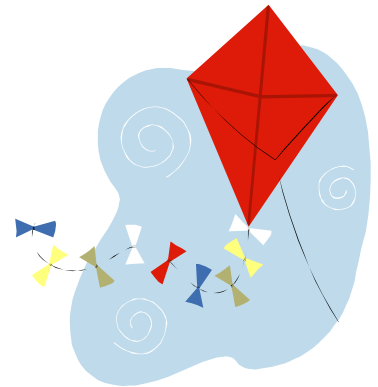


LOGOS

Handbook

2009-2010



First Presbyterian Church
Twin Falls, ID

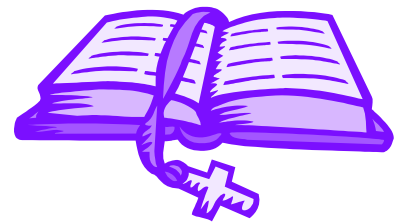


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Letter from the Pastor

My sister or brother in Christ,

If you have picked up this handbook then you are about to jump into one of the most awesome experiences you have ever had. Whether you are looking to include one of your children or you are seeking to answer God's call in your life to join in on the fun of Wednesday evenings at FPC you are about to see what faith formation is all about!

LOGOS is so much more than a program for children and youth. While that is the reason we have begun this ministry within our congregation and community, everyone who participates on Wednesday evening sees their faith grow. That's because all of us, whether the youngest child in Bible class or the oldest member of a kitchen crew spend the afternoon and evening intentionally remembering that we are first and foremost a beloved child of God and therefore should treat every other child of God with the love of God. It is through this intentional relationship that LOGOS becomes so much more than only a program for children and youth.

Instead, by building relationships your child will come to know loving and trusting adults with whom they can go to in times of need as they mature. As your child goes from being a preschooler to a teenager, over night, she will be able to lean on a whole family of adults who care for her. And when your soon to be teenager needs the prayer and concern of others he will have the prayers of people who know not only his name but have shared part of their life with him.

By building relationships as a called volunteer you will come to a fuller understanding of what it means to be part of the Body of Christ. As you give of your time and talent for the benefit of our youngest members you will grow in prayer by relying on God week in and week out. As you stumble you will find others who will reach out and catch you, thus easing your journey and strengthening bonds formed on Sunday mornings.

Relationships are what the church is all about: our relationship with Jesus Christ; our relationship with our peers; our relationship with those who are younger than we are. And it is these relationships that will carry us forward. So join with your brothers and sisters of faith on Wednesday evenings at LOGOS and see just how far our relationships with God and our siblings in faith will take us!

Your sibling in Christ,

Rev. Phil Price

LOGOS... Greek for "the Word", John 1:1)

Treat every person as a child of God.

This is our ONE RULE of LOGOS and developing and nurturing Christian relationships is at the heart of the LOGOS weekly ministry. Through scripture, we come to know that to God, relationships are everything. This is true for our personal relationship with God and for the relationships we have with one another. Our relationships with one another are made new because of our relationship with God. Learning to do this takes time and practice and the LOGOS weekly ministry provides both in a safe environment every week.



The Four Parts

Bible Study: Bible study is critical to the LOGOS weekly ministry because it is here that we tell our common story and discover who we are. It is where we learn about the stories of God's relationship with people and their relationships with one another.

Worship Skills: Worship is the essential element of nurture in relationships and community. The Worship Skills portion of the weekly ministry provides time to learn about worship and to prepare for leadership in regular congregational worship. The LOGOS Ministry is committed to the preparation of youth and children to provide worship leadership for the congregation on a regular basis.

Recreation Play: Part of what it means to be created in the image of God is having the capacity to give and receive personal sharing. One of the times in which self-revelation takes place is when we play together. The challenge in Recreation Play is learning how to treat each other as children of God even at the most difficult moments of self-revelation. So, we play for theological reasons in LOGOS as well as for fun. Recreation Play provides the opportunity for many members of the congregation to come and share their hobbies, talents and special interests with the young people.

Family Time: Christ is uniquely known and experienced in the breaking of bread. The LOGOS Family Time is not just a time to eat. It is a time when families of young people and adults are formed around tables. These table families care for and about each other as they share food, fun, and conversation around the table each week.

Parent Participation

We believe strongly in the value of parent participation in this ministry and ask that at least one parent of a child participating make a commitment to serve in some capacity. There are many areas of service for parents taking into account schedules and time available.

Areas in which parents can serve in LOGOS include:

Bible Study Ministry:	teachers, assistants,
Family Time Ministry:	cook team member, dishwasher, dining room set-up, dining room clean-up, washing table linens, food prep, food purchasing, menu planner
Playtime Ministry:	lead an elective course in a skill/hobby you enjoy
Music/Worship Ministry:	leader, accompanist, Sunday morning parent
Other services:	childcare/nursery, photographer

We also ask that parents support and nurture their youth and children at home by assisting with home-study, enabling regular attendance and providing nurture in the faith.

Mission



We will have two mission projects this year. We will have our annual Souper Bowl canned food drive on January 27, and we will monthly be collecting items to be put into care bags for children in partnership with the Crisis Center of Magic Valley. You will be notified by our E-newsletter what items to bring.

Schedule for Worship Leadership

The children and youth will be participating in worship leadership throughout the fall and spring during the 10:00 a.m. Sunday worship service, and other special services throughout the year. Notices and reminders will be sent to you to help enable your child's participation. We ask that you make every effort to have your child there, on the Sundays they are helping to lead worship, arrangements are made with the intention of every child being there.

Fees

Fees, for all 20 weeks of LOGOS, include cost of all meals, a Bible study book, Mission Partnership to The LOGOS Ministry, craft supplies, worship skills supplies and administrative costs. The fee works out to less than \$5 a week.

First Child:	\$ 90.00	Preschool:	\$20/year
2 Children:	\$150.00		
3 Children:	\$210.00		
4 Children:	\$270.00		

Fee schedule:

Half of fee is due at registration. Remainder of fee due November 1.

*Scholarships are available, please contact one of the directors for information.

Child Care

Child care is provided for children who are too young to participate in LOGOS, on the nights the parents are working in LOGOS. Child care will be provided in the church nursery. Please notify the Directors if you will be needing this service.

Arrangements for Guests

Participants are welcome to bring a guest by making a reservation by **5:00** p.m. the Sunday before. (Please contact Terry Fletcher 733-6250 or thfletcher@cableone.net) The cost for all guests will be **\$3.00**. After a guest visits the 2nd time they will be asked to join LOGOS to continue attending.

Cancellation/ Snow Policy

If **either** Twin Falls or Kimberly School Districts are closed or close early on a LOGOS night due to weather, LOGOS will be cancelled and will not be made up at the end of the semester.



Bible Study Curriculum

Grades Pre-K: "Kings & Prophets" & "Walking with Jesus"

"Kings & Prophets" will focus on the stories of David, Solomon, Elijah, and King Jehoshaphat. "Walking with Jesus" will focus on Jesus' birth, Jesus' baptism, calling the disciples, Jesus' teaching, Jesus walking on water, and the story of Nicodemus.

Grades 1 & 2: Jesus and His Followers

Children will explore the life and ministry of Jesus and will be given the opportunity to respond to Jesus' invitation to follow him.

Grades 3-5: Surprising Stories

Students will explore thirteen stories from the Old and New Testament using new activities that support the various ways of learning.

Jr. High Youth: So Great a Cloud of Witnesses (Church History Survey)

This study focuses on the stories of Christians trying to be faithful to God's call. The call to Abraham and Sarah sets the stage in the first session. The next few sessions identify the believers of the early church and then move into early Christendom of the fourth to eighth centuries, as Constantine adopts Christianity, the canon is determined and Rome rises and falls. The medieval times are examined as architecture, art and music flourish as the Crusades begin. The Reformation as well as its leaders and reforms are studied. Also explored are Protestantism, revival, mission, the church in the 20th century and the church today. The course ends with a session studying the unique qualities of the participants' own congregations

Sr. High Youth: To be determined by pastor.

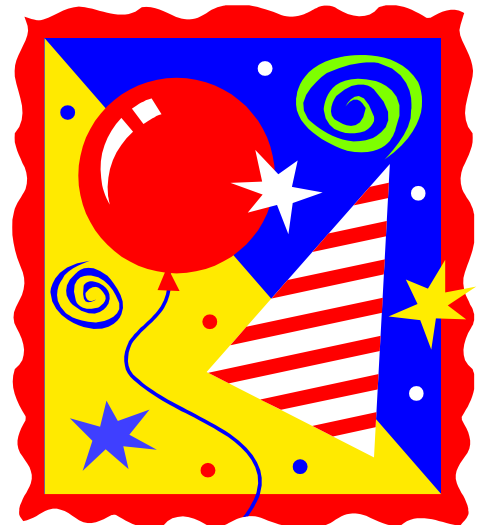
Schedule

	Preschool	K-2	3-5	6-8	9+
3:30		Arrive	Arrive		
3:45-4:25		Recreation	Recreation		
4:30-5:15	Bible	Bible	Bible	Recreation	Recreation
5:15-6:00	Worship	Worship	Worship	Worship	Worship
6:00 – 6:45	(Dinner) *	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
6:45-7:30				Bible	Bible

*Preschoolers and their parents/families are welcome to stay for dinner. The cost is \$3.00 per person each week or \$60 for the year. Please mark on the registration form if your family will be staying for dinner.

Calendar & Themes

September 30	LOGOS Fair
October 7	Pet Night
October 14	Oktoberfest
October 21	World Series
October 28	Monster Night
November 4	Farm Night
November 11	America the Beautiful
November 18	Green Night
December 2	Heroes Night
December 9	Christmas Celebration
January 6	Under the Sea
January 13	Kazoo Day
January 20	Red, Brown, Black, Yellow
January 27	Souper Bowl
February 3	Chinese New Year
February 10	Valentines
February 17	Ash Wednesday
February 24	Pajama Night
March 3	Mexican Night
March 10	Final Banquet



Discipline & the Golden Rule of *The LOGOS Ministry*

Good Rules for Good Times!

Our first and most important rule for being together at LOGOS is that **we are to treat every person as a child of God - no one may treat others as if they do not matter**. We will work to exhibit respect and courtesy and kindness at all times. In order to help us understand more about what this means, here are four simple, but important rules for **all** students and **all** staff to remember.

1. **WE TAKE CARE OF EACH OTHER.** This means we don't hit, kick, laugh at, or knowingly hurt anyone. We appreciate the hard work and efforts of others.
2. **WE TAKE CARE OF OUR THINGS.** This means we are careful of our own belongings as well as the belongings of others. We don't knowingly break things or destroy the property of other people or the church. We clean up after ourselves. We repair or replace things we break.
3. **WE KEEP OUR SCHEDULE.** This means we are on time to our classes and that we remain inside the building, unless we are with a leader. We call if we are going to be late or if we are going to be absent from LOGOS or from assigned Sunday worship leadership responsibilities. We use the time in-between classes for the restroom.
4. **WE HAVE GREAT FUN...**at no one's expense! We practice good sportsmanship. We encourage, support and cheer for each other whenever we play, study, sing, or share a meal!
5. **WE COME PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE.** This is not a time for doing homework, leaving early for other activities, or dropping out of certain activities or classes.
6. **ALL I NEED IS ME!** Cell phones (for calls or texting), IPODS, Gameboys, or other toys are not appropriate during LOGOS as they divert our attention and keep us from participating with each other.

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 children who need a quiet, less-stressful environment to help them gain control of themselves. Comforters provide a calming presence and help students reenter the classroom or group. Please feel free to call our LOGOS Directors if you have any questions.

What Happens if Rules are Broken?

We seek to be in partnership with all families whenever and wherever appropriate for the well-being of children who participate in LOGOS. Questions about discipline should be referred to the LOGOS Directors. Individual circumstances may, at times, require that alternative procedures be followed. Whenever special circumstances exist that may affect a child's participation in LOGOS, parent and LOGOS staff shall collaboratively consult in order to provide the best possible LOGOS experience for the whole LOGOS family, and strive to work together to resolve and reconcile any conflict.

Disciplinary problems will be dealt with quickly and creatively, as they are detrimental to a student, to the progress of the entire class, and sometimes to the safety and well-being of others.

In general, our policy will be to:

1. At the first incident, teachers or leaders will issue a warning to the student.
2. At a second incident, the student will be excused for a time-out with the Comforter.
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 the pastor to determine how to involve the parents or guardians in creating a solution. If problems require an expertise outside the skills and abilities of the LOGOS Ministry staff, a current list of agencies in our community that assist families with special circumstances will be provided to parents.
5. The church staff and the LOGOS Ministry staff will offer on-going support and encouragement to any family whose student is unable to participate in LOGOS because of disciplinary issues.

The LOGOS Experience

Each year our church tries to send people for training at a LOGOS Experience. An Experience includes 2 days of learning, sharing, and relationship building with other church leaders and with a team of LOGOS Leaders. Attendees at a LOGOS Experience will not only gain an understanding of the foundations of the ministry and learn about how to get their own children's weekly ministry going; they will actually experience LOGOS-in-action! LOGOS Experience is great for churches considering a new ministry, or for those who want to re-energize their church's commitment to LOGOS. If you are interested in attending this event please let the Directors know.

Albertsons' Community Partners

Use your Albertsons' Preferred Savings Card and send youth to LOGOS summer conference in Estes Park, CO. Sign up with Kathy Price by giving her your name, phone number and Savings card number. We receive a percentage of your purchase total to benefit our youth!

LOGOS Summer Youth Conference West

Each summer, LOGOS sponsors week-long retreats - Summer Youth Conferences - to provide youth and youth leaders with an opportunity to participate in inspirational worship and Bible study, engage in sports and recreational activities, build and enrich Christian relationships...and to just have fun! Conference participants enjoy a week of kingdom of God living in a casual camp and retreat setting while experiencing a LOGOS-inspired program. The dates for next summer are July 12-18, 2009. The registration cost will be approx. \$375 per student and there will be transportation costs as well. The conference is for those who have completed 8th-12th grade. Start planning now!