

Working at the Pumpkin Patch



Working at the Pumpkin Patch can be a very pleasurable activity. You get to meet and greet your friends, neighbors, and strangers and give them a taste of Christian welcome and service. A smile and a cheery hello go a long way to making anyone's day more pleasant.

On the sign-up sheet we have an Orange and a Green team. We like to have at least two people at the patch from 10 a.m. to dark (more on weekends). The two teams have staggered time periods to make it easier to fit into your schedule and so we always have one person there when the other shift is changing. You can sign up for either team at any time that is best for you. Sometimes the Orange times may work better for you than the Green, and vice versa.

Most of us eventually develop what some might call "a patter" offering our customers a welcome and short intro reminding them not to pick the pumpkins up by their stems, to look out for stickers and fire ants, encouraging them to take pictures, offering them the use of the wagons and wheelbarrows, explaining how the pumpkins are priced (measuring with the special blue tapes), we will have priced models on the table for them to get an idea of size and prices (do not sell those on the table please) and letting them know we are there to answer questions, such as why we are selling them (Outreach), or "where do the pumpkins come from" (from the Navajo Indian Reservation in New Mexico).

There is a black box on the sales table and in that box are the free hand-outs that we give to the children and the roll of round pumpkin stickers. The page of pumpkin face stickers is 50 cents and we also have extra copies of the receipts and calculators. In the box is a small folder with more information and activities that can be done while at the patch if you feel like taking a more active approach and you do not have customers to greet.

We accept cash, checks (made out to Trinity Episcopal Church), and credit cards. We have a small tablet and a square/credit card reader. We will have detailed instructions on how to use it inside the cover of the tablet case.

When you see that burst of happiness and excitement from children coming to visit our Pumpkin Patch, you will realize why we continue with this Ministry. It is more than the money, it is the love of children, and the desire to serve our community that keeps us going. We are looking forward to sharing that with you.



Jeanne Tagge, Trinity's Pumpkin Lady

September 22, 2021