



MINISTRY GUIDE

We currently offer two main programs: Sunday worship Program and Respite Program. They are explained in detail below, and if you have any questions that are not answered below, please feel free to contact us at kyunguisuh@kepc.org or 650-714-6090. You can also find more information from our website <https://epcsj.org/education/disability-ministry!>

1. Sunday Worship Program

At EPC, we are here to help our special needs children thrive, by offering help with worship needs on Sundays. There are two main branches of our Sunday worship ministry. In the first, our volunteers accompany a high-functioning child, 1-on-1, to the Worship service of appropriate age group for either 10AM or 12pm services, helping with understanding and communicating as needs arise during the service and small group meeting following the service. We call this ministry **BUDDY ministry**.

The second team of volunteers get together with special needs children at 10AM in our ministry room (#252) to worship together in Special Needs Worship Service, in our unique sensory-friendly environment carefully designed for the special needs children. For young adults with special needs, we have 12pm service in our ministry room. We call this ministry the **WORSHIP ministry**.

Interested families can register either online or in person, and at a brief family meeting with the pastor and the ministry leadership, we will decide together which program would benefit the child better. Regardless of the program chosen, the family members or caregivers will be able to drop off the child at the ministry before the service, and then to come back and pick up the child after service.

Unless requested by the family, once engaged, this program will renew and continue every year, automatically. Also, meetings will be set up on a regular basis for the betterment of the child's experience at EPC, so that he can come to know Christ and thrive as an integral part of EPC community and beyond. We also strive to encourage one another- the leadership, and the volunteers, and families - to learn of the abundant grace and beauty of God together through this ministry.

2. Respite Program

We are excited to be kicking off an addition to our Special Needs Ministry at EPC. The Respite program is an outreach program where the ministry provides safe and fun environment for the special needs children and their siblings, so that their parents, guardians, or caregivers may have a time of rest. We call it our **PLAYGROUND**. It is currently open to special needs children in the EPC community, and with God's grace we hope to expand it gradually so that we can serve more special needs children from greater San Jose area.

This program occurs every other week, from 1:30PM to 4PM on Sundays at EPC facility, with a loosely structured program which includes some group activity time as well as individual play time. In general, there will be some music, arts and crafts, group games, exercise (walk-around-the-block, if applicable), story time, movie and snack time! Children may be dropped off or picked up at any time between the posted time, as long as the specific times have been communicated to the ministry in advance.

Interested families need to register for the program, and if desired, siblings may be registered as well.

After completing the registration, the sign-up process (for desired dates) will follow, and that is it! We hope to see your child at our **PLAYGROUND** soon!