



Parent  
Handbook  
2011-2012

Ann Street  
United Methodist Church

# LOGOS Parent Handbook

## 2011-2012

### Table of Contents

Calendar	3
What is LOGOS?	4
Objectives	5
The Importance of Family Members	5
LOGOS Bones	6
Discipline	7
The Comforter	8
Discipline Plan	8
Policies & Procedures	9
FAQ's	12
Contact Information	13

# LOGOS Calendar

## 2011-2012

		<b>Theme</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>September</b>	7	WELCOME TO LOGOS	Welcome!
	14	Manners Night	
	21	Harry Potter Night	
	28	LOGOS Break	-----
<b>October</b>	5	Sailing with Columbus	
	12	Bring a Friend Night	
	19	Pumpkin Patch Night	Wear Orange or Green
	26	LOGOS Break	-----
<b>November</b>	2	All Saints Night	
	9	Farm Night	
	16	Give Thanks Night	Operation Christmas Child
	23	Thanksgiving Break	-----
	30	Jurassic Night	
<b>December</b>	7	Heavenly Night	
	14	Birthday Celebration	Bring a "gift" of canned food for local food pantry
	21	Christmas Break	-----
	28	Christmas Break	-----
<b>January</b>	4	Pajama Party Night	Wear your favorite PJ's
	11	Polar Bear Night	
	18	Winnie the Pooh Night	
	25	LOGOS Break	-----
<b>February</b>	1	Chinese New Year Night	
	8	Flight Night	
	15	Valentine Night	Wear red or pink and bring Valentines for those at your table
	22	LOGOS Break	-----
	29	Pirate Night	
<b>March</b>	7	"Gone Fishing" Night	
	14	Shamrock Night	
	21	LOGOS Break	-----
	28	Go for the Gold Night	
<b>April</b>	4	Easter Celebration	

Feel free to wear your LOGOS t-shirt any day

# **What is LOGOS?**

**LOGOS is not an acronym. In Greek, LOGOS literally means "The Word." In John 1:1 LOGOS is translated "Word"- *In the beginning was the Word and the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us ...***

LOGOS is an after school, mid-week enrichment program that engages young people in the life of the church, providing opportunities to learn about God, have fun and create lasting relationships with others. During their time at *Ann Street United Methodist Church*, children will experience four parts of LOGOS:

## **Bible Time & Study Hall**

Experience the stories of faith through engaging activities. Discover how God is still working in our lives today. During this hour, children will also be given the opportunity to complete any homework that MUST be finished on Wednesdays.

## **Worship Skills Time**

Explore the elements of Worship through a variety of activities and mediums, including creative arts, crafts, music and drama. Worship Skills prepare children to actively participate in weekly worship at their home church.

## **Recreation Time**

Participate in family style games and active play that reinforce life skills and consideration for others.

## **Family/Meal Time**

A Dinner time where “family groups,” composed of children and adults, sit at the table. Adults serve as “table parents,” guiding children in ways to have a respectful family meal.

*The only rule of The LOGOS Program:  
Everyone is to treat everyone else as a child of God. No one has the  
right to treat anyone else as if they do not matter.*

You may find more information on the LOGOS program by visiting their website  
<http://www.thelogosministry.org>

## **Objectives**

The objectives of the LOGOS program at *Ann Street United Methodist Church* are:

- ◆ to allow children through interaction with one another and with adults to experience who God is, what God is like, what God wants, what difference that makes, who we are and why, and what the meaning and purpose of anything is;
- ◆ to provide a design by which children can develop an intellectual understanding of God as well as experience God as they put that theological understanding into practice;
- ◆ to allow children to learn and experience that a relationship with God and the kind and quality relationships we have with one another are made new because of our right relationship with God;
- ◆ to provide an opportunity for children to build Christian relationships.

## **The Importance of Family Members**

The LOGOS Program is an integral part of the Christian Education and Nurture system of the church. It works because of people like you who take seriously the faith development of the children and youth in our congregation and our community. By registering your child for the LOGOS Program, you have made a commitment to participate in the LOGOS Program with the children of our church and our community.

It is expected that one adult from every family with a child registered in the LOGOS Program will support that person and the LOGOS Program by:

- Facilitating and encouraging the regular attendance of your child in the weekly Program, as well as worship and Sunday School on Sunday morning.
- Identifying your gifts, and using them to participate in the LOGOS Program.
- Paying a nominal fee which helps the church cover the costs of the Program. See page 9 for detailed accounting of how your fee is spent.
- Praying for individual children and adults in the Program. Prayer is essential and central to the Program. The adults and children in the LOGOS Program are held up in prayer by prayer partners, members of the LOGOS Team, and the congregation. Family members are encouraged to pray daily for those participating in the Program.

In some situations, there is not an adult family member who can assume these commitments. In such cases permission is asked of the family for a member of the congregation to take on the commitment and responsibilities related to registration and participation in the Program.

Children "catch" the Christian faith by entering into relationships with adults who live their Christian faith, and who treat every person as a child of God. Whether you are leading a game, washing dishes, parenting a table, or driving a carpool, you are demonstrating to the children in the LOGOS Program that you love them, and you want them to know God and develop a relationship with Jesus Christ. They will know by your participation that you believe the LOGOS Program to be a high priority for them.

## **LOGOS Bones**



The skeletal strength of the LOGOS Program is provided by taking seriously several commitments which we call the "bones" of the LOGOS Program. Without them, the Program becomes weak and does not accomplish the goals which we have set for ourselves. We are committed to keeping these bones in place:



**PARENT PARTICIPATION** is the key "bone" that makes up the structure of the LOGOS Program. Parental participation is essential to the success of LOGOS for several reasons:

- 1) When our children see us giving our time and efforts for a program devoted to them, they thrive and understand that it is very important.
- 2) Children are proud to have their parents helping in such a significant way.
- 3) Parental help is essential in making the program run smoothly.

**\*\*It takes many people to build relationships and accomplish necessary tasks.**



*Breaking the tasks into small jobs where no one is overburdened is one way we treat each other as Children of God. Asking parents to participate in serving children and teaching them the way of discipleship is one way we demonstrate discipleship, spreading the gospel through our actions as well as our words.*



**WEEKLY ATTENDANCE** is vital for children to learn about the word of God. All children are asked to check in with the Greeters when they arrive. Greeters are at LOGOS specifically to welcome the children to LOGOS, check in guests, and develop relationships with the children. All children are expected to participate in all four parts of LOGOS with their group throughout the afternoon and evening. **PLEASE CALL THE LOGOS DIRECTOR** if your child is going to be absent from all or part of LOGOS.



**PASTORS** will participate in the LOGOS program.



**CHILDREN** are encouraged to attend weekly congregational worship, whether at Ann Street or their home church. Those families without a home church are welcome and encouraged to worship at Ann Street.

## **Discipline**

All relationships in the LOGOS Program are guided by the one rule of LOGOS. In the LOGOS Program we believe that nothing is more important to God than our relationships with Him and with others. Every aspect of theology has to do with relationships. The word “discipline” comes from the word “Disciple”. Christian discipline is the teaching of self-control and how to respond as Jesus would respond to unacceptable behavior. This requires risking and making ourselves vulnerable, but it is only in this approach that we can teach what Christian love is all about.

Children and adults learn from their conflicts. Discipline situations are opportunities for teaching and for the students to take responsibility for their actions. LOGOS adults model resolutions that build self-esteem and help young people understand what it means to treat each other as children of God. They give them tools to build healthy Christian relationships.

The LOGOS Team strongly believes in the one rule of LOGOS and works hard to make sure **every person is treated as a child of God.**

In addition, we believe that:

### **Every person**

- **has the right to be treated with kindness and respect**

This means that no one will be put down, ignored or have their feelings hurt. If I have been unkind, I will apologize and ask for forgiveness.

- **has the right to have their own opinion.**

This means that all opinions will be considered in plans that are made and no one will be made fun of.

- **has the right to be safe.**

This means that no one will do anything to endanger another person. There will be no physical abuse to people or property or to the church building. Self-control is an act of love.

- **has the right to learn.**

This means that all ideas will be respected and may be expressed without being interrupted, and questions may be asked without criticism.

- **has the right to be treated as a child of God.**

This means that no one will be treated unfairly for any reason.

***IT IS NOT THE INTENTION OF OUR LOGOS PROGRAM THAT ANY CHILD SHOULD BE DISMISSED FROM THE PROGRAM.*** All of our children are children of God, and that is how they will be treated.

## **The LOGOS Comforter**

Our LOGOS ministry provides a “comforter” each week during the time we are meeting. The role of the Comforter is to spend time with a young person who needs a quiet, less-stressful environment to help them gain control of themselves. Comforters provide a calming presence and help students re-enter the classroom or group.

## **Discipline Plan**

At LOGOS, our discipline plan is designed to help our young people learn how to reflect Christ’s love to others. No child will be excluded from participating in the LOGOS program due to their behavior. God does not give up on us, but instead gives us chance after chance and forgiveness after forgiveness. We will strive to treat each child likewise using our step-by-step discipline plan:

1. At the first incident, teachers or leaders will issue a verbal warning to the student.
2. At a second incident, the student will be excused for a time-away with a fellow teacher.
3. At a third incident, the student will be required to meet with the LOGOS Ministry Director.
4. If inappropriate behavior continues, the LOGOS Ministry Director will consult with a member of the clergy staff to determine how to involve the parents or guardians in creating a solution.

Discipline in the church is teaching how to reflect the love of Christ.

# ***Policies and Procedures***

## **Safety at Church**

The LOGOS Team, along with all other supervisory groups in the church, takes the safety of every child and adult very seriously. We have taken significant measures in policies and procedures that will keep everyone as safe as possible.

- Children and youth are monitored by adults as they go from one room to another during LOGOS.
- Each class is led by two adult leaders.
- The church building is checked for safety every year.
- Children will not leave the church property during LOGOS hours UNLESS they are with a teacher AND parents have given their permission in writing, or they are leaving with the parents and all of the child's teachers have been notified.
- Before each semester all first aid kits are checked for supplies. First aid kits are located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and in the kitchen.
- An information form with names and phone numbers to call in an emergency is obtained whenever a visitor attends LOGOS.

If you have any questions about the safety of your child when he or she is on the premises of the church, please contact any member of the LOGOS Team.

## **Registration**

Registration is not complete until a parent, or a sponsoring adult has attended the LOGOS Parent Night where they will:

- complete registration
- pay (or make arrangements to pay) the fees
- make a commitment to share his or her gifts in the Program

Fees paid for each child/youth are used to:

- purchase Bible study curriculum, supplies for classes, and food
- pay Mission Member dues to LOGOS System Associates which provides support, discounts, and incentives for LOGOS churches

**No child or youth will be denied the rich Christian experience of LOGOS for financial reasons. SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE-but limited. Please contact the LOGOS Director to make arrangements for financial aid. All requests and arrangements are strictly confidential!**

## School Activities

Bringing our children into a committed Christian relationship with GOD is an important parental responsibility and a promise we as a congregation make at every child's baptism. The LOGOS Team is aware that sometimes school activities overlap LOGOS on Wednesdays. We ask that you make LOGOS a priority by making every effort to get your student here immediately following an after school activity. Please schedule music lesson, dental appointments, etc. on other days of the week.

## Arrival & Departure

All children are asked to enter through the Eure Building main entrance and remain in the fellowship hall until LOGOS begins. *Please check in with a LOGOS leader before leaving your child.* LOGOS begins at 3:30 and ends at 6:30. Children will finish each evening with a closing in the fellowship hall. Parents can pick up their children in that room.

If your child will be late or absent from LOGOS, please call the LOGOS Director as soon as possible.

## School Homework

When children have homework that MUST be completed on Wednesday night, they will be given supervised study at the end of their Bible Study class. We recognize that there are times when homework must come first. Please look for ways to help your child complete their homework at other times. Suggestions that have worked for other families include:

- learning about homework assignments ahead of time, so your child can work ahead on Monday and Tuesday nights.
- talking with teachers about the importance of LOGOS and how your child is involved; we've seen many cases where teachers are very cooperative when they know about the LOGOS Ministry.

In this way, you will reinforce that their spiritual growth is **at least** as important as their school work.

## Transportation

Transportation is available for those children/youth attending Beaufort Elementary and Tiller School. To arrange for your child/youth to be picked up on Wednesday afternoons, please complete the transportation request in the registration packet.

If we are transporting your child, you must make arrangements with the school where the child will be picked up. The schools should not release children without parental permission.

## **Child Care**

Child care is available for children too young to participate in LOGOS on the days when their parents are fulfilling their commitment to serve in the program. Talk with the LOGOS Director about making arrangements for nursery care.

## **Visitors**

Visitors are always welcome at LOGOS. To assure that we are adequately prepared, please call the LOGOS Director at (252) 646-3177 by close of business at least the Monday before to register the visitor. The visitor's meal and supplies will cost \$5 and we suggest the family who invites the guest pay for their participation. (Please give the money to the Director when you arrive.) The visitor is expected to stay with the student and participate fully in all four parts. If after visiting the student wishes to join, please contact Leslie Zeek, our LOGOS Director.

## **Inclement Weather**

If Carteret County Schools are closed for inclement weather, LOGOS will not meet. Please note that this policy also applies to other days that schools are closed. We make every effort to ensure that our LOGOS calendar coordinates with the school calendar, but in the event of a conflict, there is NO LOGOS when there is NO SCHOOL.

## **Non-Members**

Families who are members of other churches are welcome to take part in the LOGOS program. The child who is a member of another church will be asked to participate in the worship service at Ann Street UMC at least four times during the year.

# *FAQ's (frequently asked questions)*

- 1. Do I have to be a church member in order for my child to participate in LOGOS?** No.
- 2. Do I have to be a resident of Beaufort in order for my child to participate in LOGOS?** No; however you must provide transportation for your child to LOGOS.
- 3. May my child bring a guest?** Yes, provided you complete a guest form no later than close of business the Monday before visiting, and pay \$5 for their participation.
- 4. Do you provide transportation?** Yes, for those children who attend Beaufort Elementary School and Tiller School. Children attending other schools must have their own transportation.
- 5. Is scholarship help available?** Limited scholarships are available. Please see Director Leslie Zeek.
- 6. When are fees due?** For those parents wishing to pay on the payment plan, payments are due on the first of the month for the months of October, November and December. All payments should be paid no later than January 31, 2012.
- 7. What if my child arrives late?** Your child will join in the program wherever it is at that point. Because there are five parts in the sequence, please make effort to be on time, so your child will feel comfortable.
- 8. What can I do to help?** There are lots of ways for parents to volunteer and we welcome your participation. Please see the "Parent Participation" form located in the payment package for detailed times and areas.
- 9. What if I am late to pick up my child?** LOGOS staff will wait with your child until 7:00 p.m. If you must be late, please call (252) 646-3177. This will relieve your child and help staff plan.
- 10. Is this a Safe Church environment?** Yes. Please see the "Policies and Procedures" page of the Parent Handbook.
- 11. Is child care provided for children younger than LOGOS age (5 and younger)?** Yes, child care is available during the dates and times you are scheduled to volunteer; however we ask that you notify the LOGOS Director in advance if you will be needing child care so prior arrangements can be made.
- 12. What is Welcome Time?** A time where children get acquainted with friends and staff while a light snack is served. This is an opportunity for children to relax and wind down after school. Children are encouraged to finish any homework they may have or participate in quiet games and activities(which are provided).

## **Got Other Questions?**

The members of the LOGOS team are happy to answer any questions not answered in our Parent Handbook or hear suggestions you may have at any time. You can contact the LOGOS Team by using the following information.

### **Contact Information**

Leslie Zeek, Director	728-4279 work 444-3488 home 646-3177 cell <a href="mailto:lzeek@ec.rr.com">lzeek@ec.rr.com</a>
Assistant Director	
Edith Styron, Recreation Coordinator	728-2321
Anne Sims, Worship Skills Coordinator	728-4279
Scott Lewis, Kitchen Coordinator	727-5599
Sandy Lockwood, Decorating Coordinator	622-8732
Pam Boyd, Bible Study Coordinator	504-3008
Head Cook	
Fran Krautheim, Treasurer	728-5148
Family Time Coordinator	
Leslie Zeek, Comforter	646-3177
Eric Lindblade, Pastor	728-4279
Anne Sims, Assoc. Pastor	728-4279