

First Presbyterian Church

Nursery Guidelines -- For Children ages 3 and younger

Please read these guidelines carefully. Your child's safety and knowing Jesus' love for them are our primary concerns. It is important that you, as parents, are confident in the care your child(ren) receive during their time in the Nursery.

Welcome/Check-In

- Upon arrival, please show your Family ID Card at the Welcome Center to gain entry into the Nursery Area. Each Family will receive their ID cards upon completing and returning their Nursery/Sunday School Enrollment Form. *Please note, if you do not have your issued ID card, you will have to check-in at the Children's Welcome Center.*
- Families proceed to their child's assigned room for sign-in.
 1. Outside room are two clipboards for check-in: (1) Nametags and (2) Group Roster
 - Affix child's nametag on their back.
 - Mark child present on the roster and highlight which cell phone number the Nursery should use if they need to reach a parent; both parent cell phone numbers are on the roster.
 - ❖ *Wee Angels & Baby Doves (6 weeks – 12 months):* review/complete the Daily Care Card, which provides the Nursery staff with important information (i.e. last feeding, diaper change, etc.)
 2. Release your child to the Nursery staff at their door to their room (with a gentle reminder that you will be back soon).
- Parents, grandparents, and legal guardians are the **only** adults authorized to check-in and/or pick up your child in the Nursery. **Please do not send siblings to pick up your child.**
- Please allow time for checking your child in before Worship service or Sunday school.

Illness/Allergies

- Be sure your child is free from illness for 24 hours prior to entering the Nursery (for example, fever-free, no vomiting or diarrhea, no green runny nose, etc.)
- If your child has allergies or special needs, please notify the Nursery Staff upon arrival so that your child can receive the best care.
- **Immunizations:** Most pediatricians recommend that an infant receive immunizations, beginning at 6-8 weeks of age. The Nursery at First Presbyterian Church supports this recommendation and will receive children beginning at 6 weeks of age. Parents and their medical doctor are in the best position to determine whether or not they will immunize their child or whether to bring their child into the Nursery. Parents are always welcome to bring their children with them to the Sanctuary at any age.

Personal Items

- Label all items with your child's name.
- We do not provide diapers. Please provide all supplies needed to care for your child in a **labeled** diaper bag.

Food Items

- Little Lambs, Rainbow, Sun and Moon classes: vanilla wafers or goldfish crackers will be provided as a snack. If child has an allergy, an alternative snack will be offered.
- Wee Angels or Baby Doves (6 weeks – 12 months): cheerios will be provided as a snack. You are welcome to provide a different snack; **NO peanut butter, nuts, hard candy or drinks without lids.**
- Please have baby bottles ready to feed; **NO glass bottles.**

Parent Notification

- Children who become upset will be comforted for no longer than 10 minutes, after which the parents will be notified via text message to return to the Nursery. The Nursery Coordinator will contact the parent's cell number(s) listed on the child's roster. Please be sure the cell number(s) listed are accurate and notify the church of any changes promptly.

Nursery Staff

- There are two (2) paid nursery staff per room. Each member is easily identified by FPC attire and nametags.
- Staff are trained about appropriate developmental milestones for Nursery age children
- Staff are offered CPR/First Aid training
- Staff are required to do training for Child Protection and Prevention of Child Abuse

Nursery Volunteers

- During Sunday school hour, there are adult leaders who join each Nursery room for spiritual nurture.
- During 8:30 A.M. and 11:00 A.M. worship services, parents who are new to the Nursery ministry to serve as a **"Pop In" Parent** in Nursery rooms. They have the opportunity to observe, get acquainted with the staff and other families, and ask questions.