

2014-2015 LOGOS COUNCIL

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
(DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)
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Growing in Grace

2 Peter 3:18



Growing in Grace

LOGOS 2014-15

Dates to Remember

- August 27th First Day of Logos
- November 15th Logos Day Camp (9am-1:00pm)
- November 26th No Logos-Thanksgiving
- December 3rd Pageant Dress Rehearsal (6:30)
- December 7th Pageant
- December 10th Service Night (6:30—CiCi's)
- December 11th-
January 6th Logos Christmas Break
- January 7th Logos Resumes—StarSkate
- February 18th Movie Night-Ash Wednesday
- March 18th No Logos Spring Break
- April 15th Service Night (6:30—CiCi's)
- April 22nd Class Parties/Picnic
- April 29th Closing Banquet/
Last Day of Logos

My Childs Carpool Driver:

Name

Phone #

My Childs' Bible Study Teacher:

Name

Phone #

My Childs' Table Parents:

Name

Phone #

Notes:

2014-2015
Logos Sunday Morning
Schedule

Fall Semester

Logos Choir

September 28th

October 26th

November 23rd

December 7th (Pageant)

Logos Handchimes

October 5th—5th Graders

November 16th—4th Graders

Spring Semester

Logos Choir

January 25th

February 22nd

March 29th—Palm Sunday

April 26th

Logos Handchimes

March 1st—3rd Graders

Dear Logos Parents,

Welcome to our 21st year of Logos at First Christian Church! We are excited and honored to have been chosen as Logos Council for the 2014-2015 session. We have been involved with Logos for many years and hope to be involved for many more years to come. We truly believe in this program and feel very blessed to be volunteering to work with your children this year. This program wouldn't exist without the support of volunteers; we hope you will also take the time to serve Christ through Logos. It is an exceptionally fulfilling experience.

This year, the theme for the Logos program is Growing in Grace. We are welcoming all of God's children, both young and old, to the 2014-2015 Logos season, as we focus on how to Share the Grace of God and love each other. All are welcome to come and join us at play, study, worship and the table. We hope that your experience will create a closer relationship with God, with each other and with those in our church community.

Please take the time to look through this handbook. It can be valuable in answering many questions you might have about the Logos program and how it works in our church. We will be available to answer any additional questions that you might have. Never hesitate to contact us with questions or concerns.

In Christ,
the Logos Council

**FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
LOGOS MINISTRY 2014-2015 HANDBOOK**

WELCOME TO LOGOS! What does the word LOGOS mean? If it sounds like Greek to you, it's for a good reason; it **IS** Greek and it means: "The Word". Not the spoken word, but the word as stated in John 1: 1-18: "In the beginning was the Word...and the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us..." Logos is a system of ministry that is designed to nurture all those involved in it as they mirror the example of Christ. The Logos Ministry is the practice of Christian relationships in a disciplined (midweek) context.

The Logos Children's Ministry expresses the conviction that Christian relationships are best learned when consistently experienced in communities, specifically in Christian communities where the selfless kind of caring for others found uniquely in Christ is intentionally taught and practiced.

There is only one rule in Logos:

***EVERYONE IS A CHILD OF
GOD AND WE ARE TO TREAT
EACH OTHER AS A CHILD OF
GOD!*** No one has the right to treat anyone else as if they do not matter!

VISITORS

Students are invited to bring guests to Logos at no charge. A guest will participate and be included in the entire program with the child they came with. Guests are allowed 2 other visits during the Logos year. Interested guest students are encouraged to enroll in the Logos Program. Please see a Logos council member for further information.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Car pools are coordinated from elementary schools and middle schools. Children arrive in the circle drive by the bell tower for check-in. After dinner all children will remain at their tables in the Fellowship Hall with their table parents until parents arrive to escort them out of the church. At 6:00 the remaining children will be supervised in a play area and parents can check their child out there.

Safety is a primary concern and the cooperation of parents and children with these procedures is appreciated.

ABSENCE

If your child will be absent from a regularly scheduled Logos event, **parents need to inform the church office** and the car pool driver. If a child needs to leave Logos early for an occasional appointment, he or she needs to be checked out of the program with the Logos director or the church office. Again, we need to know where your child is at all times during the Logos evening.

First Christian Church is a place where the church's nurturing of children into mature discipleship is a high priority. Our congregation has committed itself to a quality mid-week Children's Ministry program. We have invested effort, time, and congregational resources to carry forward this important effort to give each of our children the finest quality opportunity for Christian training and growth.

It is your opportunity, as a parent, to make it possible for your child to participate. These pages are meant to outline the nature, scope, and mechanics of our ministry together. Please refer to this manual as often as necessary as we work together in this important ministry.

Logos program is intended to run parallel to the school year, with weekly meetings *beginning August 27, 2014 and ending April 29, 2015*. Breaks are taken when school is not in session, Holidays, and the month of December and May.

The program is **not** a substitute for, or replacement of, the Sunday Church School, Voyage into DiscipleSHIP, Children Worship & Wonder Service, Following Jesus Service and other Christian programs of the church. These programs work together and reinforce each other and the overall Christian educational experience offered at First Christian

BIBLE STUDY CURRICULUM

Logos is so much more than a place for the kids to be on Wednesdays. Nurturing people, especially youth and children, into relationships with God through Jesus Christ is the most important thing the church does! This nurturing happens through four equally important experiences in which every young person participates each Wednesday. At

First Christian we believe that:

- Relationships must be informed, refined, renewed and kept fresh. *Our **Bible study** provides this opportunity.*
- Relationships need time for persons to delight in fun and creativity together. ***Recreation** provides this possibility.*
- Relationships need to experience a communion of Spirit. *The **Family Time** in the dinner hour provides this.*
- Relationships need to be rooted in each person's own relationship with Christ, renewed and nurtured weekly in worship. ***Worship skills** through choir and hand chimes time provides that.*

If you have any questions concerning this manual or any of the Logos components, please feel free to contact one of the people listed on the back cover or this handbook or by calling the church office at 405-329-2192. And WELCOME to the 20th year of Logos!!

This year we will continue using the *Seasons of the Spirit*. *Seasons of the Spirit* follows the *Revised Common Lectionary* which has been used in worship books, hymnals and church calendars throughout the English-speaking world since 1993. The lectionary is designed to provide a structure for reading a large portion of the bible over a three-year cycle by using four scripture passages each week. As we explore the common lectionary we will also be moving through the rhythm of the liturgical seasons, from Advent to Ordinary Time. The use of the lectionary and seasons of the church year help us to connect our past, present and future as God's people. Students will learn about stories and rituals of faith tradition which helps to shape their identity as Christians.

Seasons of the Spirit vision is that each section will:

Invite us to explore the meaning and mystery in the Bible through the lectionary.

Encourage us to experience the transforming power of Christ as together worship, sacraments, and education work in our lives.

Call us into the ecumenical, global and inclusive heart of the church where these resources are grounded and shaped.

Nurture faith by engaging the imagination through the Bible, tradition, science, technology and the arts.

Send us into the into the contemporary world with its current events, issues, knowledge, and discoveries acting as an arena to test, share, and live our faith.

GRACE creed, such as “Show me the GRACE way to listen.” or “Show me the GRACE way to take turns.”

If the misbehavior continues, the child will be asked to sit away from the group, but within the same room (similar to a short time out). When the child has appeared to calm down, he or she will be invited back to the group activity and asked to show the GRACE way to participate.

If the misbehavior still persists, the leader will then have another adult go contact the child’s parent to have them address the behavior. The child will always be welcome to return to the class when they are ready to show GRACE. As soon as possible after the redirection, the teacher will make an effort to praise the child for his or her improved and appropriate behavior.

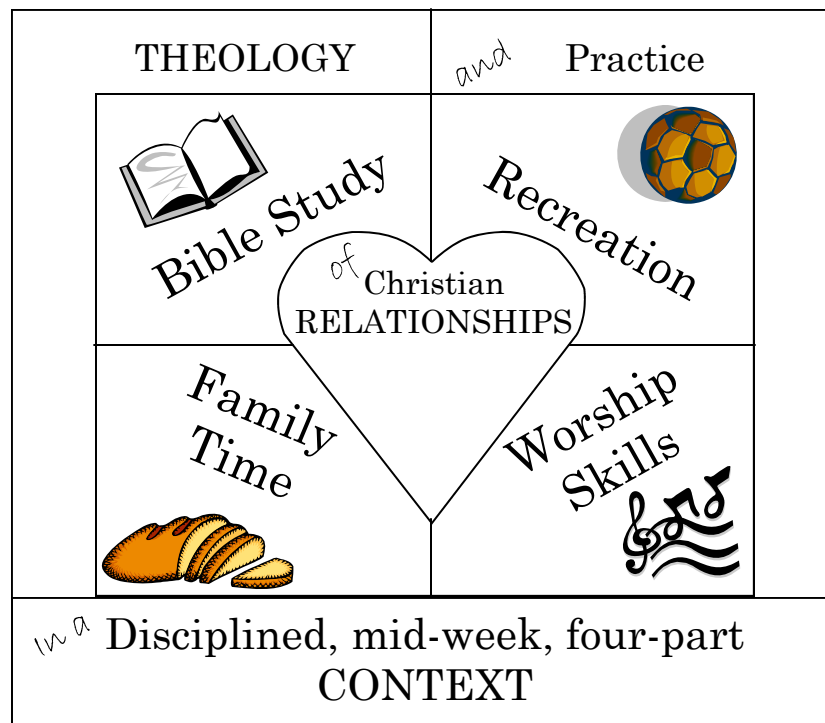
For more serious misbehavior, such as physical aggression (hitting, biting, pushing, etc.) or running away from the group, a leader will immediately contact the child’s parent. If a child is hurt or upset due to physical aggression, his or her parent will be contacted as well.

At Logos if a parent is not in the building, the teacher will get a designated adult who is in the role of “Comforter” who will spend time with the child and help him or her to calm down, and get back in touch with more appropriate behavior.

All children will be welcomed with love when they are ready to return, and the child will have a “clean slate” at that point. The teachers and volunteers will make an effort to praise the child for his or her showing of GRACE upon return.

The Logos creators speak of its “non-negotiable bones”. They are the skeletal strength of the program to which First Christian is also committed:

- ⇒ Everyone participates in all four parts, every week;
- ⇒ Everyone participates in Sunday worship every week;
- ⇒ Pastoral leadership and participation;
- ⇒ Parent commitment to annual parent’s meeting and to the weekly program;
- ⇒ Midweek scheduling of the program;
- ⇒ Program funded primarily by participating families.



WORSHIP SKILLS

The goal of Worship Skills is to develop responsibility for and practice in worship, *because worship is our primary service to God as disciples.*

We offer several different choirs for children to participate in each week. Vocal choirs, hand chime choirs and speaking choirs are presented, practiced and rehearsed each week. The children's choirs participate in Sunday morning worship on a regular basis. The specific dates for both singing and chiming is included on the back page of this manual. Please make plans now for you and your children to be a part of these services.

Children are encouraged to participate in this practice of our worship skills each week so that they can present their gifts to God during their worship of God.

SERVICE NIGHTS

Logos will have one service night each semester. On the fall service night, K-2nd Graders will venture out to a local non-profit agencies for service and education, while the 3rd-5th graders will travel to area nursing and assisted living centers and share their musical gifts. During the spring service night, the groups will switch, allowing the K-2nd grades to offer their musical gifts at nursing homes and assisted living centers, while the 3rd-5th graders will do community service projects. All groups will be ready for pickup at 6:30, after dinner at CiCi's Pizza.

The specific dates for these events can be found in the front of this manual

Children will also be taught about levels of voice volume that are appropriate in different areas of the church, such as the sanctuary versus the playground.

Level 0= silence

Level 1= whisper

Level 2= very soft voice, talking to neighbor

Level 3= normal speaking voice, small group

Level 4= loud inside voice

Level 5= outside voice

On van rides, such as to Logos or Youth activities, the driver will be supported in stopping the van if the noise level becomes too loud. Children will be redirected to keep their voices at a level 2 or 3, and praised for showing GRACE when they are able to meet that expectation.

To encourage appropriate behavior, children will be praised for showing GRACE. Children who are showing an appropriate example will be pointed out and complimented for their behavior. Such as "John is showing GRACE by listening to Mr. Chris so attentively. Thank you John. Can the rest of you do that?"

Positive behavior will also be reinforced by giving children stickers when they are showing GRACE. Rolls of stickers with the GRACE logo will be given to bus drivers, snack and recreation supervisors, Bible study teachers, choir leaders, Sunday school teachers, and children's worship leaders. At Logos, the table with the most stickers that evening will be rewarded.

For minor misbehaviors, such as talking during a prayer or lesson, use of inappropriate words or calling names, teachers and caregivers will respond by giving one verbal warning. The redirection will be stated in terms of the

Positive Behavior Management Plan for First Christian Church

First Christian Church uses a positive behavior management plan, with the goal of encouraging appropriate behavior while helping all of the children at First Christian feel safe, feel loved, have fun, and learn about God in a positive environment. This policy will be used for preschoolers through twelfth grade, in all programs including Sunday school, Logos, Youth events, Vacation Bible School, and Children's Worship Services.

The Creed for the children of First Christian will be:

First Christian Kids show:

Giving
Respectful
Appropriate
Caring
Enthusiastic!

This creed is meant to reinforce our values and expectations in a positive way, and it will be taught and used in all settings in which children participate. To reinforce this message, it will be displayed in posters around the church, verbally taught to the children in group settings, and may be presented in other creative ways, such as a scroll that children sign at the beginning of each school year.

Children will be taught a chant to help them remember the creed. The chant is:

"I am a Christian and I will show GRACE. Giving,
Respectful, Appropriate, Caring and Enthusiastic!"

WEEKLY LOGOS SCHEDULE

Time	Grades K-2	Grades 3-5
3:05 to 3:30	Snack	Recreation
3:30 to 3:50	Recreation	Snack
3:50 to 4:00	Opening Circle	
4:00 to 4:35	Worship Skills	Bible Study
4:35 to 5:10	Bible Study	Worship Skills
5:15 to 6:00	Family Time (Dinner)	

CHI RHO SERVICE NIGHT

Chi Rho Service Night is a leadership and spiritual development opportunity for middle school age youth. It is a chance for our youth to be part of the leadership team, which makes this important ministry to children possible. It is also a chance to grow and develop for future ministry opportunities. Cost for the year is \$20.00 and can be paid in two payments of \$10.00 in September and January. This fee helps cover a portion of the cost for snack and other expenses for Chi Rho.

FEES AND REGISTRATION

The cost of the Logos Program includes a monetary fee **PLUS** a commitment of time from at least 1 parent or grandparent of each child registered. Fees for 2012-2013 are \$120.00 and can be paid in full at sign-up or in 3 payments as follows:

\$40 due at registration

\$40 due by October 10th

\$40 due by February 10th

There will be a maximum charge of \$360.00 for any one family. Late enrollment will be prorated.

No student will be turned away. Financial assistance will be arranged in cases of need by contacting one of the program directors, Chris Fourcade or the Church Office.

Parents of Logos children are expected to volunteer to help with the program in some way. Parents are needed as carpool drivers, bible study teachers, playtime/activities supervisors, assistants with worship skills time and as table parents, kitchen crew, cleanup crew and security areas. A parent sign-up sheet will be available at registration or by contacting one of the program directors, Chris Fourcade, or the Church office

Childcare is provided for younger children of parents during their volunteer duties at the church. The Nursery will open at 2:30 and is free of charge to parents working with Logos on Wednesday afternoons.

DISCIPLINE

There is only one rule:

WE ARE ALL GOD'S CHILDREN AND WE MUST TREAT EACH OTHER THAT WAY.

It is the policy of Logos that no one can do anything bad enough to get kicked out of the program. At the same time, we are committed to creating a setting that is positive for all of the children and adults involved.

Guidelines in discipline are:

WE WILL NOT ...

punish physically, ignore unacceptable behavior, be permissive, use sarcasm, encourage any alienation from the children, label or assume the worst.

WE WILL...

reward the good, listen, catch misbehavior at the beginning, change the arena, try behavior modification, allow children to "make right" whatever went wrong, try to keep a sense of humor, strive to be fair, loving, consistent, and private.

We fully embrace the Positive Behavior Management Plan, instituted throughout the Children's Ministries at First Christian Norman. Your child is important to us. We have made a firm commitment to your child's Christian nurture and training. We will assist you in every way possible to make certain the full opportunity of participation is available to him or her.