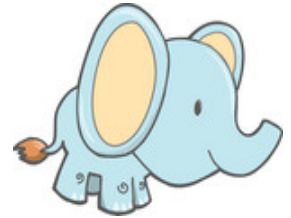




Parents Morning Out Program

Sponsored by First United Methodist Church
212 3rd Street North, St. Petersburg, Fl 33701
Director: Jennifer Stewart 727-894-4661 ext.127



Welcome to Parent's Morning Out, a program sponsored by the Children's Ministry of First United Methodist Church. Our program accepts children from **six months to two years of age**. A child who turns two before Sept. 1 is expected to move on to preschool in the fall of that year. We offer outdoor play, music, crafts, puzzles, play dough, games, and other special activities to the children as they are developmentally ready to participate.

We are open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Drop off may begin as early as 8:50 a.m. We encourage parents not to be later than 9:15 when dropping off their children because it is disruptive to the other children already there.

There is no registration fee, but parents are required to provide a snack and drink each day for their child(ren), as well as diapers and wipes. The daily fee is \$17.00 for fall 2011. Payments can be made each day or billed monthly. There will be a \$10 late fee for payments not made by the 5th of the following billed month. The program runs from September through May and follows the public school calendar for holiday and weather closings.

Daily enrollment is limited to 10 children with 2-3 adult caretakers. Children will be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. There are no reservations or spots saved and the use of our program must vary from week to week. Because of Pinellas County License Board regulations, we cannot be a consistent, primary source of "child care". Parent's Morning Out is intended to be a "drop-in" program and not "day care". Your cooperation in these policies will be greatly appreciated and helpful in following the Licensing guidelines!

Parent's Morning Out Policies...

- **Sick Policy**-Please **do not bring a sick child** into the Nursery. Your sick child's infection may spread to other children. Signs of illness are: Unusual fatigue or irritability, coughing, sneezing, runny nose and eyes, fever, vomiting or diarrhea, inflamed mouth or throat, thick yellow or green nasal drainage.
- **Birthdays**-We happily celebrate birthdays, but please hold the icing! Muffins, brownies, and cookies in special shapes are a big treat at this age. Please let us know in advance if you plan to bring in a special treat to celebrate.
- **Snack**-Parents are required to provide a snack and a drink each day. Please label all items including a sippy cup or bottle for your child.
- **What to Bring**-Please send your child with a **labeled** diaper bag with extra diapers, change of clothes for accidents, and a snack and sippy cup or bottle with formula. Please label all jackets and sweaters. Your child is allowed a pacifier or other security; however, we do discourage bringing in toys from home.

We are a 3 hour per day program monitored by the Pinellas County License Board. Please respect the rules and be prompt. If you need to pick up early, please let us know. If someone other than yourself will be picking up your child, you *must* tell the caregivers when you drop your child off and have in writing who will be picking them up. Also, the person picking up must present a photo ID before your child will be released. All of our rules are derived through experience with the program and knowing what works best for the maximum comfort level of your child. Children of the age group in our program tend to experience separation anxiety as well as “melt down” if mom walks in late or early, once that child has already said good-bye and settled in. There is usually a six week period each fall when the children who have never been left much with sitters and are new to our program are “breaking in”. They cry and cling in the mom’s presence, but usually calm down within minutes of departure and enjoy the program! Once a comfort level has been reached, the child will separate far more easily and joyfully. This is a normally tense experience for moms, especially if it is the first child. We understand this and want to help ease this transition. Please let us know if you need to wait in the foyer for confirmation that your child is o.k. We want your child to be happy, but also want YOU to be able to relax and enjoy your “morning out”.

We look forward to an exciting and developmentally stimulating year. Thank you for your interest in our program and for sharing your child with us. It is very rewarding for us to watch your child grow and we feel blessed to be a part of their lives.

In His Name,

Jennifer Stewart
Director, Parent’s Morning Out

