physical objects which are used to teach, relieve stress, and build relationships between your special needs child and their Buddy.

The room contains puzzles, exercise balls, a trampoline, TV, pictures, toys, and more! All of which are meant to help the Barnabas Buddies share the love of Jesus and foster Christians growth with your child.



QUESTIONS? (CONT.)

What do we not provide?

We do not provide the following:

- Therapy
- Behavioral Modification Programs
- Medical Intervention (only in emergency situations)

What are some examples of diagnoses which may be appropriate for this ministry?

- Cerebral Palsy
- Autism
- Muscular Dystrophy
- Down's Syndrome
- Developmental Delays...

Are all just a few examples.

How do I enroll my child?

The first step is to contact Derek Ervin. You can find his contact info on the front of this brochure. He will set up an initial meeting and interview time with you. During this time you will be able to give us a greater amount of detail regarding how we can serve you through this ministry!