



Parent Pointers

First Congregational U.C.C. Nursery/Preschool

Spring 2010

Welcome to our room!

The nursery/preschool room welcomes all children ages infant through prekindergarten anytime during worship, beginning at **9:50 a.m.** Please sign in your child, make a wristband nametag for your child and matching one for yourself, and tell us if your child has food or latex allergies.

"Parent Seeker" System: Parents/grandparents of babies and toddlers receive a pager so you can worship without worry. If you have questions or concerns, contact **Nursery Coordinator Pam Braun** at **832-2048** or **braunp@att.net**.

Which side of the room?

Infants and toddlers receive quality child care by experienced volunteers on one side of the nursery, while ages 3-5 have Sunday School activities on the other side, led by Nursery Coordinator Pam Braun. Two-year-olds can choose either side, depending on readiness for Sunday School.

Diaper bags/backpacks

Please label your child's diaper bags or backpacks with your child's name. Supplies are in white baskets next to the sign-in sheet in the nursery.

Who is with my child?

Nursery Coordinator Pam Braun is present most Sundays, with a qualified substitute some Sundays. We also have a

wealth of experienced volunteers. Please see page 2 of this newsletter for our church's child safety procedures.

If your child has special needs, feel free to share those with Pam Braun.

Preschool Bible themes

Our preschool Sunday School themes through May 2010 are:

January 17-February 14: Jesus had 12 special friends, called disciples, to help him heal people and tell them about God. He said, "Follow me," and they did.

February 21-April 4: Our Lent/Easter unit covers the Last Supper, Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey, his friends finding an empty tomb on Easter Sunday, and his ascension into heaven.

April 18-May 30: God created the heavens and earth in 7 days, resting on the seventh day. He made the moon and stars, Adam and Eve, and all the creatures in the sky, in water, and on land.

Learning centers are from 10-10:30, followed by a hello song and story time, bathroom break/snack, and ending song.

Children's fellowship

Families are invited to enjoy fellowship in Ingram Hall after worship. Children's tables are stocked with child-friendly fare. Just look straight ahead when you enter Ingram Hall. Join us!

Continued

First Congregational U.C.C. Nursery/Preschool Child Safety

Child care workers, teachers and assistants follow these procedures in order to adhere to the church's Safe Sanctuary policy.



◆ Rule of Trinity:

Child care workers should not place themselves in a situation of being alone with one child out of sight of other teachers, assistants or parents. An exception would exist if there is constant visual access - an open door or door with a window -- and frequent observation by supervising staff or volunteer staff.

◆ Bathroom assistance:

A bathroom break is included during the hour. While in the bathroom, volunteers must remain outside the bathroom stalls. If a child requests help, a volunteer can enter the stall. If a child needs help with toileting or clothing, parents should give their permission on the nursery sign-in sheet or on a student information sheet. Volunteers can assist any child who asks for help. If a child receives help, a note will be put on the child's hook in the nursery or given to the parents.

If a child needs to go to the bathroom outside of the regular bathroom break, one volunteer can accompany the child to the bathroom, and the volunteer will prop open the bathroom door. The teacher must be told before the volunteer and child leave the room.

◆ Wristbands:

Adults who drop off a child should make a wristband with the child's name on it and secure it to the child's wrist. The adults also should make and wear a wristband for themselves showing their child's name. When an adult picks up the child, volunteers must either recognize the adult picking up the child or check to see that the wristbands of the adult and child show the same names.

◆ Volunteer screening:

All nursery/preschool volunteers fill out a screening form and are screened.

◆ Safe adult-child ratios:

Infant/toddler side of nursery — **1 adult for every 3 children**

Preschool side of nursery — **1 adult for every 4 children**

Parents can be asked to stay if more adults are needed for a safe ratio.

◆ Diaper changing:

A parent's permission is not needed to change diapers. Two screened volunteers should be present when one has to change a diaper. Volunteers will use gloves.