

PARENT INFORMATION

# OUR PROMISE to help families

# CONNECT in Christ-centered **RELATIONSHIPS** that lead to a real, full and lasting

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Preschool Ministry at The Bayou Church!
Our purpose is to assist families, like yours, in the spiritual development of our little ones by offering age-appropriate learning that encourages them to discover God in a personal way. Our dedicated team is committed to providing a safe and nurturing atmosphere for little ones to experience Christ, while you are able to participate in church related activities.

If at any time you have concerns or questions, or if you would like to become involved in this life-changing ministry, please feel free to contact us at 337-984-8291. We look forward to ministering with you and your family.

Serving Christ in Preschool,

Becky Boutte

**Becky Boutte** 

Preschool Minister & Acadiana Reach Director

The Bayou Church exists to glorify God by transforming lives in Acadiana through Christ-centered relationships.

#### PRESCHOOL VISION

To foster within each preschooler the desire to discover God in a personal way, leaving an eternal imprint of God's love on his/her life.

#### PRESCHOOL MINISTRY GOALS

- To provide a safe, secure and loving environment for preschoolers and to make sure that parents feel comfortable leaving their child in our care.
- To help preschoolers feel a warm sense of belonging in the church family and to ensure each preschooler feels welcome and wanted.
- To provide godly men and women who are adequately trained to serve as positive role models while they minister to preschoolers.

### PARENT PROMISE

#### CLASSES AND CEREMONY

Parent Promise is more than an event—it is an opportunity to begin your journey as a parent by thinking about what will matter most in the life of your child. We hope this process will lead you to challenge yourself and discover what you value and what you can do today that will have the greatest impact on your child's future.

The Parent Promise process includes a one-hour class and a ceremony held in the fall and spring.

You can find full details on our website,

THEBAYOUCHURCH.ORG/PARENTPROMISE



### POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

#### SECURITY TAGS

All children in preschool must have a security tag. A security/name tag will be issued for each child with their class assignment. The matching security tag is for parents to keep until time of pick-up. Your preschooler will only be released to adults or siblings over the age of 16 with matching security tag. If a tag is lost, adults will be asked to repeat the check-in process and show a pictured ID to ensure the safety of the children. With security tags, parents may enter the preschool anytime during service to check on their child.

#### CONTACTING PARENT DURING WORSHIP

Pagers are issued at the registration desk for parents who request one. A parent may be paged at any time, anywhere on campus. Your security tag is also a way for us to contact parents. The letters and numbers on your tag will come up on any screen on campus with the phrase "Parent Please respond." We also have a number (337-366-1649) that you can save in your mobile device to receive texts about your child's needs. Please keep your phone on silent during services.

Allergies: Due to allergies we ask that no peanut butter, or peanut butter products, be brought into preschool.

#### PERSONAL ITEMS LABELING

All personal items, i.e., diaper bags, bottles, pacifiers and blankets etc., must be labeled with your child's name. If you have forgotten to mark an item, please ask a worker for assistance. The Bayou Preschool tags are available for you at no charge.

Children will not be permitted to bring toys from home unless it is a security item for the child, ex: blanket or stuffed aninal. Remember to put the child's name on the inside of Bibles!

#### NURSING MOTHERS

There is an area provided for you to meet your baby's nursing needs. Any of our workers will gladly direct you to the room that is designated for use by nursing mothers.

#### WELL BABY/CHILD POLICIES

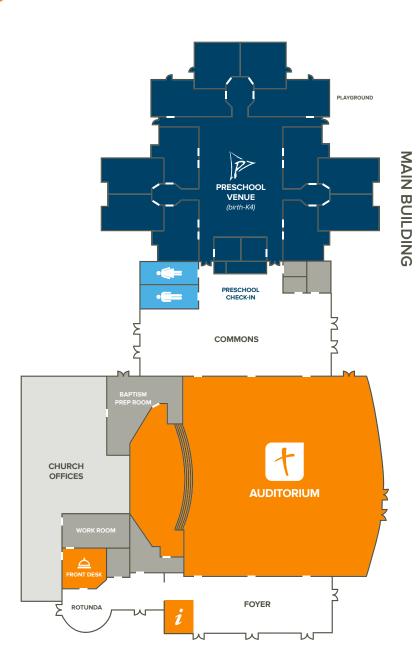
To ensure the wellness of all preschoolers, we ask that you not drop off your child if they are sick or exibit any of the following conditions:

- fever
- vomiting or diarrhea (even associated with teething and medication)
- any symptoms of childhood diseases, such as scarlet fever, German measles, mumps, chicken pox, persistent cough, strep throat, flu, etc.
- · any other infectious or contagious disease
- · sore throat
- croup
- · fifth disease
- any unexplained rash, ringworm, hives, etc.
- pinkeye or other infections (all eye infections are contagious)
- · cloudy or green runny noses or persistent cough
- · any communicable disease

We require that a child be free of fever and/or symptoms 24 hours before entering the Preschool.

Adherence to this policy is important to protect the health of all children in Preschool.

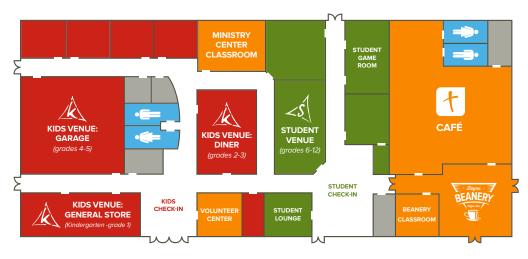
### **MAPS**



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- *i* GUEST CENTER
- **AUDITORIUM**
- **CAFÉ**
- PRESCHOOL AREA
- KIDS AREA
- STUDENT AREA

#### **MINISTRY CENTER**



# PRESCHOOL MINISTRY

## CHILDCARE (Birth–2 years old)

May include activities such as story time, coloring and unstructured play time under careful supervision of paid caregiver and a loving volunteer.

# STARTING POINT (K3 & K4 year olds) 9:30 am & 11:00 am

An exciting worship time for preschoolers, with Bible truths, active worship and interactive activities.

#### SUNDAY MORNING Age and Class Breakdown

#### Guppy A

BIRTH-6 MONTHS, NEWEST BABIES

#### **Guppy B**

7-10 MONTHS, SITTING/CRAWLING

#### Angelfish A

11-13 MONTHS, PULLING UP/CRAWLING

#### Angelfish B

14-17 MONTHS, WALKING

#### Turtle A

17-21 MONTHS, WALKING WELL

#### Turtle B

21–24 MONTHS AND UP TILL PROMOTION, WALKING WELL

#### YEARLY PROMOTION IN JUNE

#### Starfish A & B

2 YEARS OLD BY SEPTEMBER 30 OF CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR

#### Seal A & B

K3 - 3 YEARS OLD BY SEPTEMBER 30 OF CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR

#### Seahorse A & B

K4 - 4 YEARS OLD BY SEPTEMBER 30 OF CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR

#### PROMOTION IN PRESCHOOL

Babies birth through 2 years old promote according to ability throughout the year. Example: Guppy A, once a baby can crawl, they will move to Guppy B, then when they are walking they move to Angelfish A and so on. There is an automatic promotion for this age group every March, June, September and December.

#### SERVICE TIMES

Workers are ready to receive children 10 minutes before service times begin.

9:30 am Childcare—Age 2 and under

Starting Point - Age 2 and up

11:00 am Childcare—Age 2 and under

Starting Point - K3 and up

# SERVING OPPORTUNITIES IN PRESCHOOL

#### **OUR MOTTO IS**

Volunteers are never asked to change a diaper, but they may change a life! If you aren't already giving of your time, talent and resources here at The Bayou Church, ask God to show you where He wants you to begin. Then, take your turn and see how He can use you.

#### CARING HANDS

This ministry is a great starting place for those ready to become involved in ministry. Volunteers work on a rotating basis during one of our worship service times. In our younger classes (birth–2), you will assist a paid worker who will show you everything you need to know.

Typical duties for babies include rocking, playing with and reading to preschoolers, serving snacks, etc.

#### STARTING POINT 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

This dynamic worship uses both large and small group format. Adult volunteers are asked to assist in presentation of Bible truths, building friendships and supervising the children's activities. Volunteers are provided with a curriculum detailing each lesson. Volunteer positions include Bible time leader, storyteller, worship leader, class leader and techie. Volunteers serve on a rotating basis.

#### CHECK-IN/SECURITY VOLUNTEER

As the First Impressions team for Preschool, these volunteers serve as our ministry's welcoming committee. Volunteer positions include front desk check-in greeter and security.

#### **BACKGROUND CHECKS**

As a requirement for service, each volunteer must submit to a thorough nationwide background check.

#### **VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE**

A schedule will be issued notifying you of your dates of service. One of our coordinators will remind you with an email and quarterly schedule.

#### REQUIREMENTS

As parents or grandparents, you have the opportunity to teach our children the importance of service. As a regular attender to The Bayou, it is strongly encouraged that you get involved. It is vital to our ministry that you help us by making a commitment to serve on a regular basis. Please take this opportunity to be involved in the spiritual growth of your children. Volunteers must be 16 or older.

## CONTACT US

Please feel free to contact any one of our staff members if you have questions about The Bayou Church.

Visit us anytime online at TheBayouChurch.org.



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