

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR THE NURSERY

Thank you for your interest in our church Nursery! We strive to provide a ministry that will not only care for your baby effectively, but that will begin to lay the foundation for your child's future faith and life. You are the most important person in your baby's life, and thus one of our main goals is to enable you to lead your child to God!

If you decide to come regularly or join our church, we would like to give you:

- An Information Booklet – to acquaint you with other nursery details
- A little Diaper Bag Tag – to help us know which bag belongs to your child
- A “Personalized Care Information Sheet” – you would fill this out so every caregiver knows what your baby likes best!

Our preschool department consists of several classes and your child will be promoted based on development needs until they reach school age. At school age your child will be promoted at the end of the summer/beginning of the school year.

I'm new so I don't know many people. Who will be taking care of my baby?

Your precious little one will be cared for by our nursery caregivers. Each caregiver has been given a background check and has been interviewed. We will always have at least 2 caregivers in each nursery room. All of our caregivers love babies, and will take good care of them.

What if my baby cries when I leave him or her? Would someone come get me?

Many babies cry when separated from their parents, and most settle down within a few minutes after the parent has left the room. When a child cries, our caregivers first try to interest him or her in some toy or activity, or see if the child responds better to a different caregiver. If a child continues to cry, then you will be paged. We'll work with you to help your child adjust and become happy in our nursery!

Where can I nurse my baby?

We have two private rooms to care for your infant. A private room is available in our preschool building right across the hallway from the nursery. A second location to use is in the FLC gym women's bathroom. A private area has been set up across from the showers, while in this room you will be able to hear the sermon. Both areas have all the amenities with a rocking chair, diaper changing station and all the items you will need to care for your child including bibs, burp clothes, etc....

How do you keep the nursery clean and safe?

We realize that keeping a clean and safe environment for all our babies is essential for a quality nursery. Because of that, we do the following:

- No shoes are worn in the nursery care area. (If you come in, please take off your shoes too.)
- Gloves are worn for diaper changes

- Diapers are disposed of in individual contained bags
- Fresh towels are put under each baby during diaper changes.
- Toys that have been in their mouths are washed before allowing other children to play with them.
- Crib sheets are changed after each baby.
- Each week we have a vigorous routine to sanitize the entire preschool area

Can I check on my baby during the hour?

Yes, you are welcome to check on your baby but be aware that if your child sees you, they may go through separation anxiety all over again. In the future, we will have safety cameras located in hallways so parents can see their children without the risk of a child seeing them.

Will someone tell me how my baby did in the nursery?

We sure will! In fact, we have a little report form that we'll give you each time to let you know how much your baby slept, ate, cried and when their diaper was changed. You can help us too by letting us know your baby's needs and schedule for that day.

How old should my baby be before I start them in the nursery?

That's a question that each family should decide for themselves. Feel free to ask for a nursery tour before your baby starts, or to talk with us further.

I notice as my baby grows older, he is crying a lot more when I drop him off at nurseries. Is this normal?

Yes, every baby goes through several stages of separation anxiety and openness to strangers. The most important thing you can do is to come every week, so your child has the chance to get familiar with the caregivers and feel comfortable among us.

My baby has special needs. Would your caregivers be able to handle them?

If your child has special needs of any kind, feel free to talk with the Children's Minister. We'll set up a time to talk together and develop a Nursery Care Plan to meet your child's special needs.

I'd like to be part of the Nursery Team? How do I get involved?

We welcome new people who love babies AND love God to join our Team! However, we first want you to have the opportunity to worship and fellowship with others to help you connect and develop relationships. Then we would schedule an interview with our Children's Minister, followed by a background check. We have many opportunities in other areas of our church that provides you a place to use your spiritual gifts as well.

Can I dedicate my baby to God in a Dedication Ceremony?

Yes, we celebrate with you that God has given you a gift of this child! We see parent/child dedication as a time where you commit yourselves to becoming your child's spiritual leader in life. The first step towards parent/child dedication is to set up a meeting with our Children's Minister to talk about what

dedication means, and to give ideas and tools for teaching your child about God. This is an important day in the life of your family!