

## **YWCA Kids Place with Mifflin Presbyterian Church**

YWCA Columbus and Mifflin Presbyterian Church are working together to provide an after-school program for elementary children beginning with the 2018-2019 school year. By mutual agreement, YWCA Columbus will administer Mifflin's program using safety and programmatic guidelines consistent with those used in Gahanna YWCA Kids Place locations.

### What are the differences between Kids Place at the elementary schools and Mifflin's program?

Mifflin will subsidize operational costs, allowing their program to

- Have a lower teacher-student ratio. This, along with the help of volunteers, will allow increased adult/children interaction (including intergenerational opportunities), program flexibility, one-on-one homework help, and frequent guest speakers to enrich the after-school experience.
- Provide experiential opportunities such as cooking, gardening, hands-on art and science activities, relationship building with civil servants (e.g., firefighters and police officers), community service projects, etc.
- Focus on positive values, character-building, and good citizenship in a faith-based environment.

### Will there be structured religious education?

No structured religious curriculum will be offered. Students will, however, be in contact with Christian symbols and celebrations, since the after school program shares the same spaces where the church continues its ongoing ministries.

### Which students will be able to attend?

Transportation will be provided by Gahanna Jefferson Schools or Mifflin for students from **Lincoln, Jefferson, Chapelfield, and Royal Manor Elementary Schools** to the church property at 123 Granville Street in downtown Gahanna; however, children from any Gahanna elementary school are welcome (on a space available basis) if families provide their own transportation.

### Will children be safe at Mifflin?

The church building is a locked environment protected by a network of security cameras. Those entering the facility will check in and out at the monitoring station in the back lobby.

### Is there an additional cost for Mifflin's programming or transportation?

No. For the 2018-2019 school year, Mifflin will cover the costs of additional staff, transportation, and program features.

### Why is Mifflin Presbyterian Church doing this?

As a church, Mifflin is seeking to serve the broader community. The congregation is blessed with financial and building resources that they want to make available, and their research indicated a need for increased, affordable after-school programs in the Gahanna community. They hope that, in some small way, this ministry begins to address the ongoing needs that our community faces.