

Church Calendar 2016-2017

9/11	Intergenerational-RE Open House & Registration
9/18	
9/25	
10/2	
10/9	Holiday NO RE Classes / NO Nursery Care
10/16	
10/23	
10/30	
11/6	
11/13	Intergenerational: Leaf Raking Sunday
11/20	
11/27	
12/4	
12/11	
12/18	Intergenerational- Christmas Pageant
12/25	Holiday NO RE Classes / NO Nursery Care
1/1	Holiday NO RE Classes / NO Nursery Care
1/8	
1/15	
1/22	
1/29	
2/5	
2/12	
2/19	Holiday NO RE Classes / NO Nursery Care
2/26	
3/5	
3/12	
3/19	
3/26	Intergenerational: RE Spring Sign-Ups
4/2	
4/9	
4/16	Holiday NO RE Classes / NO Nursery Care
4/23	
4/30	
5/7	Intergenerational: Music Sunday
5/14	Intergenerational: Affirmation
5/21	
5/28	Holiday NO RE Classes / NO Nursery Care
6/4	
6/11	Intergenerational: RE Sunday & Picnic Celbrtn

Discipline Policy

Participants in the Religious Education (RE) program are notably respectful, attentive and positive contributors to activities. Occasionally, however, discipline problems arise. In response to several requests, the RE Committee has discussed policies with a number of parents and teachers; the following policy is now in effect.

"Discipline problems" are defined as:

***Any violent act**

(hitting, throwing objects)

***Ongoing repeated behavior**

(swearing, constant disruption/disrespect)

A sequential pattern is recommended for handling discipline in the classroom: Ignore, Eye Contact, Gently Call the Child's Name, Involve them in the lesson, Remind them of Rules, Move Closer to them, Pause the Lesson to Redirect. If the child continues to misbehave, the RE Director will be called to assist in the classroom; If the child needs to leave the classroom, he/she will sit with the RE Director and parents will be notified of behavior.

Please keep in mind "discipline problems" among toddlers is most often normal behavior. A simple "No" or "No Thank You, That's Not Okay", may be all that is needed. If one child is being to 'hands on' with another child, simply separate them, and give them different activities. If a child is injured by another child or by a toy, please document the incident/injury and inform the parent/adult.

RE Committee

Bethany Knoettner

Megan Kane

Andrea Flaherty

Jen Scarano

Lynn Neild

Jenn Smagula

Erin Nielson

Nicole Tracey (RE Director)

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Religious Education

First Parish Church United
Westford, MA

Nursery Program 2016-2017

*The Nursery Room is located downstairs
from the Worship Hall.
1 Volunteer is needed every Sunday to help
our hired Nursery Worker.*

Nursery Care

Nursery Care is provided for infants and toddlers through age 3 during the worship service. The nursery is located in the Meetinghouse, downstairs from the Sanctuary. It is a cooperative service, with church participants assigned each week to provide care (high school students are also welcome to volunteer.) **We require at least 2 adults (16 and older) to be present in the nursery at all times:** one volunteer along with Sarah McKinley, our hired Nursery Care provider.

Children can be dropped off in the nursery 10 minutes before the start of worship, as long as there are 2 adults present. If there are not 2 adults present, we ask that the adult dropping off the child stay and wait until there are.

Though the nursery schedule is established for the year in September, we can always use back up care and **we hope that all who benefit from the nursery offer an hour of their time to benefit others.**

There is NO NURSERY CARE on Sundays that are Holidays: Nursery Care will be provided on RE Open House, Music Sunday, Affirmation Sunday & RE Sunday Intergenerational days

FPCU's Nursery Care Provider: Sarah McKinley

Sarah is our new Nursery Caretaker, hired just this year. She is a junior at Westford Academy, active in Theater & Soccer. She spent this past summer working with children as a CIT at an overnight camp. She is First Aid and CPR certified and has experience in babysitting. Sarah is no stranger to FPCU, attending RE for several years here and making her Affirmation in 2014. Sarah will be in the FPCU Nursery most Sundays from 10am-12pm. **Following our policy, there will be a volunteer in the nursery as well.**

Health & Safety:

We care very much about the health of all our children, so please **do not** allow children in the nursery

- within 24 hours of having a fever of 101°F
- with a severe cough
- within 24 hours of vomiting or having diarrhea
- with red, irritated and draining eyes
- with head lice, or
- with any rashes of unknown origin.

Due to potential food allergies, WE DO NOT ALLOW FOOD/SNACKS TO BE EATEN IN THE NURSERY. If a child needs to have a snack during the hour, the parent/adult may come and take the child out of the nursery to eat, then return when the child is done.

Sign-in Procedure:

- Parents/adults fill out sign in sheet, with child's name & name of adult(s) picking up, along with any other important information (allergies, etc).
- Nametag is placed on the child's back.
- Child's belongings are labeled.

From Nursery to Pre-School/Pre-K

Every year we have parents of nursery children wondering whether their nursery child is ready for the PS/PK RE class. The RE committee has devised a list of criteria that we hope will aid you in your decision.

Your child is ready for PS/PK if they are:

- 3 years of age by September 1, 2016
- able to follow simple directions
- able to sit in his/her seat for defined periods of time (15-20min)
- potty trained
- able to use crayons and markers appropriately, and use scissors with minimal help
- able to eat and drink snacks appropriately on their own
- able to work independently with minimum individual adult supervision

Please note: Children progress at different ages and stages; if your child is not quite 3 and/or potty trained, but ready to sit and do 'work' at the table, and you feel they are bored in the nursery-**YOU are more than welcome to take them to the PS/PK class and sit in with them.**