



## 2024-2025 Registration Information for Wee Ones, 2's, and 3's

January 2024

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your interest in registering your child in Southside Methodist Church Preschool for the 2024-2025 school year. **REGISTRATION FOR WEE ONES, 2's, and 3's WILL BE ACCEPTED BEGINNING WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024.** PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU SECURE YOUR SPOT BEFORE COMMUNITY ENROLLMENT BEGINS ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024.

**REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ON A FIRST COME FIRST BASIS.**

**CURRENTLY ENROLLED STUDENTS, THEIR SIBLINGS, AND CHILDREN OF CHURCH MEMBERS MAY REGISTER DURING EARLY REGISTRATION (Jan 10-24, 2024).**

**COMMUNITY CHILDREN MAY ENROLL BEGINNING THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024 at 9:00 A.M.**

We have attached a registration card for you to review and complete at your convenience. We expect an excellent response again this year so please do not delay your enrollment. If you need an extra registration card, please call the Preschool Office. We will be happy to send an additional card home with your child or mail it to you.

Our preschool was founded in 1957 and has served thousands of children and families in our community in the many years since its establishment. We are a licensed provider by the Department of Children and Families. It is our goal to provide the best early education program possible for our students. As you know, we can't put a price on the quality of our faculty and the nurturing Christian environment we provide. In addition, we have excellent resource classes such as weekly Music, Computers, Physical Education, Book Buddies and Christian Education. These resources are included as part of our weekday curriculum, whereas many preschools only offer these classes during extended care and for an additional fee. With this in mind, our Preschool Board recognizes the excellence of our program and is committed to continuing and maintaining these standards.

**RATES FOR 2024-2025** - Our Preschool Board members recently met to review the Registration Fees, Curriculum Enhancement fees and the tuition rates for the 2024-25 school year. A comprehensive comparison was done of fees and rates with other preschools in our community. The projected expenses for the upcoming school year and the tuition rates and fees over the last several years were reviewed. In addition, by September of 2026, Florida will require minimum wage to be \$ 15.00 per hour which directly affects salaries of our staff. As we increase salaries over the next several years to meet the minimum wage requirements, tuition prices will be affected. After careful and prayerful consideration, the Preschool Board members have voted on new tuition rates for the 2024-2025 school year.

Our program is open to all children without regard to race, religion or national origin.

Certificate of License issued from the Department of Children and Families—Certificate Number: C04DU0355

## **Below are the rates for the 2024-2025 Classes at SMC Preschool:**

2 Day - Wee Ones, 2's, and 3's	\$ 275.00 monthly
3 Day - Wee Ones, 2's, and 3's	\$ 325.00 monthly
4 Day - (Wee Ones—4 Day)	\$ 365.00 monthly
5 Day 2's	\$ 430.00 monthly
5 Day 3's and 5 Day 4's (non VPK)	\$ 395.00 monthly

There is no increase in the Registration Fee (Currently \$125.00 for 2's through 4's and \$75.00 for Wee Ones). As prices for our preschool supplies continues to go up, there will be an minimal increase in the Annual Curriculum Enhancement Fee (A.C.E. Fee). The new A.C.E. fees for 2024-2025 will be \$60.00 for 1 day, \$ 90.00 for 2 days, \$100.00 for 3 days, \$110.00 for 4 Day and \$115.00 for 5 Day Students)

**5 DAY 2's RATE**—In recent years, the requests for 5 day 2's has continued to increase. Our 2's program has been designed as a 2 Day or 3 Day Program. Only the 3 year old and 4 year old programs currently have a designated 5 day class. Unfortunately due to space constraints, there is not a room on campus that is available to make a designated 5 day 2's class. Therefore, we have provided a 5 day class for the 2's by enrolling in both the 2 Day and 3 Day classes. In doing so, a child enrolled in a 2 Day 2's and a 3 Day 2's is enrolled in 2 spaces and the Preschool is not collecting the full tuition for each space. The Preschool board must look at all factors that benefit the parents, children and the overall Preschool program. With that in mind, the Preschool Board, in recent years, voted to increase the 5 day 2's tuition, but not to the full amount required of the 2 Day and the 3 Day tuition combined. The tuition rate for the 2024-2025 school year for a 2 Day 2's class will be \$ 275.00 and the tuition for a 3 Day 2's class will be \$ 325.00. If two children were enrolled individually in each class it would result in \$ 600.00 in income per month. In an effort to make a decision that would consider the needs and expenses of parents, as well as, the financial needs of the Preschool Program, the Preschool Board determined that the rate for 5 Day 2's for 2024-2025 will be \$ 430.00 per month which is \$ 170.00 less than the combined monthly cost of a 2 Day and 3 Day class.

## **DISCOUNTS**— Two possible discounts are available to parents.

1.) Parents will receive a 5% discount for the 2nd child if both children are in a "full pay tuition" status. However, any child who is having all or a portion of their tuition paid through other funding such as VPK funds from the State of Florida or scholarship do not qualify for the discount.

2.) Parents will receive a 5% discount for tuition by paying the full year of tuition cost by the first day of school. The 5% discount for advance pay will apply to all children in the family if all tuitions costs are paid in advance.

**PLEASE NOTE: ONLY ONE DISCOUNT OPTION IS APPLIED PER FAMILY.**

**WEE ONES** — Child must turn 15 months of age on or by September 1 of the school year for which the child is enrolling. All children enrolled in Wee Ones must also be walking very steadily on their feet, weaned from their morning nap, and weaned from the bottle. **A child enrolling at a later date, must still meet the age requirement of 15 months on or by September 1 (not 15 months when they enroll).** Children must be enrolled for a minimum of 2 days. Parents may select any combination of days Tuesdays through Fridays. Mondays are not available to Wee Ones. The space is used on Mondays for Nursery during Bible Study.

**3 YEAR OLDS** — All 3 year olds must be fully potty trained to be in a 3 year old class - No Pull-ups.

## **Annual Registration Fee — (DUE AT THE TIME YOUR CHILD IS REGISTERED)**

● **A REQUIRED Registration Fee of \$ 75.00 per child for all Wee One's is due at registration.** The payment of the Registration Fee serves as a good faith commitment from you that your child will be attending our preschool and a commitment from the preschool that we are holding a space for your child.

**This fee is NON-REFUNDABLE & NON-TRANSFERABLE.**

● **A REQUIRED Registration Fee of \$125.00 per child for all 2's and 3's is due at registration.** The payment of the Registration Fee serves as a good faith commitment from you that your child will be attending our preschool and a commitment from the preschool that we are holding a space for your child.

**This fee is NON-REFUNDABLE & NON-TRANSFERABLE.**

The **Registration Fee** is an annual fee and covers school start up costs every year. These costs include staff pre-planning expenses, carpet and floor maintenance, furniture/equipment repair and replacement, playground maintenance. Unlike many schools, our Preschool does **not** require an annual contract from parents.

## **Annual Curriculum Enhancement Fee (A.C.E. Fee)**

***(DUE SEPTEMBER 1, 2024)***

The Annual Curriculum Enhancement Fee (A.C.E. Fee) provides funds which are used to implement and supplement our curriculum. The preschool periodically reviews our curriculum to ensure we offer up-to-date resources, training for staff, and innovative teaching methods to provide the best preschool education for our students. This "A.C.E." Fee assists with the purchase of materials and consumable materials which are required annually for the curriculum. The Annual Curriculum Enhancement Fee also helps defray the cost of supplies and activities "on campus" during the year. The "on campus" events in which every child participates are: the Pumpkin Patch, the annual Christmas program and parties, Valentine's Day Parties, Easter Parade, Easter Concert, Egg Hunts, and Graduation Ceremony. Many class activities related to the curriculum are supported by the A.C.E. Fee each year. Your payment of the Registration Fee and Annual Curriculum Enhancement Fee provides the school with supplemental funds that help our preschool so we can continue to offer our quality program and strive for the best educational experience for your child. These fees are one time annual fees. The State of Florida pays the entire tuition for the 135 day-540 hours VPK 4 Day program, so it's a nominal price to pay for an excellent early childhood education. **Curriculum Enhancement Fees are paid once a year and are based on the number of days your child attends.**

The new A.C.E. fees for 2024-2025 will be:

\$60.00 for 1 day

\$ 90.00 for 2 days

\$100.00 for 3 days

\$110.00 for 4 days

\$115.00 for 5 days

## WEE ONES, 2's & 3's REGISTRATION PROCEDURE FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

- **JANUARY 10 through JANUARY 24, 2024**— Registration for currently enrolled students, their siblings, and children of church members (**IMPORTANT** ...currently enrolled students should enroll during the priority period in order to ensure a spot for 2024-2025)
- **BEGINNING JANUARY 25, 2024**— Enrollment begins for community children at 9:00 A.M.
- Registration is on a first come-first serve basis
- To secure your spot, the completed Registration Card and payment of the Registration Fee must be submitted **at the time of registration.**
- Registration will be accepted as long as there is space available.
- Please **DO NOT** hand your Registration Card and payment to Preschool Teachers or assistants. These items should be mailed in or brought to the Preschool Office.
- You may register by.....

Mailing your registration card and payment to:  
Southside Methodist Church Preschool  
3120 Hendricks Avenue  
Jacksonville, FL—32207  
**ATTENTION: PRESCHOOL OFFICE**

OR

Bringing your registration card and payment to the preschool at the address listed to the left. Please come to the Preschool Entrance located on the San Jose Blvd side. You will need to ring the buzzer and our preschool receptionist can take your Registration card and payment.

### **Class placement**

There are many variables that go into the decision of class placement. Annually, the specific number of classes days and the respective teaching positions are based upon the number of students enrolled in each group. Teaching contracts are offered in the spring. Those positions are determined by the number of students enrolled. Every effort is made to place children in the class that will nurture them, help them learn, grow and be happy. **Therefore, we ask that you do not make a request.**

### **Preschool Enrollment Forms**

Completed Preschool Enrollment forms will be due **August 7, 2024**. They will be available on our website (sumpreschool.org). **PLEASE DO NOT COMPLETE FORMS PRIOR TO RECEIVING YOUR WELCOME POSTCARD IN JULY.** We review the information and policies to make any necessary changes to the forms in late Spring/Early Summer. We require the most recently updated forms for enrollment each year.

## **Tuition Payment Schedule**

for 2024-2025 school year for 5 Day VPK students and NON-VPK Students

- THE FIRST TUITION PAYMENT IS DUE **AUGUST 5th.**  
THE AMOUNT OWED FOR AUGUST IS **1/2 OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY TUITION FEE.**
- THE SUBSEQUENT PAYMENTS FOR TUITION (SEPTEMBER THROUGH MAY) WILL BE DUE ON THE 1st SCHOOL DAY OF EVERY MONTH BEGINNING IN SEPTEMBER.
- PAYMENTS ARE CONSIDERED LATE AFTER THE 5th OF THE MONTH AND A LATE FEE OF \$ 25.00 WILL BE ADDED TO YOUR INVOICE FOR ALL LATE PAYMENTS.
- THE ANNUAL CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENT FEE IS DUE WITH THE SEPTEMBER TUITION PAYMENT ON SEPTEMBER 1st.
- ANY ADDITIONAL SERVICES USED SUCH AS EARLY ARRIVAL OR EXTENDED DAY WILL BE BILLED ON YOUR MONTHLY INVOICE

***PLEASE NOTE:*** Enrollment for Extended Day, Early Arrival, Carpool services are not accepted at this time. We will accept enrollment for these services with Preschool Enrollment forms that are due on August 5th.

Once again, thank you for your interest in registering your child in Southside Methodist Church Preschool. We look forward to having you become a part of our preschool family and we are honored to have the opportunity to love and nurture your little one in a wholesome environment. Please let us know if you have any additional questions. We will be happy to help.

Blessings,

Sharon Feaster,  
Preschool Director  
Southside Methodist Church Preschool