

Registration

The registration fee should be paid at the time of registration. The registration fee is a non-refundable/non-transferable fee. This fee does not apply towards tuition. The 2026-2027 registration fee is \$225.00. This fee covers supplies for the school year and a school bag. This bag should be used to carry the students' belongings each day to school. If a school bag is lost and needs to be replaced, a \$10 fee will be charged.

Tuition

The tuition is as follows:

- 18 month/2 years old – \$200.00 (Tuesday/Thursday)(Monday/Wednesday)
- Older 2's - \$205.00 (Mon/Wed/Fri)
- 3 years – \$210.00 (Tues/Wed/Thurs)
- 4 years - \$215.00 (Monday-Friday)

The preschool will draft tuition on the First Day of each Month. (August-May) If at any time during the school year, you make any changes to your automatic payment, a \$25 service charge will be added.

Enrollment

To enroll in any class here at Dallas First United Methodist Children's Learning Center, your child must be the correct age for that class by September 1st. Any child enrolling in the 3-year-old class must be potty trained (No pull-ups). We understand and expect accidents; however, if your child is not potty-trained, dismissal will be considered.

Potty Training Your Two-Year-Old

Staff members are happy to support your potty-training efforts; however, please remember that you are potty training one, and the teachers are caring for many.

- Pull-ups are required until your child is fully potty-trained. This is for sanitary reasons and the cleanliness of the facility.
- Please pack several changes of clothes, including socks.
- Please do not bring your child to school in underwear until you discuss it with the teacher.

Children who are 3 years of age and older must be fully potty-trained when school begins. No Pull-Ups. **To be considered potty trained, a child must be capable of performing bathroom functions independently. Such tasks include:**

- **Recognizing the need to go to the restroom.**
- **Verbally telling the teacher of the need to go.**
- **Entering the restroom.**
- **Manipulating clothing off and on with no assistance.**
- **Sitting or standing, and handling their bathroom needs.**
- **Washing hands and rejoining the class.**

Withdrawal

Enrollment in our program is for the entire year. Should it become necessary to withdraw from the program, a two-week notice is required. If no notice is given, you will be responsible for one month's additional tuition.

Dismissal

The Children's Learning Center reserves the right to dismiss any child who is unable to participate appropriately in activities or poses a risk to the safety and well-being of others in the program. This includes, but is not limited to, behaviors such as biting, hitting, scratching, kicking or spitting. Additionally, the center reserves the right to dismiss any student who exhibits defiant or disrespectful behavior, including talking back, refusing to follow directions, or throwing toys or furniture.

We are a ministry of Dallas First United Methodist Church, providing a structured learning preschool environment. We are dedicated to early childhood education and development and are not a daycare.

The school has the right to drop any student who does not show up to Open House or misses the first week of school without notifying the school prior to the absence.

Discipline

When discipline is necessary, we implement a **progressive discipline plan** to encourage positive behavior:

- **First offense:** A note will be sent home, and the student will have a brief, age-appropriate time-out.
- **Second offense:** A note will be sent home, and the student will receive a one-day suspension.
- **Third offense:** A note will be sent home, and the student may face dismissal from the program.

If necessary or upon request, a parent-teacher conference will be scheduled to discuss concerns and develop strategies for improvement.

If necessary, parents may be called to pick up their child. The Children's Learning Center maintains a **zero-tolerance policy for bullying**.

School Day

The car line begins promptly at 9:00 a.m. and continues until 9:15 a.m. We expect all children to be dropped off in the car line. Please be on time; late arrivals are a disruption to your child's class. Please do not drop children off any earlier; our teachers will be preparing for the day. Pick-up begins at 12:40 and ends at 1:00 p.m. We expect all children to be picked up in the car line. If there is an emergency, and you must pick up early, you must be in and out of the building before 12:30. This is to ensure that you are not blocking the car line or holding your child's class back from ending their day. If a parent is late for dismissal, a \$5.00 late fee will be charged for the first 5 minutes, then \$1.00 for every additional minute that the parent is late. The teacher must be paid at the time of the incident. Parents must notify the teacher in writing if someone other than a designated person will be picking up their child. We do ask for identification when that person arrives for dismissal. For your child's safety, parents are responsible for securing their child in a seatbelt or car seat. **We ask that while in our carline, please refrain from using your cell phone.**

On Time Arrival at School

Please make every attempt to ensure your children are on time each morning. We realize that each family has their morning challenges, but arriving on time has many positive outcomes for your child. The early morning activities allow a relaxed time for the children to socially connect and ease into their day. Regular late arrivals are much like an adult starting their workday late for a meeting with NO CUP OF COFFEE. We adults all know how it feels to be playing catch-up all day long. Young children have this same experience. Preschool does have the luxury of dealing with a tough morning in a more relaxed way. We recommend that you speak regularly about being on time to set this habit in preparation for Kindergarten. It teaches them, by your example, the importance of being on time, and shows respect for the group and affirms their importance in the group. Please let us know if there is any way we can assist with on-time arrival challenges. Our goal is not to create pressure, but to support your family in the social development of your children.

In fairness to all, any activities that are missed due to late arrivals will not be made up in class. If the parent wishes, the teacher will be glad to send the activity home so that the parent can complete the activity with the child.

School Year

Our program begins on Monday, August 10, 2026, and ends on Thursday, May 20, 2027. Please review the school calendar, as we have made some minor adjustments from the Paulding County School Calendar. We will follow the Paulding County School for the inclement weather closing, with the exception that if the school system delays opening for the day, we will NOT be open that day... Please be aware of the weather.

Health & Safety

Each child is required to have an updated immunization record on file before he or she may begin school. We can not use immunization paperwork from the previous school year. If your child has any of the following symptoms, please keep them at home and notify the school so that we may notify all parents.

1. Fever (should be fever-free for 24 hours)
2. Vomiting and /or diarrhea
3. Any symptoms of the normal childhood diseases. (Chicken pox, German measles, scarlet fever, mumps, or whooping cough)
4. Common cold
5. Sore throat
6. Croup
7. Rash
8. Any skin infection (impetigo, ringworm)
9. Pink eye
10. Lice - (no nits/no bugs) are allowed at school.

If a child develops any of these symptoms while at school, the parents will be notified. We expect parents to come immediately and pick up their child when called. Students sent home from school for illness may not return to school the following day. Parents should notify the school if their child contracts a contagious disease. Please do not send any medication to school with your child. The school is not able to dispense medication to the students. Dallas First United Methodist Church Children's Learning Center is not liable for any accidents or illnesses occurring to the child while in our care. Parents and guardians will be asked to sign a "Waiver of Liability" form. Due to the liability, we at DFUMC are not allowed to administer any type of medication to our students. If you have any questions, please contact the director at 770-443-5808.

Personal Belongings

All clothes, coats, and school bags should be labeled with the child's name. Each child needs a school bag with a change of clothes every day. Your child's work will be put in their bag daily and sent home. Please check their bag daily for notes from the teacher so you will be aware of special events taking place at school. Please do not allow students to bring toys to school unless specified by the teacher. Toy weapons will not be allowed at school.

Weapons

No weapons of any kind are allowed on school property.

Lunch

When packing your student's lunch, please do not send in meals from local fast-food restaurants, as this causes problems in the classroom. Lunch must be nut-free. **Absolutely no nuts or nut products are allowed in the preschool. Parents, unfortunately, we do not have room for visitors during lunch. We only have enough space for students and staff.**

Birthday Parties

Everyone deserves special recognition on their birthday! We encourage parents to help celebrate by being a guest reader or participating in a special craft activity. Due to past issues, we will not be allowing any goody bags or special treats to be sent to school. If you are planning a party outside of the classroom and plan to invite classmates, please remember to invite every child in the class. Party invitations will not be sent home through the school unless all classmates are included.

Recreation

Every class will go outside daily. If the weather does not permit, then they will go to the Family Life Center, so please dress them appropriately (shoes, coats, sweaters). Remember that students will be on the playground and in the gym daily. Please dress them for play. (Dresses should have shorts or bloomers underneath, and appropriate shoes should be worn.)

Visitors

We are not prepared to care for children who may be visiting your home. Parents are encouraged to visit on special days or by special arrangement with the school. All visitors should check in with the director to receive a visitor's pass.

Plant Policy

No poisonous plants in the classrooms. If there is a question, please see the director.

Animal Policy

Due to students with severe allergies, animals will not be allowed in the classroom.

Conferences/Messages

All messages should be in writing/email. We will send messages in the same manner. Conferences should be scheduled. Mornings and afternoons are very busy, and the teachers will not have time to confer during arrival or dismissal time.

Non-Discrimination Policy

The preschool welcomes all children and does not discriminate between them due to physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, or racial differences. However, our facilities, equipment, staff training, and ratio numbers limit our ability to meet the needs of some students who may apply. Therefore, admittance and continuance in our program will be considered and reviewed on an individual basis by the director and the preschool board.

The Children's Learning Center Emergency Response Plan

In times of Emergency, information about the status of the school will be communicated through a variety of media resources. The preschool requests that parents do not call the school or church office, as it is important to keep the phone lines free for emergency communication. The safety of the children and staff is our first priority, and the reunification of parents and children is the second. Please check the following resources for status reports.

- Remind Messages
- Email, Facebook, and Instagram
- www.dallasfirstumc.org
- Phone messages (callingpost)

Daily Routine

Arrival

We ask that you drop off your child between 9:00 and 9:15 a.m.

Short goodbyes are best.

Small Group Time

At this time, the children will be given the opportunity to play in the different learning centers provided. They will also work independently or in a small group with the teacher or assistant on activities such as special crafts, handwriting, painting, games, and other activities planned by the teacher.

Large Group Time

During large group time, the teacher will facilitate discussion on the weather, the calendar, bible verses, songs, and stories, etc.

Recreation

Each class will participate in supervised recreational activities. These activities include parachute, duck-duck-goose, red light green light, etc. The children will also be given time to play independently on the playground or in the Family Life Center.

Lunch

Students will also be responsible for providing their own lunch. (No nut products please) Please do not send lunches from local restaurants, as this causes issues in the classroom. Parents, unfortunately, we do not have room for parents to visit their students' classes for lunch. We have just enough table space for students and teachers.

Dismissal

Dismissal begins at 12:40 and ends at 1:00.

Helpful Hints

1. Start the day with a good breakfast
2. Be on time
3. Be prepared
4. Dress children appropriately
5. Label students' belongings
6. Don't give students the choice of coming to school or not
7. Short goodbyes are best

Dear Parents,

Welcome!

We are very excited that you have chosen our preschool for your child. We are looking forward to a happy and successful year.

This handbook is your guide to our policies and procedures. Please keep it as a reference.

We are a ministry of Dallas First United Methodist Church. We are open Monday–Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Our phone number is 770-443-5808. Please feel free to call if you have any questions.

The Mission Statement of our preschool states that we are here to help your child grow spiritually, socially, emotionally, and academically to the best of our ability. We will strive to give each child the attention and support they need to develop into healthy, happy, and strong individuals.

We hope that you and your child will have a happy and rewarding experience in our program. We are here to work with you and your child to make that happen. We hope that you will be involved in your child's preschool experience.

Thank you for giving us the privilege to work with you and your child this year.

Thank you,

Kristie Keown

Director

Dear Parents,

The Health and Safety of your children is very important to us here at Dallas First United Methodist Children's Learning Center. For that reason, The Children's Learning Center Advisory Board requires that each parent read and then sign that they understand the guidelines. You must sign and return this to the preschool. Failure to do so will result in your child not being able to attend until it has been signed and returned to the school.

If while at school, your child begins to run a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, we will contact the parent immediately, and they **MUST** come and pick their child up from school. **They must remain out until they are fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medications.**

1. If, while at school, your child vomits or has diarrhea, we will contact the parent immediately, and they **MUST** come and pick up their child from school. **They must be symptom-free for 24 hours before returning to school.**
2. If, while at school, your child begins to exhibit any type of rash or skin condition, we will contact the parent immediately, and they **MUST** come and pick up their child from school.
3. If, while at school, your child shows any signs of pink eye or eye irritation, we will contact the parent immediately, and they **MUST** come and pick their child up from school.
4. If your child has asthma and has an attack or begins to show signs of respiratory issues, we will contact the parent immediately, and they **MUST** come and pick their child up from school.
5. Dallas First United Methodist Church and Children's Learning Center does not allow weapons to be (this includes play weapons for show and tell) on the church property. These are the same guidelines followed by the Paulding County School System. (Code Section 16-11-127) & (Code Section 16-11-131)

8. The employees of Dallas First United Methodist Church are not allowed to
Administer any medications for any reason. (This includes cough drops)

9. Parents/Guardians must be able to be contacted at all times during the hours of
9-1 each day. If for any reason you are going to be unavailable, you must let the
the teacher know, and give them an alternate contact number.

10. Payment is required in full on the first of each month. It will be considered late after the 5th. Any student falling one month behind will be turned over to the board for review and possible dismissal.

11. Dallas First United Methodist Children's Learning Center requires all students to have a current immunization record on file. All students must be actively seeking up-to-date immunizations.

12. Withdrawal from our program requires a two-week notice to stop auto debit authorizations.

13. We are a Ministry of Dallas First United Methodist Church, providing a structured learning environment. We are dedicated to early childhood education and development and are not a daycare.

14. The Children's Learning Center reserves the right to dismiss any child who is unable to participate appropriately in activities or poses a risk to the safety and well-being of others in the program. This includes, but is not limited to, behaviors such as biting, hitting, scratching, kicking, or spitting. Additionally, the center reserves the right to dismiss any student who exhibits defiant or disrespectful behavior, including talking back, refusing to follow directions, or throwing toys or furniture etc.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Dallas First United Methodist Church Children's Learning Center



Program of Excellence for

Young Children

Student Handbook

2026-2027

141 E. Memorial Dr.

Dallas, Georgia 30132

Phone 770-443-5808

Church Phone: 770-445-2509