

Family Ministries Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2026

I LOVE JESUS!



CHOOSE
kindness



WHOEVER HAS MY COMMANDS AND KEEPS THEM IS THE ONE WHO LOVES ME. THE ONE WHO LOVES ME WILL BE LOVED BY MY FATHER, AND I TOO WILL LOVE THEM AND SHOW MYSELF TO THEM.

John 14:21

Family Ministries Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2026

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Meet your Family Ministries Director



PROVERBS 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.

I'm so honored to be serving as your Family Ministries Director. My love for God has shaped my entire life, and it's what led me here. I believe He gives each of us gifts to use for His purposes, and using mine to serve Him, and to serve your families, is a privilege I am truly grateful for.

Family Ministries exists to train up our children and youth in the way they should go, so that they grow up rooted in the Lord and don't depart from Him. accomplishing this will take more than one person, or even one family. It takes a village, teachers, mentors, volunteers, and the whole church family, all showing up for our kids and pouring into their lives.

I want to personally invite you to be part of what we're building here at Charity UMC Family Ministry. Whether that means volunteering in a classroom, helping with an event, praying over our children, or just getting more involved in what your own kids are learning, there's a place for you!

Thank you for welcoming me into this role and the opportunity to be part of this church family. I'm looking forward to what God has in store for our kids this year, and I'm grateful to be walking it out alongside you!

--
WITH KINDNESS,

REBECCA RICHARDSON

FAMILY MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

Family Ministries HIGHLIGHTS

BACK-TO-SCHOOL SUNDAY

CREEDS *Elementary*

This year we partnered with Creeds Elementary School to help kids start the year off strong! We collected the following items to bless their classrooms:

- Hand sanitizer
- Clorox wipes
- Liquid soap
- Paper towels
- Tissues
- Gallon Ziploc bags
- Dry erase markers

During service,
we prayed over
our students and
their school
supplies!



Night of WORSHIP

Our youth and families came together for a dedicated Night of Worship, a special evening set aside to encounter God through music, prayer, and worship. It was a powerful time of connection and spirit-filled praise, and we're grateful for everyone who joined us.



September

UPCOMING EVENTS

Youth Families

VISION NIGHT | WED | 6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

9

Kick off a new year of Wednesday Night Youth. We'll walk through what's ahead, sign up new students, and share how you can get involved as a volunteer!

Youth (6th–12th grade)

**WED
NIGHT
YOUTH**

16

6:30 PM – 8 PM

Join us for
devotion,
discussion, and
fun activities
together.

**WED
NIGHT
YOUTH**

23

6:30 PM – 8 PM

Join us for
devotion,
discussion, and
fun activities
together.

**WED
NIGHT
YOUTH**

30

6:30 PM – 8 PM



**SKY ZONE
TRAMPOLINE PARK**

Departure from
church at 5:50 pm

Kids (3 yrs–5th grade)

FUN & FAITH | WED | 6:15 PM – 7:30 PM

30

A fun-filled evening exploring John 14:21 and what it really means to show our love for Jesus through our actions, not just our words!

I Love
JESUS!

FAITH AT HOME
September 2026

This month, our focus is loving Jesus. Not just believing in Him, but living it out in the ordinary moments of everyday life.

JOHN 14:21

Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.

Think about the people in your family. How do you know they love you? Every family has its own way of saying "I love you." Maybe it's a hug at bedtime, a favorite meal made just for you, someone showing up to cheer you on. Love isn't just words. It's something we see and feel in what people do.

Jesus tells us the same thing is true about loving Him.

As God's family, we're called to demonstrate our love for Him, not just profess it. He's asking for a response lived out in the ordinary rhythms of daily life, because love for Jesus is meant to be lived.

So what does that look like for your family this month? Scripture gives us a few simple starting points we can practice together.



LOVE ONE ANOTHER
(JOHN 13:34-35)



MAKE TIME FOR GOD
(LUKE 4:8)



TELL OTHERS ABOUT GOD
(MATTHEW 28:19-20)



PRAY
(COLOSSIANS 4:2)



READ HIS WORD
(JOSHUA 1:8)



FORGIVE
(COLOSSIANS 3:13)

I Love
JESUS!

FAITH AT HOME
September 2026

DEVOTION IN ACTION!

- Set aside a little time to read through some of the verses above. Pick a few each week as your family's focus. This can include, but is not limited to; love, worship, sharing your faith, prayer, reading God's Word, or forgiveness, and make it your goal to live it out every day that week.

Check in together daily and let each person share one way they showed their love for Jesus, big or small. By the end of the month, your family will have practiced at least six ways of loving Jesus, together. More than that, you'll be building habits that carry beyond this month, small, everyday practices that weave God into your normal routines. That's what a daily walk with Jesus really looks like!

For kids
KIDS CORNER

COLORING
Pages
[CLICK HERE](#)



ACTIVITY
Pages
[CLICK HERE](#)



For Parents
★★ PARENTS CORNER

ISAIAH 40:31

- But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Charity UMC Family Ministries wants you to know that we're praying for you, too. Parenting isn't easy, and you don't have to navigate it alone. We're here to support, encourage, and pray for you every step of the way.

A Prayer of Encouragement

Lord,

Back-to-school season brings early mornings, new schedules, homework, and a quiet worry underneath about our kids. Give our parents and guardians strength on the tired days and patience on the hard ones. Renew them the way You promise to renew those who hope in You, so even on the days that feel too long, they can keep going without growing weary. Remind them You are walking this season with them. Encourage their hearts and steady their homes.

Amen.

September
★ ★ ★ **FAMILY CHALLENGE**

BLESS A TEACHER

- This September, as a family, choose one teacher, school staff member, or coach in your life to bless. Write a note of encouragement, put together a small treat or supply bag, or simply say thank you in person. It's a small act, but it's a real way to live out this month's theme, showing love for Jesus by showing love to others.

MEMORY VERSE: JOHN 14:21

- Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.

Work on memorizing this verse together as a family throughout the month. Say it at breakfast, in the car, or before bed until everyone has it down.



Stock Dinsmore



Brian Pinardi



Sarah Wydner

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

A huge thank you to our Night of Worship Team, Stock Dinsmore, Brian Pinardi, and Sarah Wydner, for leading us in such a meaningful night of music, prayer, and worship! They guided our youth and families as we sought God and experienced His presence together.

Thank you for serving so faithfully!

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT



Branden

This month we're celebrating Branden! One Sunday when youth Sunday school wasn't meeting, Branden didn't let that stop him. He still showed up to church ready to learn, and ended up attending the adult Sunday school class. That's discipleship in action. Branden's hunger to grow in his faith and his zeal for God is a reminder to all of us of how on fire we should be for the Lord.

Way to go, Branden!

Family Ministries MONTHLY NEWS & RESOURCES



PRAYER FOCUS

Pray with us for students, teachers, and staff at Creeds Elementary and other local schools as the new school year begins. Pray also for Wednesday Night Youth and Fun & Faith as they begin a new season, especially for students attending for the first time and for the volunteers and leaders serving them.

MINISTRY WINS

- New Family Ministries Director off to a strong start!
- Our kids kicked off the school year with prayer, blessings, and celebration!

NEXT MONTH: OCTOBER

Here's what's coming next!



Many superheroes have special powers, but only one Hero defeated sin and death forever!

RESOURCE: BETTER TOGETHER TV



Better Together is TBN's daily show featuring honest conversations about faith, family, relationships, and real life. While it's created with women in mind, moms and dads alike can find encouragement and practical wisdom for navigating family life together.

[www.youtube.com
/@BetterTogetherTV](http://www.youtube.com/@BetterTogetherTV)

Family Ministries **CONNECT CORNER**

Family Ministries Volunteer Interest Form



<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/ZF2x1rrhK5>

FEEDBACK OR SUGGESTIONS?

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Virginia Beach, VA 23457



(757) 426-7296



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charitychurchvb.com



facebook.com/charityumc



[@charitychurchvb](https://instagram.com/charitychurchvb)

SERVE WITH US

Lead Volunteer

leads the event and the lesson. Leads devotion, Bible lesson, discussion, or activities; preps classrooms and supplies; welcomes families; supports the team.

Time commitment:

at least 1x per month

Supporting Volunteer

builds relationships and assists the lead. Welcomes kids, engages them in conversation and activities, helps with setup, cleanup, and check-in.

Time commitment:

at least 2x per month

**READY TO SERVE? SCAN THE
QR CODE TO FILL OUT THE
VOLUNTEER INTEREST FORM.**





I Show My Love for Jesus!



I Love Jesus Word Search

Find 10 words that show how we can love and follow Jesus:

X	V	Y	J	Z	W	F	Y	S	E	G	Q	X	V
Z	O	G	E	B	Y	S	D	U	D	L	Z	V	E
A	C	S	S	Q	I	B	H	M	I	Z	C	C	Y
K	I	N	D	E	D	B	N	A	V	L	O	V	E
M	I	R	S	X	P	N	L	L	R	K	I	U	E
P	G	U	O	E	Y	M	R	E	H	E	R	C	Y
S	D	Y	B	P	Z	E	A	A	Y	T	T	S	G
Q	R	N	E	G	F	S	W	J	Y	K	V	R	L
J	P	H	Y	B	O	B	N	O	F	B	L	W	E
E	K	F	P	F	R	G	T	R	R	A	H	A	A
S	I	L	R	P	G	F	O	H	B	S	I	D	V
U	T	K	A	X	I	R	V	H	A	W	H	T	K
S	G	U	Y	L	V	Z	X	A	T	X	S	I	H
F	Q	W	J	B	E	B	O	O	E	F	E	Y	P

PRAY
BIBLE
FAITH
OBEY
WORSHIP

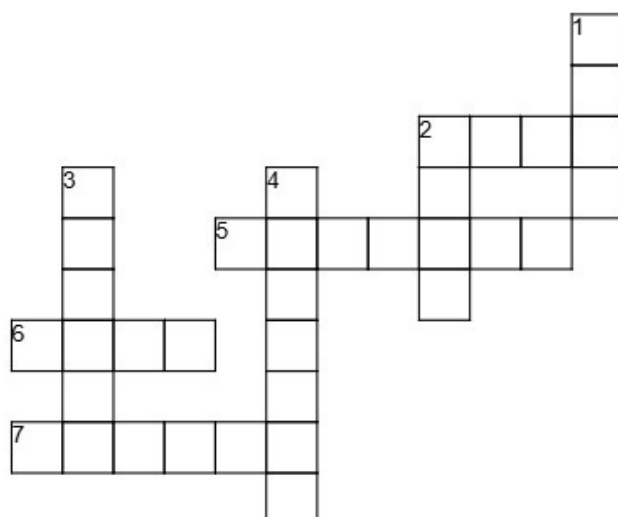
FORGIVE
JESUS
KIND
LOVE
SHARE

Showing Our Love for Jesus

Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them. John 14:21 (NIV)



The words in the puzzle are based on John 14:15-21.



HORIZONTAL

- 2. To have a deep feeling of affection for another person
- 5. An endless period of time
- 6. To give evidence of something
- 7. A child who has lost both mother and father

VERTICAL

- 1. To obey (such as the rules)
- 2. To be alive; the opposite of die
- 3. The relationship of God to Jesus
- 4. A rule or an order given to a person to do something

KEEP
FATHER

SHOW
LIVE

LOVE
FOREVER

COMMAND
ORPHAN