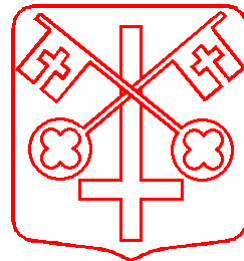


# CHRIST CHURCH NURSERY



**6 WEEKS - 5 YEARS**



**Christ Church  
St. Peter's Parish  
Youth & Family Ministry  
111 South Harrison St.  
Easton, MD 21601  
410-822-2677  
Joanne@christchurcheaston.org**

**PARENT'S  
GUIDE**

# PAID STAFF

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Picture  
Coming  
Soon



## KATHLEEN TAYLOR

When she's not in our nursery, Kathleen is a full-time mom. She is the newest addition to our Nursery staff and is already beloved among our children. Stop in and meet her!

## TRACY DONAGHUE

Tracy comes to us with a full plate of experience—a graduate from Washington College with a degree in Sociology. She has been a camp asst. director. She currently works for Kent Youth Outreach as a senior caseworker.



## YVETTE SLAUGHTER

Yvette resides in Easton with her husband of 14 years. She has one child that is currently in the U.S. Navy. She has a foster cousin, a niece and nephew that live with her. She is employed at T's corner café in Easton where she does various duties.



## MARIA GONZALEZ

Maria just came to the U.S. 4 years ago. She works with the Midshore Council on Family Violence with the Spanish immigrants and their children. She has her degree in Political Economy. She moved to Easton in 2003 from Florida.

# COMMUNION

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It is very important to us that your wishes in regard to your child's communion experience be honored. We hope to be able to meet each family's unique needs while still maintaining a safe and inviting environment in our nursery.

Each week the nursery staff bring all children in for communion. Parents fill out a communion card indicating whether their child receives the sacraments (all baptized children are welcome to receive the bread & wine with parent's consent) or a blessing. Those parents wishing to have their child with them during communion may pick them up directly from the nursery during the Peace and may return their child to the nursery after communion.

# MORE ON THE STAFF

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Nursery Staff at Christ Church, Easton meet all the requirements of the nursery job description. That is to say that they:

- ♥ Enjoy being with children.
- ♥ Show patience and love for children.
- ♥ Have childcare skills that include: diaper changing, bottle feeding, holding, burping, soothing and engaging in play.
- ♥ Have current certification in CPR and First Aid.

We check all staff's references and criminal history reports.

Our paid nursery staff may be assisted by youth volunteers working toward their babysitting certificate.

Parents are welcome to stay with their child in the Nursery.

# WELCOME LETTER

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Welcome to the Nursery Ministry at Christ Church, Easton. We strive to provide a loving, Christian environment for the youngest members of the Christ Church family.

The atmosphere in our Nursery is intended to complement and strengthen the Christian love your child experiences at home.

To provide this atmosphere we adhere to specific safety policies, staff guidelines, and spiritual development.

We hope this handbook will convey our commitment to providing safe and nurturing care to your child. Please assist us in reaching this goal by taking time to review and understand our policies. If you have any questions about Children's Ministries or how you can begin impacting children's lives for Christ, please call Joanne Browe, Youth & Family Minister, at 410-822-2677.

Yours In Christ,

Joanne Browe & Tina Hyde

## The Nursery Team

# WE DESIRE

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### FOR OUR CHILDREN...

- ♥ to know the love of Christ
- ♥ to feel comfortable and important
- ♥ to be with adults who love and care for them
- ♥ to learn to play and share with other children
- ♥ to feel positive about coming to church

### FOR OUR PARENTS...

- ♥ to actively participate in worship, Christian Education and other activities

# FIRST TIMERS

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*Our staff is delighted to welcome new families to the Nursery. In order to ensure the safety of all of our children we ask that new families complete a few newcomer steps:*

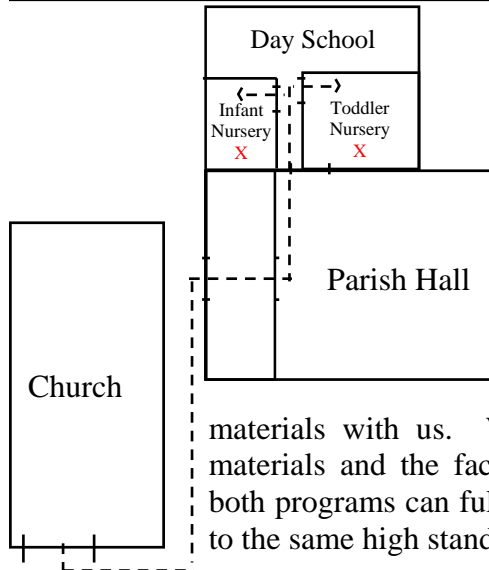
♥ **MEET THE STAFF:** Our staff looks forward to greeting you and your children when you arrive—please take a minute to get to know them!

♥ **EMERGENCY CARDS:** Please fill out an emergency card for your child.

♥ **PHOTOS:** We like to keep a photo of our children on file with the emergency card. We have a camera or you may choose to bring in a photo on your next visit.

# FINDING YOUR WAY

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If you have trouble locating the Nursery please ask any of our members and they would be happy to direct you.

Our Infant & Toddler-Care Nurseries are located directly across from one another and are shared with the Christ Church Day School.

The school also shares many materials with us. We take mutual care of these materials and the facility to ensure that children in both programs can fully enjoy them. We also adhere to the same high standards of safety and cleanliness.

# ILLNESS

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♥ For the protection of your child and the other children, parents are requested not to bring a child who appears to be ill. A child should not be placed in the nursery when any of the following exists:

- Fever -- currently or within previous 24 hours
- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Significant, persistent nasal drainage which is green or yellow in color
- Any symptom of a childhood disease, such as measles, mumps or chicken pox
- Common cold
- Sore throat
- Any unexplained rash
- Any skin infection
- Pink eye or other eye infection

♥ If the child develops a fever or other symptoms of illness while in the nursery, he/she will be separated from other children and the parents will be contacted to take the child home.

♥ If your child develops an infectious disease (chicken pox, etc.) after he/she has been in the nursery, please contact the Youth & Family Minister at 410-822-2677, so we may notify other parents of their child's possible exposure.

♥ We will not administer any medication.

# **CLASSROOM MNGMT.**

- ♥ The behavior of children while in the nursery will be managed in a manner that will protect their self-esteem and that will encourage children's independence, creativity and ability to mature and be nurtured in the growing knowledge of God's love.
- ♥ Children are expected to follow the directions given by their caregiver. Any correction needed will be done in a positive manner. Parents are expected to encourage their children to follow directions given by a caregiver. The parent will be contacted if any child refuses to comply with the caregiver's direction.
- ♥ If a toddler or older child in our care needs some sort of discipline, we will remove him or her from the situation and offer another activity or toy. We will use redirection instead of time outs.
- ♥ Every attempt will be made to soothe a crying infant or child. In the event an infant/child cries inconsolably, the parent will be notified to assist. Please note that returning to the nursery to "check" on your child can often create additional separation problems.
- ♥ If your child has a physical condition that may require specialized intervention or precaution, please contact the Youth & Family Minister at 410-822-2677 to discuss special arrangements.
- ♥ Infants are often soothed by the comfort of their own car seat or baby seat—we ask that parents bring infants in their own seats.
- ♥ All plastic and stuffed toys are washed regularly.
- ♥ We will change diapers as needed. We have our own supply of wipes. The changing tables are cleaned after each use, and all caregivers wash their hands after diapering each baby/child.

# **GENERAL POLICIES**

- ♥ The Toddler & Infant-Care Nurseries are open on Sundays from 9:00am until 15 minutes after the 11:00am service ends.
- ♥ The Infant-Care Nursery provides an environment safe for our babies under 18 months of age or who are not yet walking comfortably. Older children are welcomed in our Toddler Nursery.
- ♥ Two staff are assigned to the Infant-Care Nursery and two staff to the Toddler Nursery every Sunday.
- ♥ The Infant-Care Nursery and Toddler Nursery doors are located directly across from one another and are separated by baby gates. This allows all four of our staff visibility and access to both nurseries at all times.
- ♥ To assist your child in adjusting to their surroundings, we hope that you will bring them to church on a regular basis.
- ♥ Age limits for the Nursery are as follows:

## **9:15am Worship**

0-5 (6 years and up worship with parents)

## **10:10am-10:50am Christian Education Hour**

0-3 (3-5 year olds in upstairs Atrium)

## **11:00am Worship**

0-5 (6 years and up worship with parents)

# CHECKING IN & OUT

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- ♥ Sign-in your child properly by completing all of the information on the Nursery Registry.
- ♥ When signing in your child on the Nursery Registry form, it is extremely important that the information is accurate and complete. Please use the "Special Instructions" space to write anything you feel the caregiver should know about your child during his/her stay at the nursery.
- ♥ If you have a cellular phone that can be set to vibrate, and wish for this to be used in the event we should need to contact you while you are in service, please leave the number in the registration book, otherwise a caregiver will be sent to retrieve you.
- ♥ We have a security system in place to protect your children. After registering your child, write his/her name on a sticker, then affix the sticker to the *back* of your child.
- ♥ A yellow card will be available for you to write your child's name on. Please take this card and keep it in a safe place. You *must* present this card when picking up your child. We ask that the same adult who drops off a child also pick up that child.
- ♥ Children should be dropped off and picked up by the same *adult*. The nursery staff will not release any child to another young child.
- ♥ When able, caregivers will accompany children through Communion and then return together to the Nursery. Parents wishing to share in the Eucharist with their children are encouraged to retrieve them during the Peace.
- ♥ When you return to pick-up your child, please remain at the door until a caregiver is able to assist you. It would compromise our Security Procedure should we allow free entry into the rooms.
- ♥ Children will be released to their parent only when they present their card.
- ♥ The nursery is open on Sundays from 9:00am until 15 minutes after the 11:00am service ends. Please do not be late when picking up your child.

# WHAT TO BRING

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- ♥ Please bring your own *disposable* diapers and one change of clothes.
- ♥ Label everything: diaper bag, bottles (plastic only), pacifiers, drinks, & coats. Bottles will be fed to babies but we cannot be responsible for feeding food or dispensing medicines.
- ♥ We ask that infants be brought in with their own seats so that they will have something familiar to lie in.
- ♥ Please do not bring personal toys (to avoid their being lost or broken).

# FOOD & DRINK

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- ♥ Infants will be fed formula, milk, juice or water as provided in plastic bottles. All bottles should be pre-mixed and poured by the parent. Send only plastic bottles in the diaper bag. Please label each bottle with your child's name.
- ♥ Medications cannot be administered by nursery caregivers. Please do not put any type of medication in your child's bottle.
- ♥ Mothers who are nursing may do so in the nursery. However, please provide a bottle for your baby in the event your return is delayed.
- ♥ Toddlers will be served a snack of apple juice and goldfish crackers or teddy grahams when appropriate. If you object to this or if your child is allergic to anything, please notify your caregiver.