



Handbook 2022-23

Located within

First Presbyterian Church

101 S. Decatur Street

Strasburg, PA 17579

(717)687-6030



Program Goals

- Create a nurturing environment in the classroom, and provide an atmosphere of emotional security.
- Instill values of love, compassion and respect for others.
- Provide opportunities for personal accomplishments.
- Provide for social enrichment through interaction with other children and adults, field trips, and class visitors.
- Develop fine and gross motor skills and coordination.
- Introduce basic educational concepts through play, books, music, science, art, field trips and physical education.
- Work closely with parents through daily contact, newsletter, emails, scheduled conferences, and encourage family members to participate in special events.
- A basic Christian curriculum is partnered along with the academic curriculum in the form of Bible stories, songs, etc. The children visit the pastor regularly. A prayer of thanks will be given at snack time and religious holidays will be observed.



General Information

Eligibility

To be eligible for admission to our preschool, children should be two to five years old by the first of September. This is based on the cut-off date for enrollment in the Lampeter-Strasburg School District.



Priority will be given to First Presbyterian Church of Strasburg families and present preschool students. These families must apply by January 31. All other applications will be available on a first come, first serve basis beginning February 1.

Children in the 3s and pre-K program should be fully potty-trained prior to the start of school. Potty-trained means your child is out of diapers and pull-ups, knows when they need to use the toilet and does not need assistance with wiping or adjusting clothing.

Registration

Applications for the general public will be available beginning in February. There is a \$45 non-refundable application fee per student. Please make checks payable to First Presbyterian Church. Handbooks and school calendars will be sent in early August.



Tuition

The tuition rate for the 2021-2022 school year is \$660 for the Pre-K program, \$535 for the three-year-old program and \$310 for the two-year-old program.

There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$45.00 per student. If more than one family member is enrolled in the program at the same time, \$50.00 is deducted off the combined tuition. Parents who are willing to be a weekly aide in the classroom are given a tuition reduction of \$300.00 for the year or \$150 for a half year for each day of the week they aide the teacher (i.e. Mondays).

There are two tuition payment plans. Semester payments (half of the annual tuition) can be made September 1 and February 1. Alternatively, nine monthly payments can be made beginning in September. These are due the first of the month.

Payments should not be given to your child to take to school or to the teacher in the classroom. Please make checks payable to **First Presbyterian Church** and mail to the church address or place your envelope in the preschool mailbox in the church hallway. Payments can be also made online by going to the preschool website.

John Smith
555 Four St.
Your Town 54321

DATE _____

PAY TO First Presbyterian Church

MEMO _____

1234 5678 9876 543210

Late Payments: Please make your tuition payments when they are due. If your payments are more than two months late, your child will not be able to attend our preschool until your account is brought up to date.

Child Safety Policy



Because our church cares about the safety of all children who attend our preschool, all parent and family volunteers are required to submit a Child Abuse History Clearance and a PA State Police Report of Criminal History Record. The church also requires FBI fingerprinting. We take your child's safety very seriously and hope that you agree that this protective measure is well worth the time and inconvenience it may cause.

As an additional security measure, education wing security doors were installed and will be locked from 9:15 until 11:30am and 12:45 to 3:00pm.

Insurance

Great Beginnings at First Presbyterian Church of Strasburg provides coverage for our preschool children on a secondary or excess basis while they are on church property. This insurance coverage extends to field trips.



Health

We recommend that your child have up-to-date immunization records.



If your child is ill with any of the following please DO NOT send him/her to school; fever, diarrhea, vomiting, a contagious disease (chicken pox), or a contagious condition (lice, impetigo, pinkeye, Covid, etc.) Please notify us if your child develops any of the childhood diseases such as lice, etc. You will be notified if a contagious disease is present in any of the children at school. You will also be notified if your child becomes ill or has had an accident.

Snacks

A healthy snack and water will be provided for each child. Birthday treats are welcomed. Please arrange the date with your child's teacher. Check possible sign-up sheets to contribute bags of apples to the preschool.



Birthdays

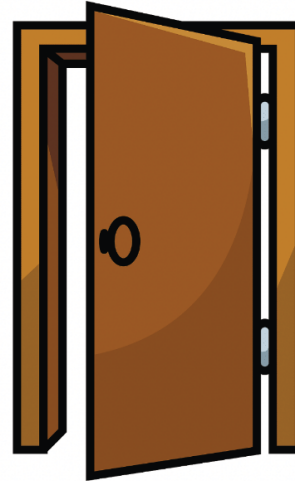
Children having a birthday during the school year may bring a special (non-messy) treat in individual portions to share with the class, if desired. Summer birthdays will be celebrated as "pretend" birthdays or "half" birthdays as decided between the parent and teacher.



Arrival

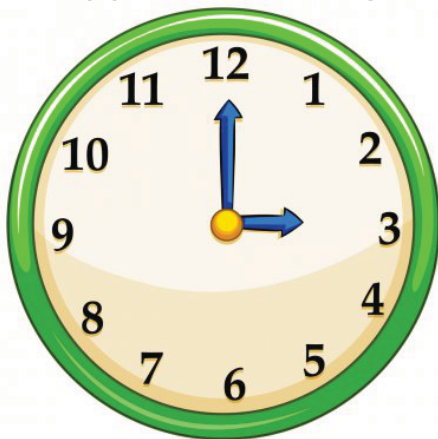
Pre-K students and Miss Laurie's 3 year-old class will enter at the carport door. Miss Megan's 3 year-old class and all 2 year-old classes will enter at the Fellowship hall door. Parents must bring their children to the classroom door. Children should not arrive before 8:50am for morning classes or before 12:30 for the afternoon class.

Students are asked to use hand sanitizer when entering a classroom.



Dismissal

Children will be dismissed at 11:30 for all morning classes and 3:00 for all afternoon classes. Parents are requested to pick up their children on time. If someone other than a parent will be picking up your child, please notify the teacher with a note or call the church at 687-6030. Pre-K students and Miss Laurie's 3 year-old class will be picked up in the carport front hallway. The 2 year-old classes and Miss Megan's 3 year-old class will be picked up in the Fellowship Hall.



School Closings

In case of snow or inclement weather, we will follow the Lampeter-Strasburg School District pattern for closing or delaying school. If the district is delayed for two hours, the morning preschool classes will be closed; the afternoon classes will be open. If L-S is closed then the preschool classes are cancelled. Occasionally the teacher may arrange a make-up class that works with most students' family schedules.



Transportation

Transportation is the responsibility of the parents or caregivers. Complete enrollment lists will be provided on visitation days to help you set up car pools. Teachers will coordinate with parents to chaperone field trips.



Clothing

Please dress your child for safety, comfort and activity. We encourage sneakers and rubber-soled shoes since we are very active and go out to



play daily, weather permitting. Flip flops and open-heel shoes are not acceptable. Please mark all removable clothing—boots, sweaters, mittens, coats, etc. with your child's initials.

Backpacks are encouraged on a daily basis. A change of clothes is recommended.



When weather becomes cool, please teach your child how to put on their coat, and send a coat daily. Classes go outdoors weather permitting, or inside recess occurs in the Fellowship Hall. In winter months, mittens are easier than fingered gloves.



Bulletin Boards and newsletters



Important information and notices will be posted on the parent bulletin board outside the preschool classroom. A newsletter will be distributed to keep you posted on upcoming events and your child's activities.

School Tours

Before school begins, we will hold group visitations at the church to offer parents and children a chance to meet the teacher and to become familiar with the classroom and church surroundings. Families may also arrange a school tour if they are interested in enrolling.



Evaluations



Conferences for the Pre-K will be scheduled during the winter months. Parents of two and three year-olds can request a meeting with the teacher.



Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays

AM: 9am - 11:30am

With Miss Heather

PM: 12:30pm - 3:00pm

With Miss Sue



Tuesdays, Thursdays

AM: 9am - 11:30am

With Miss Laurie or

Miss Megan



Mondays, Wednesdays, and/or Fridays

AM: 9am - 11:30am

With Miss Laurie

contacts

*Heather Reynolds,
Administrative Director*

hreynolds@straspres.org

717-617-9501

Laurie Fulmer

lauriebrian@comcast.net

717-278-8163

Sue Henry

csueh22@comcast.net

717-475-9156

Meg Childs

mchilds@straspres.org

215-872-4446

2022-23 Calendar

September

1	First Tuition Payment Due
12	First day of school for Monday 2s (9-11am)
13	First day of school for 3s program (9-11am)
14	First day of school for Wednesday 2s (9-11am)
	First day of school for pre-K (9-11am or 12:30 – 2:30pm)
16	First day of school for Friday 2s (9-11am)

October

1	Tuition Due
7&10	Preschool closed due to Fall Break

November

1	Tuition Due
8	Preschool closed due to election day
23-28	Thanksgiving Vacation

December

1	Tuition Due
23 – 30	Preschool closed due to Christmas Vacation

January

1	Tuition Due
2	Closed due to Winter vacation
16	Preschool closed due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day

February

1	Tuition Due
20	Preschool closed due to Presidents' Day

March

1	Tuition Due
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April

1	Tuition Due
7,10	Preschool closed due to Easter Vacation

May

1	Last payment Tuition Due
16	Closed if there is a primary election
15	Last day of school for Monday 2s
17	Last day of school for Wednesday 2s
18	Last day of school for 3s
19	Last day of school for Friday 2s
19	Last day of school for pre-K