

Dear Families,

This guide has been prepared to provide information regarding CUMC's Sunday morning nurseries. CUMC has attempted to structure the procedures and policies in a way that will assure that each child will receive the best care in a safe and nurturing environment.

Families have the ultimate responsibility of teaching their children about God's love. The Nursery Ministry is delighted to be a part of that journey that God has put before you. The Nursery Ministry team respects your wishes for your children and will faithfully attempt to meet their needs.

We look forward to caring for your children.

*Diane Beatley*

**Diane Beatley**

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**WHICH NURSERY SHOULD I USE?**

**8:15 Service** - No Nursery Care  
Children are welcome in worship.

**9:30 Service-**

Infant nursery – Room 117  
Ages: newborn - walking.  
Toddler nursery – Room 119  
Ages: walking - 35 months

**11:00 / 11:02 Services-**

Infant nursery – Room 117  
Ages: newborn to walking  
Toddler nursery – Room 119  
Ages: walking - 35 months.

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

In the unlikely event that the fire alarm sounds, do not attempt to come to the nursery to get your child. Families coming down the hall in the education wing will cause a bottleneck and prevent children from being safely evacuated. All children in nurseries will be evacuated to the parking lot side of the church. Families should exit a door nearest the sanctuary (or whatever room they are in) and come around the outside of the church to pick up their children

**ILLNESS POLICY**

In order to keep our nursery as safe, happy and as germ-free as possible, we request that parents use their best judgment on keeping their children home when children exhibit any of the following symptoms for 24 - 48 hours prior to Sunday morning:

- Fever greater than 100 degrees
- Yellow or green runny nose
- Questionable rashes
- Coughing
- Diarrhea
- Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
- Chicken pox symptoms

If your child is being treated with antibiotics, he/she should be on the medication at least 24 - 48 hours prior to coming to the nursery. Please keep in mind, this is not an all-inclusive list. Please use your best judgment for the comfort of your own child as well as the safety of others.



**For more information contact:**  
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*Centreville*  
United Methodist Church

# NURSERY MINISTRY



## Family Guide



*“Let the little children come to me...  
because the Kingdom of God belongs to  
such as these.”  
Mark 10:14*

# Welcome To

## Centreville United Methodist Church's Nursery Ministry

The Nursery Ministry strives to surround your child with love and forgiveness as we have promised to do during the sacrament of baptism. We promise to provide loving care for each of the youngest members of our church family. We want to assure they associate the nursery with a happy and safe atmosphere where they are surrounded by God's love.

This guide outlines the policies developed with your child's safety and well-being in mind. Please take a few minutes to read it so that you will be familiar with the policies, allowing you to feel confident about leaving your child in our care.

### WHY HAVE A CHURCH NURSERY?

All activities at Centreville United Methodist Church are designed to glorify God. The nursery program supports that purpose.

Babies are more easily nurtured in spaces developed specifically for them. They rest more comfortably, can be fed and changed easily. Older babies are growing quickly and have a lot of energy. The nurseries are divided into birth through 12 months and 13 months through 24 months.

Families need time together to worship, receive instruction, and be spiritually nourished. The nursery ministry provides parents that opportunity. It gives families the chance to serve the Lord in their church. The nursery program allows families to become active members in the life of the church by serving as Sunday school teachers, lay ministers, and participants in small groups and classes while knowing that their young children are in loving, competent hands in the nursery.

### WHO CARES FOR YOUR CHILD?

Paid Nursery Managers supervise Sunday morning nurseries during the 9:30, 11:00 and 11:02 services. All paid nursery staff have completed a criminal background check (from the Virginia State Police), passed a TB screening and are CPR trained for children and infants.

In addition to the paid nursery managers, the Sunday morning nurseries are staffed by a rotating team of volunteers, who each help every four to six weeks. All volunteers are screened in accordance with CUMC's Child Protection Policy, which requires that they have been members or actively involved non-members for at least three months and that character reference checks have been made. All youth helpers must be in high school or older, and must be approved by the children's ministry director.

Families whose children use the nurseries are asked to assist in one of the nurseries as a volunteer. Schedules are sent electronically a month at a time.

### WHAT SHOULD I BRING?

During your child's stay in the nursery, the following will be provided:

- Burping cloths
- Plain Cheerios if suitable
- Age appropriate toys
- Plenty of love

Each week, please provide:

- Diaper bag
- Extra diapers
- Wipes
- Extra clothes
- 1-2 bottles or sippy cups (no juice boxes please)
- Pacifier or other security items as needed.

Please be sure to **label all items** clearly with your child's first and last name. To make labeling easier, we provide nursery bag tags and masking tape for bottles.

No food will be served. All bottle feeding will be done according to your directions. Please leave all details with the nursery manager.

### NURSERY DROP OFF & PICK UP PROCEDURE

#### **Check In:**

Please sign your child in and hand him/her over the half wall in the age-appropriate nursery (Infant Nursery, room #117, for pre-walkers or Toddler & Twos Nursery, room #119 for up to 35 months). Please notify the nursery manager of any allergies and place an allergy alert sticker on his or her back and complete a registration sheet to help make your child's visit a pleasant experience. We ask that any medication in diaper bags be brought to the nursery manager's attention so that it is safeguarded from other children.

Once your child has been checked in, please leave quickly. The staff is prepared to care properly for your child who will adjust more easily if you can avoid a lengthy good-bye.

#### **Pick-Up Procedure:**

In accordance with the safety guidelines, children in the nursery can be released only to their family member or guardian.

We ask that you pick your child up immediately after the service, present your security number for verification at your child's nursery door and initial the sign-out column of the attendance sheet. Please have only one parent call for your child at the nursery. That will help us avoid congestion. Children may be released only to an adult.

**Siblings under age 18 may not pick up children from the nurseries.**

In the event that you have misplaced your security card, please see the Nursery Manager to check out.

### WHAT IF MY CHILD CRIES?

Some crying or fussing at the time of separation is normal and usually subsides within a matter of minutes. If your child cannot be comforted, you will be paged or someone will come find you. This separation anxiety will usually disappear after a few weeks of regular attendance. Most babies and toddlers really enjoy and benefit from being with their peers.

