

Acolyte Thoughts...

When you serve as an acolyte, use this page to remember the day. Record your thoughts here and share with your parents, acolyte coordinator or Ms. Anna.

Date I served as Acolyte:

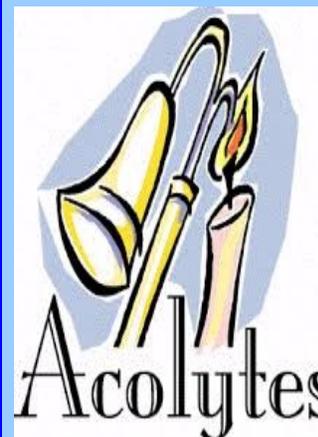
Service in which I was an Acolyte:

Things that went well:

Things that did not go well:

Special thoughts you have about serving as Acolyte:

Acolyte Training



Florence United Methodist Church
8585 Old Toll Rd
Florence, KY 41042





Acolyte Leaders....

Kelley McGarvey—Acolyte Coordinator 9:00 service
859-802-9656 kmcgarvey@fuse.net

Jennifer Dickinson—Acolyte Coordinator 11:00 service
859-907-3042 melster@twc.com

Anna Merlo—Children's Ministries Director
859-445-8866 anna@florenceumc.com

Please remember to let the Coordinator for the Service in which you are serving as acolyte know if you will be unable to acolyte and who is taking your place.

Other scriptures...

Psalm 119:105

Matthew 5:14

Matthew 5:16

Psalm 100:2



Thank you for serving as an acolyte this year. Your church family and those who attend the worship services when you serve as acolyte deeply appreciate your service.

May God bless you as you serve.

Where An Acolyte serves...

9:00 am Service in the Sanctuary
11:00 am Service in the Sanctuary
For special services as needed



An *acolyte* serves where he or she is *needed for a particular service*. It might not always be in the service that you usually attend.

An Acolyte...

Loves God
Follows Jesus
Assists in Worship
Lights the Candles
Carries in the Cross
Takes the light into the world



The word *acolyte* comes from an ancient Greek word that meant *companion, attendant or helper*.

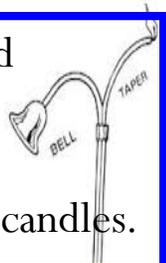
When An Acolyte Serves...

1. You will be assigned dates/times to serve.
2. Mrs. McGarvey will send your parents an email of the Acolyte schedule for the 9:00 service and Mrs. Dickinson will for the 11:00 service.
3. If you can not serve on the date assigned, please have your parents get someone to acolyte in your Place. Notify Mrs. McGarvey or Mrs. Dickinson of the schedule change.

An Acolyte Needs....

A desire to serve God
A love for God's people
A Candlelighter—to light and extinguish candles
A special robe or vestment with waist rope
Cross

Inside the *candlelighter* is a long wick called a *taper*, which can be pushed farther out as it burns down, with which the candles are lighted. It also has a *bell* for snuffing out the candles.



An Acolyte's Responsibilities...

1. Be in the sanctuary sound room at least 10 minutes before the service begins. Do not chew gum.
2. 9:00 service: Put on acolyte robe. The robe color matches the pulpit vestments.
11:00 service—Wear robes only on Communion Sunday
3. Make sure the candlelighter's taper is ready to be lighted. If you are carrying the cross, spread your hands apart so the top-heavy cross does not wobble as you walk.
4. Stay by the sound room door until it is time for you to light the flame. That way you will not be in the way of those coming to the service.



The *candlelighter* should be tipped slightly forward, with the flame pointing ahead of you. Your *left hand* should be near the bottom of the handle & *your right hand* where it can adjust the knob that regulates the length of the taper.

6. The usher or parent helper will light the candlestick.
7. When the prelude begins, walk in a dignified and unhurried manner toward the Altar Table. Keep your head up and your eyes looking ahead. Flame goes first!
8. When you reach the steps, pause and look at the cross on the window. This will help you to focus on the holiness of what you're doing. It's very special.

9. Walk up the steps to the Altar Table in single file, then separate to light the candle and place the cross.
10. After the candles are lit, blow out the flame on the candlelighter. Do not draw in the taper to snuff out the flame as this creates wax buildup.
11. Gently place the candlelighter under your seat in the front row.
12. When the ushers are called forward to receive the offering, walk up to the altar table to get the offering plates and bring them to the bottom step. The ushers will take the plates from you. At the end of the offering music, walk back to the bottom step, sing the Doxology with the congregation and the ushers will hand the plates to you after the prayer of dedication. Put the plates back at the altar and return to your seat.
13. Participate actively in the entire service. You are a worship leader. Be sure to sit still, pay attention to the service including completing the bulletin sermon outline notes.
14. As the last hymn verse is sung or at the end of the last worship song, get the candlelighter, move to the Altar Table, light the taper on your candle light, extinguish the candles & step down to the floor right in front of the altar table. Flame stands in front of the cross. Stand & wait.
15. After the pastor's benediction, walk unhurriedly down the steps and to the back of the church.
16. When you get to the sound room, extinguish the taper.
17. Take off your acolyte vestments. Hang them in their place. Return the candlelighter and Cross to their place.



Thank you for serving God as an *acolyte* at Florence UMC.