

FIRST BAPTIST PRE-SCHOOL PURPOSE

- In the First Baptist Pre-school program each child is regarded as God's special creation. Each will be loved as the unique individual he/she is. Curriculum is a well-balanced enrichment program designed to help each child understand his/her relationship with our loving heavenly Father and to experience God's presence in each day of life. Teachers encourage and support children as they build readiness skills for future academic learning and increase competence and independence. Children will be guided into positive social interactions that stress Christian values. They will be taught the basic academic skills needed for kindergarten transition. Our programs strive to give a wide variety of "hands-on" experiences chosen for their individual developmental levels. Play is considered a child's natural learning tool and also as a creative expression of a child's "work."
- Pre-school is the initial step in enlarging the child's world. The atmosphere of the program reflects God's love expressed through music, prayer, conversation, and scripture. In this environment each child is encouraged to grow into the unique person God has created him or her to be.
- The two-year-old class has been created to introduce young children to small group activities in a semi-structured environment. The three-year-old program is designed to enhance motor and academic readiness activities to provide a natural flow into the pre-kindergarten program the following year.
- The pre-kindergarten program has been created to provide a gentle transition to kindergarten and to enhance rather than duplicate that experience.

FIRST BAPTIST PRE-SCHOOL STATEMENT OF CORE VALUES

“And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.”

Luke 2:52

Within this single verse of scripture, the purpose of First Baptist Pre-school is clearly presented.

- **WISDOM (Proverbs 2:1-5, James 3:13)**

To develop in each student an education process that places the revealed Word of God at its very center, challenging both student and teacher to evaluate all through the eyes of God because God is Truth. (John 14:6)

To provide each child with the foundational skills for reading readiness, numeric concepts, and the ability to express his own unique thoughts and ideas. (Psalm 119:66, Acts 7:22)

- **STATURE (Psalm 139:13-14)**

To assist each student in developing his or her full potential in body, mind, spirit. (Matthew 22:37-38)

To provide each child with the best possible environment for the attainment of spiritual, academic, emotional, and physical excellence. (Ephesians 5:13, James 1:4)

- **FAVOR WITH GOD (Galatians 5:22-23)**

To inspire in each student a system of values consistent with the Holy Bible and a personal faith in Jesus Christ, God's Son. (Acts 4:12, Psalm 119:11)

To present to each child the truth about God, life, the world, humans and their purpose for existence. (John 3:16-17)

- **FAVOR WITH MEN (Ephesians 4:32)**

To instill in the hearts of the students a strong love for our country and an appreciation of our nation's Christian heritage. (Titus 3:1, Romans 13:1)

To uphold the sanctity of the home, the sacredness of the church. (Ephesians 6:1-4, Ephesians 5:25-28)

WHAT WE BELIEVE

About the world....

- Christ is the center
- God is the source of everything and every day
- there are Biblical values and concepts in everything

About learning....

- play is a child's work
- it happens naturally in a positive, guided atmosphere
- it is accomplished through a variety of purposeful, process-oriented experiences
- it is *FUN!*

About children....

- God created each one with unique potential
- each is a whole being made up of five "selves" (physical, social, emotional, cognitive, spiritual)
- they develop at individual rates
- they become competent by being allowed to try

About our task....

- we should develop healthy self-esteem in children
- we should help the children feel independent and able to cope in their world
- we should set foundations and build skills needed for formal schooling
- we present Jesus to the children and represent Him in our lives