



August 1, 2023

Dear Families,

We are excited to begin another year of Sunday school at Prince of Peace! Sunday school is a family ministry, a faith-based program parents do with their children.

**Here are some things that you should know about Sunday School for the 2023-2024 year**

Sunday School teacher volunteers are needed! Plan to attend a SS teacher meeting on Sunday, August 27 at 10:00. Being involved in your child's Sunday school experience is an important step of faith development, get to know other families, get to know their church friends! Our goal is to have 3-4 parents to teach in each class level. That way the teaching schedule can be rotated fairly. We also need parents in preschool through 1<sup>st</sup> grade who sign up a few Sundays to assist and provide proper child - teacher ratio for safety and guidance.

**School Year 2023-2024 Plan to attend SS Parent Meet n Greet Sundays at 9:00 9-24, 1-21 & 4-21**

**The fun and learning begins on Rally Day on Sunday September 10, 9:00 to 10:00 am.**

**WORSHIP TIMES 9:00 & 10:30. Sunday School for age 3 to 5<sup>th</sup> grade meets during 9:00 worship!**

**To sign up for Sunday School**, read the attached *Prince of Peace Children's Ministry Participation Policy* and *Sunday School registration form*. Please complete a registration form [online](#) for each of your children. These forms are kept in the office for emergency purposes. **Sign up for the grade your child is entering in the Fall 2023 [online](#).**

- Our Sunday School curriculum is SPARK & Whirl Sunday School Curriculum, which teaches that we LEARN from the Bible to LIVE THE GOOD NEWS!
- Families with children, age preschool to grade 2: REQUIRED to SIGN IN/OUT
- Families with students grade 3-5: NOT REQUIRED TO SIGN IN/OUT; students will be dismissed at 10:00 am to meet you.
- Children who attend Sunday School must have an adult stay in the church building during the program; please stay for Worship, Adult Study or have breakfast in the POP's Café.
- We encourage students to give weekly offering to the church as a service project to help others outside of our church. Offerings will go to One Dublin <https://one-dublin.org/#WhoWeAre>



- NO SNACKS are served in Sunday School. Please be sure your child knows about this and eats a good breakfast. Your family is welcome to attend the Prince of Peace Café before or after Sunday School or worship.

We look forward to a fun and educational year for everyone. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or suggestions as we work together to plant the seeds of faith in the hearts of our children. Contact me to let me know which class you are able to help teach.

In peace, Sue Miller, Children's Ministry Director 614-766-6377 ext. 18

[smiller@princeofpeacedublin.org](mailto:smiller@princeofpeacedublin.org)

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## Children's Ministry Participation Policy

*"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."*

Matthew 7:12

The goal of the Children's Ministry at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church is to provide a positive, nurturing and inclusive Christian education program. To ensure safety and learning opportunities for our students, we provide the following policy for behavioral guidance.

### Communicable Disease Health Policy

Covid 19 virus has taken us through many stages of safety protocols. We have learned a lot about communicable disease and how to slow the spread of germs and illness. As we go forward let's continue to work together to slow the spread to keep our children as safe as they can be in group learning situations.

Anyone who is not feeling well, is contagious, or has been exposed to the virus is asked to stay home and follow the medical advice of their doctor as well as public health orders.

Sue Miller, Director of Christian Education

Pastor John Morris

### Children's Ministry Staff & Volunteer Responsibilities

- Provide classroom activities to promote a sense of belonging and community.
- Provide appropriate and engaging activities to help students learn about God.
- Model appropriate behavior for children to follow.



- Ensure that no child is ever left alone.
- Provide positive reinforcement for good behavior.
- Approach classroom discipline in a proactive, positive and loving way. Never physically restrain a child (unless the child is posing immediate physical danger to self or another person and is not responding to verbal guidance attempts). Never physically punish a child and never use profane or derogatory language.
- Document and discuss classroom incidents with parents as needed.
- To teach or lead Sunday School, TGIGF, and VBS, you must be a church member in High School or older. To assist, you must be in Middle School or older.

## Parent Responsibilities

- Please have your child arrive on time to Sunday School.  
PLEASE NOTE: no snacks will be served in Sunday School; eating breakfast at home will help your child be ready to listen and learn.
- Fill out a SS registration form. Please tell us about your child's individual needs including allergies, restrictions, disabilities, medications and any other information that might be helpful in teaching and caring for your child.
- Parents and volunteers are always welcome throughout the Sunday School year.  
Please let us know if you are available to help on occasion. You may indicate your availability on your child's registration form. Now and again our dedicated Sunday School volunteers may have a schedule conflict and they appreciate your availability to the children of our congregation.
- Participate with the Sunday School Program Director in resolving recurring behavior problems.
- Inform the pastoral staff or Sunday School Program Director of your child's individual needs or circumstances that might require extra attention from his/her teachers on an ongoing basis.
- **Parents must remain in the building during Sunday School.**
- **Families with children preschool to grade 2: SIGN IN/OUT parent required**
  - List any individual needs or medical conditions (including allergies and any conditions for which he/she takes medications).
  - List where you will be in case you must be contacted: worship, Adult Study, POP's Café.
  - List if someone other than parent will be picking up.
- **Families with students grade 3-5: SIGN IN/OUT is by student / parent not required**  
Students will be dismissed at 10:00 am to meet you. We suggest you arrange a meeting place.

## Student Responsibilities

- Arrive at the classroom or activity meeting place ready to listen & learn.
- Help one another follow the rules:
  - ✓ Keep hands and feet to yourself.



- ✓ Use your indoor voice.
- ✓ Please walk while inside the church building.
- ✓ Listen to your teachers and follow directions.
- ✓ Take turns sharing and caring.
- ✓ Raise your hand to talk during group discussion time.
- ✓ Be kind to others when you talk.

## **When a behavior issue occurs**

- For mild or moderate disruptions, the teacher will:
  1. Remind the student(s) privately of the appropriate behavior and the reason why it is important.
  2. Redirect the student(s).
  3. Problem solve with the student(s) to bring behavior back in line to allow learning to continue.
  4. Alert the parent to recurring disruptive behavior privately after the service.
- For major disruptions or those presenting a safety concern, the teacher will enlist the help of the Superintendent or Sunday School Program Director:
  1. Immediately remove the student from the group and/or away from danger to self or others (typically to the hallway), discuss the issue, and problem solve with the student.
  2. If the situation warrants, contact the parent immediately.
  3. Document the incident and discuss with the parent within the week, asking
  4. the parent to attend class with their child the following week.
  5. If necessary, follow up with parents of other students who may have been hurt by the incident.
- For severe or reoccurring behavior problems, a parent will be required to attend one or more program sessions with their child and/or work with the Sunday School Program Director to develop a plan of action for continuing participation.

## **Program Notes**

We provide a Sunday School calendar of events each year, which is posted on the website, on hallway bulletin boards, and in each classroom. Sunday School will begin after Labor Day and end the third Sunday of May. We will not have SS on Christmas Day, New Year's Day, or on Easter Sunday, so that our volunteer teachers can worship with their families.



On occasion photographs are taken during SS activities. Photos are used in church publications to promote our programs; no names will be posted unless permission is obtained.

## **Emergency Procedures for Sunday School**

In the event of a medical emergency, church leaders are authorized to obtain medical care for your child and hereby released from any further responsibility.

Children must be supervised at all times in the church. Please follow sign in and out of Sunday school requirements. This serves as attendance and group count. Parent must remain in the building while child is in Sunday school classrooms.

For safety and security purposes once Sunday School session begins the classroom doors are closed and will remain locked. In between sessions parents are welcome to visit SS rooms.

In the event of evacuation due to fire, bomb threat or active shooter; teachers have been instructed to listen to instructions of emergency personnel. They may be instructed to get out of the building or they may be instruction to shelter in place. If they are evacuating the building they are to take their registration book with them for attendance and parent contact information.

## **Ministry Off-Site Leader Requirements**

To lead or chaperone students from Prince of Peace to off-site ministry opportunities:

- You must be a member and at least HS age
- If needed willing to submit information for church to obtain a Background Check
- Peace of mind for staff and parents knowing that we exercised due diligence should an incident arise.
- For further information please contact Pastor Tim Wrenn [twrenn@princeofpeacedublin.org](mailto:twrenn@princeofpeacedublin.org)



# Sunday School Registration Form

Please return completed form to the church office or to your Sunday School teachers.

OR sign up online at

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Baptism Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_



Check class going into in the fall:

- ☐ Preschool 3- 4 year olds (age 3 by 9/01/23 and toilet-trained) room 7
- ☐ PreK 5 year olds & Kindergarten (age 5 by 9/01/23 and toilet-trained) room 4
- ☐ Grade 1 room 9
- ☐ Grade 2 room 215
- ☐ Grade 3 room 206
- ☐ Grade 4 room 205
- ☐ Grade 5 room 208

Parent Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ POP member ☐ Non-member

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

- Are you available to assist or teach in your child's Sunday school room? YES NO
- Please tell us about your child's individual needs including allergies, restrictions, disabilities, medications and any other information that might be helpful in teaching and caring for your child: \_\_\_\_\_
- In the event of a medical emergency, church leaders are authorized to obtain medical care for my child and hereby released from any further responsibility.
- Children in the Sunday School program must have a parent remain in the building. List a phone number we can call during the Sunday School hour.  
Please keep your cell phone on vibrate. cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_
- On occasion photographs are taken during SS activities. Photos are used in church publications to promote our program. No names will be posted, unless permission is obtained. YES NO
- Please review *The Prince of Peace Children's Ministry Participation Policy*.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

