

Congregations For Children (C4C) is a state-wide initiative of The United Methodist Church focused on providing equitable education for all students in public schools in North Carolina. Our goal is to develop or expand partnerships between United Methodist churches and public schools in their communities. Churches are encouraged to provide support to a low-performing school of their choice by addressing one or more of the focus areas below. These areas pose significant challenges for our children.

Areas of Focus

1. Enhancing Elementary School Literacy Skills
2. Providing Basic Needs
3. Increasing Church/Community and Interaction with Positive Role Models
4. Caring for the Total School
5. Advocating for Community and Government Support for Public Schools



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Focus Area Support Options

Caring for the Total School

- Special lunches and treats for all school personnel
- Educational supplies and equipment
- Outdoor special projects (landscaping, outdoor classroom, garden projects...)

Basic Needs

- Maintaining clothing closet at school
- Hygiene kits (Soap, deoderant, tooth care supplies)
- Food weekend and summer backpack programs

Advocacy for Public Education

- Stay informed about Public Education Issues
- Communicate with elected officials
- Partner with other education advocate groups

Elementary School Literacy

- In-school and after-school mentors and tutors
- Donating books and educational supplies
- Summer literacy and STEM/STEAM camps

Church and Community Involvement

- Classroom mentors and tutors
- Morning greeters, hall and lunchroom volunteers
- Volunteers at school events, bookfairs, field trips...

- **C4C provides an excellent opportunity for a church of any size to enhance its community outreach.**
- **If a church has an existing school partnership, C4C can help to undergird and build on that foundation.**
- **Partnerships are developed and customized based on the specific resources of each church and the specific needs of each school.**
- **Model is designed to engage a broad cross section of a church's congregation.**
- **District C4C Coordinators are available to provide coaching, training and assistance throughout the partnership development and implementation process.**