



Heavenly Harbor

"Nurturing Future Fishers of Men"

"Then little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked those who brought them. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." When he placed his hands on them, he went on from there."

Matthew 19:13-15



Ministry to Babies, Preschoolers, and Kindergartners is important in laying an understanding of God, Jesus, the Bible, and the Church. They begin to feel security, trust, and love as they are cared for, taught, and loved by committed volunteer teachers and helpers. This ministry is not babysitting; we design inviting classrooms and teach lessons to communicate important biblical truths to each youngster. Our Harbor is a safe and fun place where in addition to our trained, prepared teachers, all of the parents who have a child in the Harbor are required to serve one Sunday a month for one hour. Parents do not have to plan, prepare, or teach; they are simply there as an extra set of hands and to lend support to the teacher and build relationships with others.

Health Guidelines

To ensure the health of all the children and adults, please keep your child home if they have experienced any of the following symptoms or illnesses in the PAST 24 HOURS:

- * Fever greater than 100°
- * Vomiting
- * Cough (other than chronic)
- * Diarrhea
- * Discharge in or around the eye
- * Questionable rashes
- * Runny nose (Green or Yellow in color)
- * Any infectious disease, such as but not limited to:
Impetigo, chicken pox, measles, mumps, pink eye (conjunctivitis), head lice, oral thrush, RSV, or croup.

We will contact you if your child exhibits any of these symptoms. At that time, we ask that you take your child home so as not to infect other people in the worship service or adult classes. If your child is being treated with antibiotics, they should be on medication for AT LEAST 24 HOURS before being in the classroom. For your planning, we do not give any medications to any child at any time.

Parent Helps

1. Children are welcome to enter their classes 15 minutes before the session or function begins.
2. Please drop off and pick up your child at the door. A soft knock will get the attention of the classroom worker. Please do not enter the room; this is for the safety of the children as well as to maintain control.
3. Trust the experience of the committed volunteers to get your child settled into their classroom. These volunteers will quickly engage your child in a fun "welcome activity" to address any fears or tears. You will be contacted should crying last more than fifteen minutes or sooner, if you request.
4. Please understand we prefer that you refrain from checking on your child. If you must check on your child, please ask the Children's Minister, her assistant, or a Welcome Boat attendant to help you. We do not want your child to see you after they have settled down.
5. Please give your child adequate time to finish outside food before coming to class. It is a distraction to other children in the room.
6. Please do not allow your child to bring personal toys or other possessions unless they are "security" items (pacifier, blanket, etc.).

Check In and Security

It is important that a parent or an entrusted 18+ year old check in and pick up all children in the Harbor. Underage siblings are not allowed to drop off or pick up children. To help eliminate crowding in the hall, we suggest that one parent drop off and pick up the child and all school age siblings wait at the entry to the hall.

Upon arrival to the classroom door, regular attendees and members will find their names on the attendance sheet. Parents mark which hours their child will be staying and their location. The teacher will give the child their nametag and a security bracelet. The parent is given a tab with a matching number. The last 3 digits of this number will be displayed on the Worship Center's LCD screens located at the front right and left exit doors should we need you for any reason.

We ask that you come immediately following the service or function. If for any reason you cannot find your parent security tab, we ask that you go back and do your best to find it. A true security system must have boundaries. If you are still unable to find the tab, the volunteer will ask you to find the Children's Minister, her assistant, or one of the pastors for dismissal of the child from the room.