Emmanuel Messianic Jewish Congregation

Children’s policy:

We hope that this Children’s Policy will help parents know what support we offer to families and of our desire to foster a welcoming and nurturing environment.

“Therefore listen, Israel, and take care to obey, so that things will go well with you, and so that you will increase greatly, as *Adonai*, the God of your ancestors, promised you by giving you a land flowing with milk and honey.

*Sh’ma, Yisra’el! Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai Echad (*Hear, Israel! Adonai our God, Adonai is One); and you are to love your God with all your heart, all your being and all your resources. These words, which I am ordering you today, are to be on your heart; and you are to teach them carefully to your children. You are to talk about them when you sit at home, when you are traveling on the road, when you lie down and when you get up..” D’varim ( Deuteronomy) 6:3-7

We care about the children who come to Emmanuel. We want to support parents to help them raise up children who grow strong in their faith, trust, and love of Adonai, our Messiah Yeshua, and the Ruach Hakodesh (Holy Spirit). We encourage families to keep their children sitting with them during the service, until it is time for the children to be dismissed for Shabbat School. The children are dismissed right before Rabbi’s message sometime around 11 am. We believe that this helps the children learn from their parents love of Hashem. Your modeling teaches them to sit and listen and eventually to participate in song and worship. At our Welcome Table each week, we have a bin of clipboards and you can choose from Word Searches or Coloring pages that are based on that week’s parsha.

Nursery- We have a nursery on the main floor of the building and the purpose of this room is for quieter times for little ones. Nursing, bottle feeding, changing of diapers and potential naps are what we encourage to happen in this room.

Toddler Room- Located on the Lower Level in Classroom 8, this great space is perfect for when your kiddo has too much energy for sitting around and needs to get up and move.

As we are a smaller congregation, we won’t have weekly sitters for the Nursery or Toddler rooms, though they are sometimes available. All sitters and Shabbat School teachers go through a background check before spending time alone with children.

Shabbat School- This is geared for Elementary- Middle School aged children. All the kids are encouraged to write their prayers on our whiteboard. Little ones get help from the teachers or older kids. Prayers are split into three categories; Thank you Adonai for….., Lord, Please help… (someone else’s needs), Please help me with…

Once the Prayers are written on the board, we say the Disciple’s Prayer and then the teacher will pray each of the prayers written on the board out loud. Teens are welcome to come downstairs when they first get to services and write their prayers on the board. We are teaching both our younger and older youth how to pray and that they can pray for other people regardless of ages.

After the Prayers are said, we use a truncated version of Devar Emet’s Club Maccabee program to teach bible stories and mini lessons.

After the Bible Story the little ones stay with one of the teachers for some general play and the older children move to a different classroom for a lesson geared towards them.

We hope that our Children’s Policy has helped to clarify what we offer to the Emmanuel Families and if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to our Shabbat School Director, Tonya Tiffany at office@godwithus.org