

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

EXCITING NEWS FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES!!!

Last month the pastors and Staff-Parish Relations approved the hiring of an Assistant for Children's Ministries on Sunday mornings, Wednesday nights, and for special events. Her name is Francessca Alvarado and she's 20 years old and a member of St. James UMC in New Tampa. She is presently in her last year at HCC and is enrolled at USF next fall where she will continue her studies in Elementary Education. Francessca has been a swim instructor/coach and is certified in infant and child CPR. She LOVES kids and is also presently a nanny for a local family with three children. She speaks fluent English, and Spanish, and understands some Italian! Her primary focus will be to re-energize the 3rd-5th grade Rock Solid group and help wherever else needed in Children's Ministries. We are confident that the kids are going to love her! Please introduce yourselves to Francessca when you see her!

Rock Solid Families Meet Again – Thursday, December 2nd

We had such a great attendance at the Nov. 10th family meeting that we are going to do it again!

If you missed the first meeting – no problem! We will meet from 6:30-7:30pm in Room 203/205 West (upstairs). **Child care is available but your RSVP is a must so we will have enough age-appropriate care available.** Please contact Patti at 253-2766 or at patti.dioffi@verizon.net Rock Solid Families involves ALL PARENTS of children from nursery age through 5th grade and any other interested adults who wish to share opinions and ideas and be involved in the Christian growth of children, and enhance Children's Ministries at PCUMC. Many families were represented at our last meeting and have bonded with other families. Let's keep that alive!

Advent Crafts and Games – Saturday, December 4th

You are invited to come and bring a friend to our Advent Celebration in our Fellowship Hall from 10am until noon. We will enjoy crafts, games, Christmas music/video, light snacks, and maybe have a visit from a big man in a red suit! Family and Volunteer Sign-up sheets are on Patti's door. This is a FREE family event so sign-up is a MUST!*

***All children must be with a responsible adult.**

Migrant Mission – Saturday, December 11th

On December 11th at about 8am we will meet in the church Empedrado parking lot and load the donated items (clothing, toys, and blankets, etc.) that we have been collecting for the Migrant Farm Workers since Thanksgiving. At about 8:30am we will travel to Wimauma (near Plant City) to distribute the items to the migrant workers and their families, share a special worship with them, and plan to be back at around 2:30pm. If you would like to go with us please do! Spanish speaking translators are also needed!

Sunday Stretch - Coleman Track (Every Sunday Afternoon!)

The Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day is also the kick off for the "Going the Distance For God" training. Each Sunday after Thanksgiving until late February, children and parents meet on the Coleman track to train for the Gasparilla 5K walk/run race. These **Sunday Stretch** late afternoons are open to all! (Meet about 4:30) This is a healthy way for families to bond away from our church campus!

Christmas Eve – Family Service (5pm this year!)

Watch for announcements about rehearsals in future church bulletins, and emails. We have some exciting plans for a sweet and simple Christmas Eve children's program involving music (with a guest child violinist!), costumes, and customs from around the world! If you have any costumes or music from different countries, please let Patti know! Thank you and Merry Christmas!!!





Christmas Wish List

