

## Safety and Security

The security and safety of children is very important to us. All our children's workers undergo a background check, and two adults are almost always present with children. Until our children's workers know your family by name, they may ask you to take a "claim ticket" when you first drop off your child. A child will only be released to a person holding the proper claim ticket. Children's workers also wear laminated nametags, so you can quickly recognize them.

Please be certain that you fill out a Child and Family Information Sheet when you first leave your children with us, so we can contact you if an issue arises – even after Sunday morning.

## Questions?

If you would like to know more about the children's ministry of First Baptist Church of Greater Cleveland, please contact our children's staff:

Rev. Jeff Gordon, Associate Pastor  
Carly Marino, Nursery Coordinator  
(216) 932-7480, ext. 23  
jgordon@firstbaptistcleveland.org

*"Permit the children to come to Me;  
do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God  
belongs to such as these." Mark 10:14*



## A parents' guide to Sunday mornings for children at First Baptist Church

### Is this your first time at FBC?

If this is your first time here, then welcome to our church, where your children are treasured! We're glad you're here, and we look forward to serving and ministering to your children. To help you feel comfortable about your first time here, let us explain how Sunday mornings work.

### Nursery-age children

The church nursery is located to the left of the main Portico entrance, in **rooms 103 & 105** (look for the signs that says "Sunday morning nursery"). The nursery is open every Sunday from 8:30 am until 12:30 pm. Our nursery staff is consistent from week to week, so your child will quickly learn to recognize them. Our staff may be supplemented on occasion with church volunteers. Our current caregivers are **LeeAnsley** and **Ryan**, who will be glad to explain our nursery ministry and procedures to you. A nursery brochure is also available for you to pick up outside the nursery

We encourage all parents to take one of the **nursery pagers** while you're at church, so our nursery staff can quickly and discretely contact you if the need arises.

## Toddler-age children

We have a new class just for toddlers during the 9:00 am contemporary service only. A team of volunteers rotates teaching responsibilities each week. A short Bible lesson and craft appropriate for this age makes Sundays a real learning time for toddlers. Children must be toilet trained to participate in this class. The toddler class meets in **Room 103** in the west wing.

## Elementary-age children

Older children (up to the fourth grade) will enjoy our children's program called "Elevate." During both the **9:00 am** and the **11:15 am** services, children are dismissed directly from the service to attend Elevate in Wheaton Center. The atmosphere in Elevate is casual. You'll find there's usually a lot of motion (and commotion!) during the lesson – children learn best through activity!

Elevate uses an engaging DVD video curriculum, but they're not just "watching TV." Each lesson is adult-led, highly interactive, and includes a skit, Bible stories, some just-for-fun elements, and a review time at the end of the lesson. Children just love it! We teach using 8-week themed units, in which each lesson has one clear focus, such as "God will help me stand against temptation."

Between the services at **10:05 am**, Elevate offers kids a chance to explore that morning's theme more deeply. That's when we focus on scripture memory, Bible familiarization games, crafts, small-group activities, and enjoy a mid-morning snack.

If this is your child's first time in Elevate, you are welcome to stay with them if you'd like, so they feel more secure. Be sure to fill out a **Child and Family Information sheet**, so we have basic information we need for your child's safety.

## Where should I pick up my child ?

You may pick up your **infant or toddler** at any time directly from the nursery staff.

Where you pick up your older child depends on when you pick them up. Here's the Sunday morning schedule for **elementary-age children**:

### First Service (9:00-10:00)

Children may be picked up after 10:00 from Wheaton Center.

### Discipleship Hour (10:05-11:05)

Children may be picked up before 11:10 from Wheaton Center. At 11:10, the kids will be taken to the sanctuary, where they sit together (with adults) on the right front side.

### Second Service (11:15-12:15)

Children may be picked up from Wheaton Center. If parents are late, the kids will be taken to the coffee hour in Spahr Center.

