

Growing in Faith Daycare

Growing in Faith Daycare is a ministry of Faith United Methodist Church in Bellefonte. We serve families of child ages six weeks through early elementary since 1995. State Licensed through the Pennsylvania Department of Welfare. Open year-round, Monday through Friday, 7:00 am- 6:00 pm. Larger Indoor and outdoor play areas. Morning and Snack provided.

Philosophy

As a Christian child care center we have set the following as our foundation:

God - is the Creator of all seen and unseen and will receive credit as such.

Family - is the central point of our nation and the foundation for building our future.

Love - is the unifying factor for all of the above.

“Growing in Faith” is more than just a name. It is our hope that the children here will indeed grow in faith. Our philosophy is that children are as important to us as they are to Jesus Himself. Matthew 19:14 states “Let the little children come unto me and do not hinder them for such is the Kingdom of God.” If children are this important to God, then how can we possibly minimize their worth?

With consideration to our philosophy, our goal is to enhance the total growth and development of your child. We will do this by concentrating on:

1. Promoting physical adeptness through running, climbing, balancing and other large motor skills.
2. Enhancing emotional development through expressiveness, self-sufficiency, self-worth, acceptance and positive discipline.
3. Enhancing social competence through consideration for others, cooperation, and relating to adults as well as peers.
4. Providing opportunities for cognitive learning, utilizing ideas, words, colors, numbers, and decision making.

Our objectives are:

1. To convey to your child that they are important enough to talk with, play with, and learn with.
2. To give them guidance, a balanced day, and to provide materials necessary for a creative atmosphere; and above all...
3. To provide LOVE and ACCEPTANCE of your child.

Our child care program will be a balance of the following activities:

1. Learning activities.
2. Individual and cooperative activities.
3. Group activities.
4. Indoor / Outdoor activities.

These activities are then adapted to fit the needs and age level of the children

Curriculum

The curriculum will be a balance of the following activities which are adapted to the appropriate age level of each child and/or classroom:

- Group and Circle time
- Music
- Individual activities
- Art
- Literature
- Indoor / Outdoor games and activities
- Learning centers
- Field trips

Each week a theme will be selected that can be incorporated into the area listed above. Below are a few of those themes:

- Bible
- The four seasons
- The five senses
- Plants and animals
- All about me
- Weather
- Shapes
- ...and many more!

Because we are a Christian day care, many of our themes will have Bible lessons incorporated into them. These activities will allow the children to expand in the following ways:

BIBLE - Thoughts related to everyday Christian life, respect for others, and love for one another.

LEARNING CENTERS - are broken down into these areas: art, blocks, housekeeping, music, science, puzzles and games, math, geography and others.

GROUP TIME - will allow the children to work on the socializing aspect of learning.

CIRCLE TIME - the children will be introduced to the theme of the week, and talk and listen to the other children.

INDOOR / OUTDOOR - at this time children will be able to play games and work on their large motor coordination skills.

SNACK TIME - provides an opportunity for children to learn nutritional foods and also utilize social skills.

FIELD TRIPS - create a time for children to enhance their knowledge and explore the world around them.

ART WORK - gives the children the chance to experiment with paints, colors, different, textures, etc.

MUSIC - a time to express themselves through songs and the use of musical instruments.

LITERATURE - allows time to sit and listen and learn to enjoy and respect books.

Classroom Scheduling

Each classroom will have a daily schedule posted for parents to review. This schedule will show times at which particular activities are done. An activity plan or lesson plan will also be posted so parents can see what their child will be doing for the week. Each week's lesson plan is reviewed by the Director before being posted.

Hours of Operation and Holidays

Hours / Days Open

Monday through Friday
7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

We are closed on the following days:

Memorial Day
Fourth of July
Last Full Week before Labor Day
Labor Day
Thanksgiving Day
Day After Thanksgiving
Closed Christmas Eve through New Years Day

Growing in Faith Daycare is committed to maintaining low staff to child ratios. We firmly believe that the beginning of any quality environment begins with creating close and nurturing relationships between teachers and children. The following are the teacher/child ratios at our center:

Infants (6 weeks to 12 months) 1 teacher to 4 children

Toddlers (12 months to 2 years) 1 teacher to 5 children

Middlers (2 years) 1 teacher to 6 children

Preschool (3/4 classes) 1 teacher to 10 children

Preschool (4/5 classes) 1 teacher to 10 children

*Please Note: Growing in Faith has a floating teacher that brings the ratios lower than above. Ratios may also vary during transitions (when children are moving from one classroom up to the next level).

Growing in Faith Daycare offers care for infants and children from six weeks old to 5 years old or when they are eligible for kindergarten.

We are currently members of **Keystone STARS** which is:

- Pennsylvania's program to promote continuous quality improvement in early learning and school age environments.
 - Quality environments help children to develop in ways that foster success in schools and life.
- An initiative with the research-based Performance Standards as its foundation.
 - The standards are tiered in levels that range from Start with STARS to STAR 4.
- An important part of Pennsylvania's growing early learning system.
 - Keystone STARS works with DPW certified programs, family providers, school-aged programs, Head Start, school districts, and accrediting bodies.
- A valuable tool to increase parental and community awareness of the importance of quality early learning.
 - Keystone STARS is an easily recognizable indication that a program is working on continuous quality improvement.

We are also members of Pre-Counts which is:

Pre-K Counts (formerly Partnership for Quality Pre-Kindergarten)

- Pre K Counts is a public-private initiative that facilitates local pre-kindergarten partnerships among school districts, community-based providers and early intervention.
- Pre K Counts provides quality supports to 30 communities so that they can solidify partnerships and provide quality pre-kindergarten in all settings.
- Through Pre K Counts coordinators, coach/consultants, and professional development activities, school district and community partners (such as child care, Head Start, early intervention) align curriculum to Pennsylvania early learning standards, share professional development opportunities, involve parents in their child's development, and educate business, education, legislative and community leaders about the value of quality early education to their community's future.
- Pre K Counts is also a research program. Through a four year study by the UCLID Center at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, Pre K Counts will identify components of local pre-kindergarten partnerships that are most successful in preparing children for school and for life. With these results, we can share best practices of Pre K Counts partnerships that can be replicated in other communities across the Commonwealth.



Growing in Faith

FEE SCHEDULE 2008



Registration Fee
\$35.00 (per child)
Non-refundable

INFANT

Schedule	Weekly Fee	To add a day
Full-Time (5 days per week)	\$165.00	n/a
4 days per week	\$138.00	\$34.50
3 days per week	\$113.00	\$37.50
2 days per week	\$75.00	\$37.50

TODDLER

Schedule	Weekly Fee	To add a day
Full-Time (5 days per week)	\$146.00	n/a
4 days per week	\$123.00	\$30.75
3 days per week	\$98.00	\$32.50
2 days per week	\$65.00	\$32.50

PRESCHOOL & PRE-K

Schedule	Weekly Fee	To add a day
Full-Time (5 days per week)	\$133.00	n/a
4 days per week	\$109.00	\$27.25
3 days per week	\$86.00	\$28.50
2 days per week	\$57.00	\$28.50

KINDERGARTEN & SCHOOL-AGE (School-Year)

These rates are valid during school-year only (before and/or after school)

Schedule	Weekly Fee	Extended Hours (per day) \$10.00 (Eg. No School)
5 days (before and/or after school)	\$75.00	
4 days (before and/or after school)	\$60.00	
3 days (before and/or after school)	\$45.00	
2 days (before and/or after school)	\$30.00	

KINDERGARTEN & SCHOOL-AGE - SUMMER

Schedule	Weekly Fee	To add a day
Full-Time (5 days per week)	\$125.00	n/a
4 days per week	\$104.00	\$26.25
3 days per week	\$81.00	\$27.00
2 days per week	\$54.00	\$27.00

One-Day Fee for Registered School-age Drop In ~ \$27.00

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### Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Doors will be unlocked at 7:00 a.m.

### 2008 Scheduled Closings

New Years Day / Memorial Day - Monday, May 26 / Independence Day-  
Friday, July 4

Closed ALL WEEK August 25 - August 29 / Labor Day-Monday, September 1

Thanksgiving Day-Thursday, November 27

Day after Thanksgiving-Friday, November 28

### For Christmas/New Years

We will be closed Wednesday, December 24, 2008 through Friday, January  
2, 2009

We will re-open Monday, January 5, 2009.

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Full Time is 5 days per week.

A child enrolled full-time, including summer, will receive one credit week for vacations, etc.

Part Time Schedules (4, 3 or 2 days per week)

Specific days must be scheduled. We do not switch days.

Payment of tuition is due regardless of attendance. However, please note, you are not charged for any full day we are closed, including both scheduled and emergency closings.

A 4 week written notice to the Director is required for termination of care.

If not received, you are responsible to pay tuition equivalent to the number of days of care within that 4 week period.

Forms are available in the office.