

# Medora Community Bible Church

## Children's Church Program

Welcome to Children's Church! Your willingness to serve our church body in this special ministry is appreciated.

The Children's Church packet needs to be passed on to the next team of workers immediately following your last Sunday of service.

### Why Do We Have Children's Church?

- To bring children at an early age under the teaching of the Gospel. Be evangelistic. The Bible tells us that children can place their faith in Christ and become children of God.
- To enable those in the adult worship service to hear the preaching of the Word without distraction.
- To help prepare children (ages four years through second grade) for the adult worship services. Special attention needs to be given to the following areas:
  1. **Behavior** – learning to sit quietly and pay attention during the various aspects of the service
  2. **Education** – application of Biblical truths on a level that is easily comprehended
  3. **Respect** – for God, authorities, and the house of worship

### Children's Church Structure

The time spent in Children's Church needs to focus on the instruction of God's Word. This is to be structured and not a free-for-all.

1. The presentation of the lesson should be first; several different ideas are available in the workbook. Please do not use videos. Although they are entertaining, we are not there just to entertain. We are there to teach.
2. Please do not allow the children to re-enter the sanctuary once the message has begun. We need to be careful not to release any children from Children's Church until one of the following has happened:

Early Church Service – The parents, a relative, or older sibling has come to pick them up, or if they will be staying for Sunday School, you can walk them down the hall directly to their Sunday School class. Only leave them if a teacher is present.

Late Church Service – The parents, a relative, or older sibling has come to pick them up. You may also deliver them upstairs to their parents or a responsible adult who will help them find their parents.

3. Do not dismiss the children until the service upstairs is completely finished (several minutes after the last hymn). Never leave children unattended in a classroom.
4. At the end of class, please put away all materials used and leave the classroom in an orderly fashion.

### **Standards of Discipline**

- All discipline must conform to the Biblical standards of being corrective and instructive (Ephesians 6:4).
- If isolating the child within the classroom or removal of the child from the room becomes necessary, the ministry supervisor should be informed in a timely manner.
- If the child's continuing conduct presents a distraction to the ministry, the situation must be discussed with the child's parents or guardian, the ministry supervisor, and the ministry worker directly involved as soon as possible.
- While Kansas law does not prohibit corporal punishment and the Bible commands it (Proverbs 23:12-13), we believe it is best administered by parents.
- All disciplinary action should align with the Discipline Policy of the church and should be recorded in the Disciplinary Incident Report book in the church secretary's office.

### **Additional Helps**

1. Trips to the restroom are discouraged and reserved for emergency situations only. In such cases, an adult must accompany the child. Never allow a child to leave the classroom alone.
2. If a child is continually disruptive, please contact one of the ushers and have them locate the parents, so that they can come down and deal with the child.

You and anyone you ask to be a helper must have completed an MCBC Volunteer Form and Child Care Policy and have been approved by the Christian Education Committee.

Remember, we are ultimately responsible for the safety and welfare of each child so we should take extra precaution to maintain the trust of the families that come regularly and those that visit Medora Community Bible Church.