



Dear First Presbyterian Academy Parents, Students and Staff,

We are excited to announce that we will, once again, be partnering with First Presbyterian Academy at Shannon Forest to offer the **Connection Through Christ Leadership Development Program** for students in 4th through 8th grade.

What is the Connection Through Christ Leadership Development Program?

An after school program where students will be using the Bible and Jesus' ministry as a guide to learn about leadership and disability. Each week, students will be challenged to grow in their faith, develop leadership skills and use what they are learning to impact their communities.

What are the objectives of Connection Through Christ Leadership Development Program?

- Using the Bible as a guide, students will learn about disability-inclusive leader qualities, including empathy, awareness, effective communication and community building.
- Students will acquire foundational leadership skills including team building, communication and social skills.
- Using Jesus' ministry as an example, students will develop disability awareness, sensitivity and inclusion.
- Students will study other disability topics including disability history, assistive technology, accessibility, careers and advocacy.

What can students expect each week?

- Students will be engaged through an interactive lesson.
- Small group activities and games will provide students with opportunities to have fun while learning.
- Lessons and small group activities encourage the development of new friendships.

How can students register?

- Students can register online at <https://www.bridgedsc.org/fpa-registration.html>.
Registration will close on Tuesday, January 9th.

When will students meet?

Students will meet each Wednesday from 3:15pm-4:15pm. The first meeting will be January 10 and the last meeting will be April 24. We will not meet February 14, March 20 and March 27.

Will students be required to complete assignments outside of school?

Students are encouraged to spend 5-10 minutes each week completing a weekly application worksheet. Students will also have the opportunity to complete a final project. In addition, students will be encouraged to apply the knowledge and skills they learn in the program in their classroom, school, church and communities.

Who will be facilitating Connection Through Christ Leadership Development Program?

Allison Huffstutler, a former teacher and current parent of two children at FPA, and Amy Hibbs, an Occupational Therapist and mother of three, will be facilitating the weekly sessions. You can visit our website at <https://www.bridgedsc.org/our-founders.html> for more information about Allison and Amy.

What is the cost?

The cost is \$150. Financial assistance is available. Please email info@bridgedsc.org to apply for financial assistance.

We look forward to another successful year of Connection Through Christ! We are praying that through this program, your students will grow in their faith and leadership skills and will expand their influence and impact on their communities.

**Best Regards,
Allison Huffstutler and Amy Hibbs**