



September 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to a new year at First Baptist! We have so much to look forward to in the coming year—growing closer to Jesus, making new friends, and having a lot of fun. There are many changes this year in our department, so whether you are new to our church family or have been here for years, this handbook has lots of important information that you need to be familiar with in order to help our children's department run safely and smoothly.

Please know that caring for and teaching your children is an honor and a responsibility we take very seriously. Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. We are so glad you are a part of our church family!

Blessings,
Stacy Adamson
Minister to Children



What's in a Name?

After a lot of prayer we have chosen the name Covenant Kids to represent our children's ministry program. Throughout Scripture God made covenants or promises to His people, and these promises teach us about God's character. A covenant is a promise made by God, and the most important promise is that if we trust Jesus as our Lord and Savior we will be forever friends with God for eternity. It is our prayer and desire that each one of our children is a part of that promise.

Our Mission - The Three B's

Believe - Our first prayer and priority is that each of our children will accept Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior and believe in Him as the only way for salvation.

Become - Accepting Christ is just the beginning of a great adventure. As they go through life we want our children to become more and more like Jesus. We want to teach God's Word in creative, relevant, and applicable ways. We want our study of the Bible to lead to a heart transformation in the lives of each child.

Belong - Each child is a special part of our department and our church family. We want each one to know and feel they belong here as a part of the body of Christ. We want to celebrate the differences and unique gifts of each child in a safe and loving community.

Our Rules - Three More Be's

Be Honest - We expect each child to tell the whole and complete truth.

Be Respectful - Each student will be respectful to one another, their leaders, and the church property.

Be Obedient - Each leader in our department wants the best for every child. When asked to do something by a leader, each child should obey promptly.



Covenant Kids Leadership

Children's Minister/Program Director: Stacy Adamson

Sunday School Outreach: Aletha Allen

Sunday School Secretary: Sylvia Derryberry

Sunday School Large Group Teachers: Virginia Harper and Dan MacLachlan

Sunday School Small Group Leaders:

Julianne and Dave MacLachlan (Boys and Girls 1st - 3rd grades)

John Penrose (Boys 4th - 6th grades)

Jana MacLachlan (Girls 4th - 6th grades)

Bible Drill Coordinator: Susan Lee

Bible Drill Assistant: Aletha Allen

Bible Buddies Director: Jason Hahn

Children's Choir Director: Virginia Harper

Children's Choir Secretary/Substitute: Cindi Anderson

Children's Choir Teachers: Janice Jones, Marie Tracy, Betty Austin, Elizabeth Philpot

GA (Girls in Action) Leaders: Lisa Carney and Jenny Montgomery

RA (Royal Ambassadors) Leaders: Jason Hahn and Bryan Walker

****The well-being and safety of your children is one of our top priorities. Each person in Covenant Kids leadership has had a background check to ensure their fitness to supervise and lead children. We strive to make sure there are at least two adults in every classroom at all times. Please show respect to these leaders as they volunteer their time and abilities to serve children.**



Schedule of Weekly Activities

Sunday:

9:15 am - Early Morning Activity

9:30 am - Sunday School

9:30 am - Large Group

10:00 am - Small Group

10:45 am - Morning Worship

4:45 pm - Bible Buddies/Drill

6:00 pm - Evening Worship

Wednesday:

4:45 pm - Dinner in Fellowship Hall

5:45 pm - Children's Choirs Early Bird Activities

6:00 - Children's Choirs

Music Makers for 1st - 3rd grades

Young Musicians for 4th - 6th grades

6:45 pm - Children's Missions

GA's (Girls in Action) for girls 1st - 6th grades

RA's (Royal Ambassadors) for boys 1st - 6th grades

7:30 pm - Supervised Gym **ONLY** for those whose parents are participating in Worship Choir.

Special Family Events (Various dates and times):

We have several different family events throughout the year which will be announced in the church bulletin and during our morning church service.

Some of our events include Parent's Night Out, Family Nights, our annual Funny Face Festival, and other holiday events. If you would like to know about planned activities, please contact the church office or check out our monthly calendar.



Parent/Guardian's Role and Responsibility in Covenant Kids

1. As a parent/guardian you are the primary spiritual leader of your children. Our goal is to come alongside and support you in rearing children who are followers of Jesus Christ. We encourage you to attend church with your child(ren) and set the example that being part of a church is an important priority.
2. Because we require background checks on all who are in our classrooms, any and all persons (parents, grandparents, observers, etc.) who desire to remain past the normal check-in time must be approved by the Children's Minister.
3. Please make sure all children have had a proper breakfast—he/she will be able to focus more on the lesson with a full stomach. If your child needs medicine during the week at school, please make sure they take it on Sunday.
4. Parents/guardians must remain on church grounds.
5. All children should be dropped off at their appropriate location no earlier than 15 minutes prior to the beginning of an activity. You or another authorized adult (18 years or older) are responsible for picking up your child after any activity, including Sunday School and missions on Wednesday nights. **We will not release children unless a parent or guardian is present.** (GNC kids will only be released to their adopt-a-family.) This is different from previous years, and children may struggle with this change; however, with current security issues facing churches today, we believe this is necessary to maintain the safety and security of our children. If you have any issues with this policy, please discuss them with the Children's Minister.
6. In case of a fire, please meet your children in the south parking lot near the marquee sign. In case of a tornado or other storms, you may meet your children in Fellowship Hall. You must make sure those in leadership know you have your child before leaving the property.
7. We encourage all parents to volunteer in the children's department as least once a quarter. You may assist us by bringing snacks, helping with a Sunday School opening activity, or helping with music.
8. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please contact Stacy Ad-
amson. Please do not confront others in leadership about rules or procedures that are out of their control. They are supporting the ministry by following proper procedures.



Contact Information

Stacy Adamson

525 South Avenue
Springfield, Missouri
65806

417-866-7202 (Church)

417-894-0640 (Cell)

417-862-4925 (Fax)

sadamson@firstspringfield.com



Covenant Kids Registration

Child's Name _____ Birthday ___/___/___

Parent/Guardian's Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Work phone _____

Email _____

School child attends _____ Grade in school _____

Brothers/Sisters _____

Pets _____ Favorite color _____

Is there anyone NOT allowed to pick up your child? If so, who?

Has your child accepted Jesus? _____ Been baptized? _____

Any special needs such as allergies, physician-diagnosed disabilities, or learning challenges that we need to be aware of? _____

What are your greatest needs as a family? _____



Parent/Child Contract:

Please sign and return to Stacy after you have read and understood the handbook.

I have read and understood First Baptist Children's Handbook. I agree to follow the policies and procedures listed here and be an active part in Covenant Kids.

Signed _____
Parent 1 Signature

Parent 2 Signature

Child 1 Signature

Child 2 Signature

Child 3 Signature

Date _____