

HEALTH CONCERNS

Please help us to keep our children in the Hopetots' classroom healthy. Children should not attend Hopetots if they have had a fever, vomited or had diarrhea within the last 24 hours.

DIAPERING/TOILET TRAINING

Please make sure to put on a fresh diaper or have your child use the bathroom before Hopetots. If your child requires a diaper change or clean clothes you will be notified via text or by phone call and are expected to respond.

ESSENTIALS BAGS

Please keep your child's essential (diaper) bag with you during service.

VOLUNTEERS

Thank you for helping us to care for the youngest members of our church community! Here are a few policies and procedures that follow.

- 1. CHECK IN:** All volunteers will check in at a kiosk and will wear a nametag.
- 2. CELLPHONES:** We want your time volunteering to be focused on the children. Please refrain from any phone use unless it is for emergencies. Do not take photos of the children in our Hopetots classrooms. Only the Hope Staff Members have permission to take photos of the children.
- 3. WASH HANDS:** Please wash your hands or use wipes provided depending on location of "Hopetots" classroom.
- 4. RESTROOMS:** Never go into the bathroom alone with a child. If they need help, bring another adult (not spouse) with you. If a child requires a diaper change contact the parent.
- 5. ALLERGIES:** There will be no snacks provided in the Hopetots classroom. Tots are not allowed to bring in any snacks. Bottles filled with water, milk or formula are allowed & will be labeled with masking tape.
- 6. FIRE EVACUATION PLAN:** Follow lead teachers' direction & help to take group attendance. Alert church staff if a child is missing from your group.
- 7. ABSENCE:** If you are unable to attend on your scheduled day, please let the lead teacher of your room know as soon as possible.



Our mission is to impress on our infants and toddlers God's love and His truth through fun and interactive songs, games and activities using a special curriculum geared to meet their needs.

"Encouraging all children to know the love of Christ"



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For questions, please contact: youth@fargohope.org



GENERAL INFORMATION

The first three years of a child's life are very crucial in the development of the child. Major developments take place physically, mentally, emotionally, socially, and spiritually. In addition to satisfying baby and toddler physical needs, the Hopetot staff and volunteers are excited to respond to the great potential of 'the most formative years of life' and satisfy some spiritual needs as well.

We hope this brochure will answer most of your questions and introduce you to the policies we have put in place to safeguard all of the children in our care at Hopetots. Our purpose is to encourage all children to know the love of Christ!

Please take the time to read the following guidelines. Your understanding and cooperation are deeply appreciated.

HOPETOTS TEAM

The goal of Hopetots is to offer quality care for your child while you attend church services or volunteer. Our team consists of at least one Lead Teacher in addition to one or more adults or youth volunteers.

The Hopetots team is trained to be familiar with nursery facilities, childcare policies, and child safety. They all strive to make your child's earliest church encounters loving and nurturing experiences. They have all passed a background check if they are over 18.

Family members of children attending Hopetots (six weeks-three years) will be encouraged to volunteer four to five times per year. There will be sign-up sheets in the Hopetots room, and a staff member will call to help with the sign-up process.

Wondering what volunteers do? They help to shepherd the children during Hopetots time. A typical Hopetots hour would consist of greeting children. Volunteers hold & comfort babies and play with active toddlers. Then, during their lesson time, you will help them find the stories in their bibles and actively engage with the lesson through intentional play or games. There is a great deal of singing & interacting with the music and special prayer time.

CURRICULUM

Curriculum for two-year-olds? Absolutely! One-year olds? Of course! We will teach the love of Jesus from the time they come to us as infants until they leave us as high schoolers. Teachers have a formal curriculum to use to help focus their praying, teaching, playing, talking, caregiving, singing and fingerplays. The

main idea is NOT to 'baby sit' while parents are worshipping or volunteering, but to intentionally make every moment count. We strive to share God's love and His truth with infants and toddlers. Parents are encouraged to listen to or take part in the Deeply Rooted podcast or bible study. These scripture lessons are the same stories that your "Hopetot" will be hearing!

AGES FOR HOPETOTS

This classroom is available for 6 weeks-3 years old during our Sunday morning and Wednesday evening services. The toys and activities in this room are tailored for children this age. There are bathrooms adjoined and/or close by to accommodate children who are being toilet trained. Your child will move up to the Preschool Hopekids class the September after they turn three years old and are potty trained.

PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF PROCEDURES

Each registered child will need to go through the official check-in process before entering the nursery/classroom. Also, each child needs to be dismissed according to the official dismissal process. These processes will be explained by a children's ministry staff member or volunteer.

TEARS!?

The Hopetots staff are extremely experienced when it comes to comforting crying babies and toddlers. Please give the Hopetots staff person your cell number and put your cell phone in vibration mode. While the hopetots staff are extremely experienced when it comes to comforting crying babies and toddlers, if we are unable to console your child after 10-15 minutes or has upset themselves beyond our ability to help them calm down, we will contact you.

We are happy to have you stay and engage with your child in our Hopetots spaces. Sometimes having a family member stay alongside their child helps them to feel more comfortable. You know your child best! While you are always free to check on your child, keep in mind that repeatedly coming in and/or standing at the door or windows will often upset your child and others.

FOOD AND ALLERGIES

Due to the magnitude of different allergies. Hopetots and Hopekids policy requests no food to be served. Bottles may only contain formula, milk or water. We will mark your bottle with masking tape.

