

## Who can attend Wee Friends

Wee Friends Ministry is open to children age birth through Kindergarten. Children may not be brought here for care for any other reason than the parent attending a church function. Older children will not be permitted to stay in the nursery or preschool rooms.

## Parent Involvement

We have been blessed with women and men who consider nursery/preschool as their ministry and serve regularly with the children. However, each week we need volunteers to supplement our regular staff. Therefore, we do ask that both parents of preschoolers be prepared to help in the preschool rooms, when needed. This will help us tremendously to keep these areas running smoothly.

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If you ever need assistance, please do not hesitate to call. We want your child's experience at church to be a happy one. We would like to see you bring your child each and every Sunday for a time of learning and sharing Jesus' love. We have excellent teachers for each age group who would consider it a pleasure to care and nourish your child.



**Preschool Ministry of First Baptist Church**  
Palm Coast, Florida

## Nursery/Preschool Policies for Parents

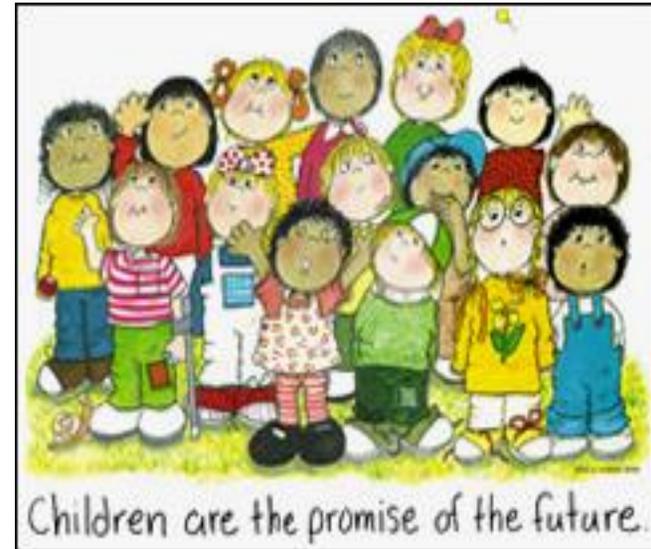
# Wee Friends

## Preschool Ministry

Of First Baptist Church

(Birth thru Pre-K)

386 445-2020



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## The Purpose of Wee Friends

- **Worship – to teach children of God’s worth, Glory, presence, and our call to worship.**
- **Ministry – teach children to show God’s love through helping each other, sharing with each other and learning together.**
- **Evangelism – Instill in children a passion to tell their friends the good news about Jesus.**
- **Fellowship – Welcome, love, include and encourage all children, promoting a feeling of fellowship and community among them. Help the children gain a sense of belonging within the church family.**
- **Discipleship – Teach children to become more Christ-like through our example and our teaching.**



## Belongings

Please be sure **ALL** of your child’s belongings are labeled with his/her name and address. It helps us for you to label your child’s pacifier, bottles, diaper bag, toys, etc. It is important that the following items be in your child’s diaper bag so we can better meet your child’s needs.

1. Blanket, pacifier or other security items
2. 2 disposable diapers and wipes
3. Powder and ointment (only if you use these for your child)
4. Change of clothes
5. **BOTTLES - IMPORTANT**
  - a. Please try and feed your child as close to arrival time as possible
6. **NURSING BABIES –**
  - a. We have a special place for you to nurse your baby in privacy.
  - b. Please try and supply at least 4 oz. of your milk in a bottle to be used in case it’s needed between feedings.
  - c. Leave written instructions for preparing formula.
7. If your child is in training pants, please send extra pants and a change of clothes (just in case).

**PLEASE BE SURE ALL PERSONAL ITEMS ARE LABELED WITH YOUR NAME.**

## Foods

No baby foods will be served during church functions. We ask that you feed your baby before you bring him/her to church. Juice and a snack will be served to the children from one to five years old just before morning worship. There will be no feeding of snacks during worship service. This will help your child have an appetite for lunch. If there are certain foods you do not wish us to give your child, then we must have this in writing.

## Delivery and Pickup of Children

To avoid confusion and to keep the rooms as sanitary as possible, please wait for permission from the monitors before entering.

If you're dropping your child off at one of the Preschool rooms, wait at the door for the teacher to receive your child. **DO NOT GO INTO THE ROOMS** unless the person in charge of the rooms tells you.

Please do not bring your child earlier than 15 minutes before the time for the class to begin and pick them up IMMEDIATELY after the service. Even the most well adjusted child gets anxious and fearful when other children have departed. We ask that only adults pick up and sign out your children; please do not send older children. We ask that only one parent accompany the child. This will help us avoid confusion and taking up space in our monitor room.

## Security

When you leave your child you will be given a pager with an assigned number on it and instructions on how it works. You need to sign the form at the monitor's desk. In order to retrieve your child, you must return the pager to Wee Friends at the monitor's desk. This policy must be enforced for the safety of your children and we ask that you cooperate with us. **NOTE: DUE TO THE DISRUPTIVE NATURE OF "VISTORS" TO Wee Friends, WE ASK THAT YOU NOT CHECK ON THE CHILDREN BETWEEN BIBLE STUDY AND MORNING WORSHIP.** Our monitor and teachers and caregivers will page you if there is a problem they cannot handle.

## TEACHING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR CHILDREN

Children are active learners. They learn best through involving their senses; therefore, activity teaching is best suited for communicating Biblical truths to our children.

The play of these young children becomes an activity for learning whenever a teacher guides the process and plans for spiritual outcomes. Because the child's learning begins at infancy, our teaching begins at this point, too.

Infants through preschoolers all have similar basic needs. Preschoolers need:

- **To learn about God and the natural world HE created.**
- **To develop a concept of who JESUS is.**
- **To learn that the Bible is a special book about GOD.**
- **To learn about the church**
- **To see themselves as important to GOD and to others.**
- **To learn to value and respect others**
- **To learn about family living**

These basic needs are taught through guided activities related to the child's own experiences. These activities promote growth, enjoyment, confidence, trust and security through the use of blocks, books, home living, nature, pictures, music, puzzles, art and Bible.

Our teachers use age-appropriate methods of teaching to allow the children to experience learning at differing levels according to their skills and abilities. An infant may touch and hold an orange. A three-year-old class might cut open the orange and squeeze the juice to drink. The five-year-old class takes this concept one step further. They prepare the seed and watch the roots grow. Each age progressively learns truths about GOD.

## Helpful Hints For Parents

During the early years, there may be difficult periods of adjustment for your child. They may not want to stay in their department without you. Being patient and consistent in your Bible Study attendance will help your child. Usually, after several visits in the room, a young child begins to develop trust that you will return after a short absence. With an older child you can talk about church during the week in a positive manner. In most cases, reassurance, plenty of love and consistent attendance will take care of the problem.

When you are ready to leave your child in his/her department, tell them in a kind firm voice that you are going to your class and you will be back to get them. Do not try to slip away. Handle this separation calmly and quickly. Your child may cry to see if you will stay. Remember, this is the time to build the trust that you will come back for him/her. Most children stop crying when they see it is not working as they planned. If your child continues to be upset, the monitor will contact you. If you act insecure about leaving, your child will be insecure when separated from you. Model the behavior you want from your child.

Allow plenty of time on Sunday mornings to prepare for church. Rushing does not make for a happy Sunday morning experience. You may want to pack the diaper bag the night before to save some time. Planning ahead avoids last minute confusion.

Come for your child quickly after the service so that your child is not the last one to be picked up. This will keep your child from becoming anxious.

## Sick Children

Please keep your child at home until he/she is well for his sake and for the protection of the other children. Wee Friends workers CAN NOT receive children who have any of the following symptoms. We must respect this policy for the safety and good health of all the children in Wee Friends. When you are in doubt about his/her health, keep him/her at home. We want to provide a healthy environment for our children while at church.

- **FEVER** – any child with a fever of 101 degrees or greater.
- **VOMITING** – Vomiting within 24 hours prior to the time you bring your child.
- **DIARRHEA** – Diarrhea within 24 hours prior to the time you bring your child.
- **RUNNY NOSE** – Runny nose with non-clear drainage.
- **BAD COUGH** – Many infections are transmitted through the air by such things as coughing and sneezing.
- **COMMON COLD, SORE THROAT**
- **SKIN INFECTION** – boils, ringworm, impetigo, etc.
- **HEAD LICE**
- Any symptoms of usual childhood diseases: Scarlet Fever, German Measles, Mumps, Chicken Pox, and Whooping Cough or Pink eye.

**Medicines cannot be given by a teacher or a volunteer  
in the nursery or preschool rooms.**

**SHOULD YOUR CHILD DEVELOP OR EXHIBIT A FEVER OR SYMPTOM OF ILLNESS, YOU WILL BE LOCATED IMMEDIATELY TO TAKE THE CHILD HOME.**