

First Family Church

First Kidz Children's Ministry



**Parent Handbook &
Ministry Information**

Fall 2007

Our Mission and Goals

First Family Church Mission Statement

“To reach lost people, bring them into God’s family, inspire them to mature in Christ and change the world.”

First Kidz Mission Statement

“To ignite the Word of God in the hearts of children and to teach them to know, to love, and to honor God.”

First Kidz Vision Statement

“To reach boys and girls for Jesus Christ so that we might reach families for the Kingdom of God.”

"Only be careful and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children!" Deuteronomy 4:9

Our Programs

Sunday Morning

“The Big Show” (8 a.m., 9 a.m., 10:45 a.m.)

The BIG SHOW is our dynamic weekend programming designed to teach the Word of God in a creative, fun, and age appropriate way. In The BIG SHOW your child will participate in a children's production that includes energetic games, exciting worship, the “Wright’s Direction” video series, and a heart felt message all focused on a single Biblical theme. The best part of THE BIG SHOW, however, is the in-depth biblical teaching children receive every week in their classes for breakout. This is where the Bible truly comes to life and where relationships are formed and developed. In the The BIG SHOW, it is our goal to teach your child how to:

Serve others

Honor their parents

Obey God

Worship the Lord

Wednesday Evening

Awana (6:30-8:15 p.m.)

One of the favorite ministries of our Pastor at First Family Church is AWANA! This high-energy, scripture memory program may be the most life-changing ministry of our church because of its pure focus on

memorizing God's word. Every Wednesday night children ages 3 to 6th grade will gather to worship, quote scripture, compete in AWANA games, and have snacks-all of this while their parents get the ministry of music and the word in our main Worship Auditorium only 100 feet away. This one night each week will transform your entire family's life!

Ministry Opportunities

First Kidz Children's Choir (Wednesday's, 5:45-6:30 p.m.)

Under the direction of Pastor Joseph Bolin and Valerie Hodges we are preparing to build one of the finest children's choirs in the country. The Bible tells us that we were made to praise Jesus and no group of people does this more effectively than children. Our children's choir will be performing regularly in church services, in the Living Christmas Tree, and will also perform various seasonal children's musicals. They will gain vocal and musical skills, learn about Jesus, and have a blast doing it. Be sure to sign up your child today. For more information call our office or e-mail us at firstkidzchoir@ffc.org.

BLAST! (Children's Worship & Leadership Team)

Blast! is our children's ministry worship and leadership team and stands for **B**est **L**eaders **A**re **S**ervants **T**oo. The Blast kids lead worship on a regular basis in THE BIG SHOW, at VBS, and at most children's ministry programs. These are children that are committed to regular church attendance, bringing their Bibles to church, being a friend to visitors and modeling a Christ-like attitude. These children meet every Wednesday night for discipleship and practice. If your child is interested in getting involved please see Tracy McCormick or contact our office.

Family Worship

It is the heart of our Pastor that all families at FFC get the opportunity to worship together once a week in our main Sunday morning service. Children learn many valuable spiritual lessons by worshipping with the adults of our church. They learn the discipline of church attendance and develop a "church culture" at a young age. The Christian researcher, George Barna, tells us that most "Christian" teens leave their youth group at age 18 and don't return to church again for several years or ever. Much of this is due to the lack of a "church culture" in children today. Our children should learn to be the best worshippers, the best givers, the best servers, and the best Bible students by watching the important adults in their lives do the same thing. That is why it is our policy as a children's ministry that ALL children grades 1-5 attend worship with their parents one hour Sunday morning. We are asking all parents to drop their child off for only one hour of THE BIG SHOW and then pick up their child for main worship. If a parent does not pick their child up for worship other preparations will be made. If there is a special circumstance please contact Danielle Newsome at our office or via e-mail at Danielle@ffc.org.

Check-in & Security Procedures

Your child's safety is of the utmost concern to us. That is why we take such great care in making sure our children's building is as safe and secure as possible. With that in mind, please follow these steps while checking in your child.

- 1.) Obtain a security tag from the check in desk upstairs in the children's building.
- 2.) Place the nametag half of the security tag in a prominent location on your child's clothing.
- 3.) Keep the check in "receipt" half of the security tag in a safe place until the end of service.
- 4.) When you come to pick up your child present the "receipt" half of the security tag to your child's teacher. You must present this "receipt" before your child can be released.

****New Security Policy:** All children in grades 4th and 5th will be allowed to check themselves in and out of the children's ministry. They must still wear a security nametag, but parents will not be required to check them in and out of the classrooms. This new procedure takes effect Sunday, September 23rd.

Additional Security Information:

A parent or guardian must be on the church premises when their child is being cared for by the children's ministry department. (If your child brings a friend to church you are seen as an acting guardian at that time.)

No one under the age of 18 will be allowed to pick up any child Grades 1-3.

If a parent/guardian loses their security tag a service coordinator will need to see a valid Driver's License in order for a child to be picked up.

If there are custody issues please inform the service coordinator before checking your child in. If there are any severe allergies please alert the service coordinator and teacher when dropping off your child.

Service & Check-in Times

Sunday Morning "THE BIG SHOW"

Service Times:	Check-in Times:
8 a.m.	7:50 a.m.
9 a.m.	8:45 a.m.
10:45 a.m.	10:30 a.m.

****New Drop-off Location****

Beginning Sunday, September 2nd, all children will be checked in and dropped off in the children's gym upstairs in the children's building and picked up from their individual classrooms.

Wednesday Evening "Awana"

Service Time: 6:30-8:15 p.m.

Check-in Time: 6:20 p.m. (in their individual classrooms)

Sunday Morning Curriculum

We are really excited to introduce our new Sunday Morning BIG SHOW curriculum to our children on September 2nd. For the next 13 weeks we will be studying **“Destination: In and Out of Egypt-from Jo’ to Mo’.”** These journeys take us deep into the heart of Egypt with all its deserts, caravan traders, slavery, idolatry and mind-boggling plagues. We will walk alongside the heartbroken Joseph, striving to honor God as slave, prisoner and “CEO of Egypt.” We watch as Joseph’s legacy of honor and privilege deteriorates into bondage and slavery for his descendents over a period of 400 years. Then Moses, the great Deliverer, arrives on the scene and God orchestrates a series of supernatural events to convince the Pharaoh to “let my people go.” The Pharaoh learns that the God of Moses *IS* God-*the Great I AM*. We see the lamb killed and its blood sprinkled on the doorposts. We taste the Passover meal and see in it signs and symbols pointing to the sacrifice of God’s Perfect Lamb. These journeys have put us in the best of company as we travel “in and out of Egypt with Jo’ and Mo’.”

“Take Home Tour” Sheets & Rewards

Beginning next Sunday...after every lesson your child will be able to go home and log onto ffc.org/firstkidz to download and print off a “Take Home Tour” worksheet . This worksheet provides five days of devotionals to help the kids get more in-depth with the previous weeks Sunday School lesson. If they complete all five days worth of questions they can have their parents sign the “Take Home Tour” sheet and bring it back in to their Sunday School teacher for “Big Bucks.” These “Big Bucks” can be saved for the redemption of toys and gifts at our “Big Bucks” store every 4-6 weeks on Sunday morning. (There are also Awana “Big Bucks” that can be used at the Awana Store. These are separate stores.)

We encourage you, as the parents, to use these devotionals every day with your children as a type of family devotions. Parents are always looking for more ways to connect with their children spiritually. Let our ministry help you disciple your children every day!

Big Bucks Awards Store

We love it when children do what’s right and follow God. One way we reward children for doing good thing is through our “Big Bucks” program. Beginning September 2nd the “Big Bucks” program will begin for the fall semester. Children will earn “BIG SHOW Big Bucks” for various reasons listed below. Once every 4-6 weeks our “BIG SHOW STORE” will be open on Sunday mornings for purchases with “Big Bucks.” Be sure to help your child earn Big Bucks and save them for the BIG SHOW STORE.

Big Bucks Rewards:

Bring your Bible to THE BIG SHOW	1 Buck
Turn in your signed “Take Home Tour”	2 Bucks
Bring a new friend to THE BIG SHOW	5 Bucks

*Teachers may also hand out Big Bucks for special behavior!

Look for the BIG SHOW STORE to be open for business in early November!