

# Welcome to our Nursery



*"Whoever welcomes one of these  
little ones in my name welcomes me,  
and whoever welcomes me, welcomes  
the One who sent me." Mark 9:37*

# **Our Vision**

The vision of the nursery ministry is to provide a safe, friendly environment for children while their parents spend time in worship.

It is in the context of nursery that our littlest children learn that they are safe, that they are loved, that they have a special place in the House of the Lord, and that they are part of God's family.

## **Welcome to our Nursery**

We sincerely look forward to serving you and your child/children and hope this booklet answers any questions you may have about the policies of our Covenant/Alianza Presbyterian Nursery Ministry.

Because children are fearfully and wonderfully created, we have chosen Creation as our nursery theme, declaring on our walls the truth that God has created all things.



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# Our Nursery Rooms

Our three nursery rooms are divided by age and developmental stage starting at newborn and continuing to 36 months old.

## **Infant Nursery—W-7**

- ◇ For infants until they become confident walkers

## **Walker Nursery—W-8**

- ◇ For walkers approximately 10-20 months old

## **Toddler Nursery—W-4**

- ◇ For children approximately 20-36 months old

## **Nursing Mother's Room—W-5**

- ◇ This room includes rockers, a changing table and a broadcast of the worship service.

# Child-to-Worker Ratios

The nursery uses the following approximate ratios to ensure the best care for your child:

- ◇ Infants—1 adult to 2 or 3 children
- ◇ Walkers—1 adult to 4 children
- ◇ Toddlers—1 adult to 5 children

If a nursery room reaches capacity, we will try to find additional volunteers. However, if this is impossible, it will be necessary to turn away additional children.

# **Well-Child Policy**

## **Catching Only Christ**

A warm welcome awaits your child in our nursery if he or she has been free of the following symptoms for the past 24 hours:

- ◇ Coughing, sneezing, runny nose & eyes (excluding allergies)
- ◇ Fever
- ◇ Vomiting or diarrhea
- ◇ Inflamed mouth or throat
- ◇ Non-clear nasal drainage

If your child is on an antibiotic, he/she should be on the medicine for at least 24 hours prior to attending the nursery.

We will never fully eliminate colds or flu, but we will attempt to make your child's time with us ideal for only catching the joy of Christ!

## **Nursery Room Sanitation**

The cleanliness of the nursery is very important to us. Small toys, high chairs and table tops are washed after every use. Larger toys and equipment and floors are disinfected regularly. During cold and flu season the nursery rooms may go through additional deep cleanings.

# Checking-in

**The child check-in process is as follows:**

1. Input your seven digit telephone number on the screen at any Children’s Ministries Check-in Station and check your child in for the appropriate times and class.
2. Print out labels—one for you, and one for each of your children, and any additional labels as needed (a second parent, sippy cups, bags, etc.)
3. Take your child to the appropriate room and sign the classroom form, remembering to including your cell phone number should we need to contact you. If you do not have a cell phone, you may use one of our pagers. Just let a nursery worker know.
4. ALERT THE NURSERY WORKERS OF ALLERGIES even though allergy information should be on your child’s tag.

## First-Time Visitors

If you are unsure of where to take your child, please check with the week’s Nursery “Team Leader” who can be found in the nursery hallway.

## Bringing Items into the Nursery

For the safety and well-being of the children, please label all items brought into the nursery including: diaper bags, sippy cups, bottles, pacifiers, toys, and comfort items.

## Snacks

Children in the Walker and Toddler Nursery will be given a snack during their time in the nursery. Parents may include a drink if desired. Otherwise, water will be provided. We will happily give bottles to babies. **Please let us know if your child has any food allergies, both on the computer check-in system, and verbally to your child's nursery room volunteers.** You are welcome to provide an alternative snack, if necessary.

## Guiding Your Child

Simple redirection of a child's activity is often all it takes to correct inappropriate behavior. We may occasionally need to provide simple, natural consequences for children who persist in misbehavior (i.e. if a child is throwing blocks, he/she may not play with blocks for two minutes). If difficult behavior persists, the Weekly Nursery Team Leader and the parents will be contacted to assist with the child.

## **Crying**

If a child is upset and has been crying for 15 minutes and all methods of calming have been tried (diaper change, rocked, held, fed bottle, etc.), the parent will be called.

## **Diaper Changes**

During your infant or toddler's stay in the nursery, the diaper will be checked and changed if needed. With each change, the worker washes his/her hands. The diaper changing stations are disinfected after each use.

## **Diaper Changing Stations**

Diaper changing stations are located in both the men's and women's restrooms just outside the sanctuary and on both floors of the children's wing.

## **Injuries**

For your child's safety, our rooms are stocked with toys and equipment appropriate to the age of your child. In the case of an injury, it will be reported when the child is picked up unless it is an emergency, in which case you will be notified immediately.



# Protecting Your Child

We strive to take every measure possible to ensure the complete security of your child while in our nursery.

- ◇ We screen all nursery workers in our Child Protection process, which includes background checks;
- ◇ We ensure a minimum of two (child protection approved) adults are present per room at all times;
- ◇ A Nursery Team Leader is present on Sunday mornings who ensures all security measures are upheld;
- ◇ A check-in system provides identifying tags so that workers can ensure that children leave only with their parents;
- ◇ Name tags are on all children at all times;
- ◇ We keep children inside the nursery room at all times, except when going to the potty.

## **Lost and Found**

We have a small Lost and Found located in the nursery wing hallway.

## **Questions/Comments**

Please direct questions or comments to the Nursery Director, Kris Zwanzig at (540) 908-1969.

## **Resources**

Get connected with other Covenant Presbyterian moms by joining CPC Moms on Facebook.

Like us on Facebook: Cov Pres Children's Ministries.

CPC Playgroup provides weekly activities during the school year. Go to [www.cov-pres.org](http://www.cov-pres.org) and click on the calendar to see the scheduled events.



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