

# **PINE RIDGE LOGOS PARENT HANDBOOK 2017-2018**



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**Dear Parents:**

I love LOGOS! LOGOS has been one of the most important discoveries of my ministry. We helped to get a Wednesday afternoon LOGOS group going in Iowa and coming to Kansas City. I was very happy to find that Pine Ridge has had a LOGOS Program for years.

At one of the LOGOS leadership training events I attended the leader said, "We believe Christian Education is more important than all other forms of education put together." I have always remembered that and come to share that belief. It doesn't mean that other forms of education are not also very important, but that the most important thing we can do for the faith development of our children or ourselves is to gather as the Body of Christ to worship, play, study the Bible and fellowship together around a meal.

LOGOS offers a great opportunity to do all of those things. I look forward to another fun, exciting and meaningful year in LOGOS.

Peace,



Jim Gordon  
Pastor

## WHAT IS LOGOS?

LOGOS means “The Word” as translated from Greek in John 1.1-18: “In the beginning was the Word (the Logos)...the Word became flesh (in the person of Jesus Christ) and dwelt among us...” Young people flocked to Jesus. He welcomed them, played with them, showed them they were important, and sought their company. The LOGOS program seeks to recreate Christ’s contagious presence in the world.

LOGOS welcomes children in grades K-6 to participate in a loving, fun-filled Wednesday afternoon/evening **and** on Sunday mornings. This adventure occurs in the context of a well-designed program to give our children the best foundation for their lives – the love of God in Jesus Christ.

In our Wednesday LOGOS time, children enjoy the positive experience of LOGOS on a weekly basis. They fellowship through creative recreational activities, worship arts and music, group Bible studies, and through sharing a family-style meal together. Organized activities in each of the four parts of the LOGOS evening help them to study God’s Word and to practice Christian life skills as meaningful relationships develop.

The relationships that are formed and practiced on Wednesdays become complete on Sunday mornings when the children come to be a part of the bigger family of God at Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church through Worship. LOGOS is not a substitute for, or replacement of, our Sunday morning worship or other Christian education. Rather, LOGOS, Sunday School, Worship, Vacation Bible School and Day Camp are all vital components in our Christian nurture of children and youth.

The LOGOS ministry requires a great deal of cooperation and planning by many, many volunteers. The volunteer ministry of LOGOS is part of the success of the program. Our prayer is that Jesus’ love will be seen, heard, and felt in LOGOS as we work together.

# THE FOUR PARTS OF LOGOS

The LOGOS Program is a four-part program. All children participate in all four parts every week. The four parts are designed to reflect the life of the early church as expressed in Acts 2:42: “*They devoted themselves to the **apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.***”

**“Apostles’ teaching” = Bible Study**

**“Fellowship” = Recreation**

**“Breaking of bread” = “LOGOS Family” Dinner**

**“Prayers” = Worship/Music Skills**

LOGOS is a ministry of *relationships* that takes place in the context of these four equally important areas of study and experience.

## **BIBLE STUDY**

The goal of Bible study is to nurture children into intelligent, obedient, and biblically informed discipleship.



## **RECREATION TIME**



The goal of Recreation is to experience great fun at the expense of no one else as children and leaders participate in noncompetitive activities. During this time we learn to play while respecting the value, worth and dignity of each other.

## **“LOGOS FAMILY” DINNER**

The goal of the family dinner is to provide a joyous, cross-generational celebration of personhood over a shared meal as we experience being the family of God. “Family groups” composed of children and their table parents, eat together at the same table each week.



## **WORSHIP/MUSIC SKILLS**



The goal of Worship Skills is to develop responsibility for and practice in worship skills because worship is our primary service to God as disciples. It is the time

when the children learn about the worship service and why we do and say the things we do, learn about prayers and scripture lessons; and to come together to rehearse in preparation for presenting their gift in worship on Sundays. This may include a singing choir, bell choir, drama, etc.

## **POLICIES**

### **PARENT PARTICIPATION**

LOGOS runs on the power of parents, grandparents, and other caring adults. Your presence and positive involvement demonstrates visible concern and care for our children. Children are never more affirmed than when their parents give them the precious gift of time.

Active participation by at least one parent of every child in LOGOS is required. Fulfilling your commitment to the LOGOS ministry and your involvement is crucial to the program. Each of you has something special to give the LOGOS family.

Children “catch the Christian faith” by entering into relationships with adults who live their Christian faith, and who treat every person as a child of God. Whether you are leading a game, washing dishes, or parenting a table, you are demonstrating to children in the LOGOS Program that you love them, and you want them to know God and develop a relationship with Jesus Christ. They will know by your participation that you believe the LOGOS Program to be a high priority for them.

### **CHILD CARE FOR YOUNGER SIBLINGS - “LITTLE LOGOS”**



To assist parents in serving in their LOGOS volunteer positions, child care is available in our nursery for children ages five and under. Parents are asked to leave their children in the nursery **ONLY FOR THE TIME PERIOD THAT THEY ARE SERVING DURING LOGOS.**

For parents volunteering during “LOGOS Family” Dinner time, their children in “Little LOGOS” will eat dinner at their own “Little LOGOS” table in Fellowship Hall. Parents, if you are not a table parent and you have a child in “Little LOGOS” who will be eating, please sit at the “Little LOGOS” table and assist your child with their meal.

Parents using childcare are asked to help in the nursery occasionally during a time when they have no other LOGOS responsibilities. Other parents are welcome and needed to help staff our nursery.

## **GUESTS**

Guests are welcome at LOGOS. However, participants are requested to call the church office (741-5118) or one of the LOGOS directors no later than noon on Tuesday to make a reservation for their guest. Upon arrival at the church, the LOGOS student will introduce their guest to a director and pay \$2.50 for the guest’s meal. Guests are expected to stay with the person who brings them throughout the entire program. If you bring a guest, you are responsible for introducing the guest to class members and leaders and for explaining to your guest the LOGOS rule and any other details about how things are done at LOGOS.



The same guest may attend LOGOS twice during a term before making a decision to join. After the second visit, the visitor and parents may choose to register for LOGOS, thereby becoming full participants, paying the pro-rated registration fee, and fulfilling the parent participation requirement.

## **ADULT GUESTS FOR DINNER**

In planning each meal, the table parents, nursery staff, and the cook teams are counted in our number to be served. All other volunteers are welcome to eat at LOGOS as well. You are requested to call the church office (741-5118 ext. 111) or one of the LOGOS directors no later than noon on Tuesday to make a

reservation. All of those eating are **asked to pay \$2.50 for their meal.** If you know you will be dining with us every week, please advise our Kitchen Team so you will not need to sign-up every week.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

LOGOS will follow the school closure schedule of the Park Hill School District. If school is closed due to weather or if there is early dismissal due to weather, there will be no LOGOS that day. Parents may call the church to verify if LOGOS is cancelled.

## **DISCIPLINE**

### **The Only Rule of the LOGOS Program**

***“Everyone is to treat everyone else as a child of God. No one has the right to treat anyone else as if they do not matter.”***

As we gather together each Wednesday, LOGOS is a practice arena in which young people and adults can work on treating one another as God intended, with love and respect.

General demeanor at LOGOS should reflect Christian thought and concern for others. Cooperation with all members of the LOGOS staff should be stressed by the parents at home. Courtesy is expected at all times, whether at study or at play. During Dinner/Family Time, good manners and table etiquette will be emphasized.

### **GUIDELINES FOR EXPECTED BEHAVIOR**

- We will be considerate of others. We will listen to one another.
- We will move safely and in a timely manner from session to session.
- We will keep our hands and feet to ourselves.
- We will be kind to each other. We will not make fun of others, laugh at them, or hurt other people’s feelings.
- We will serve one another, help one another and share with others.



- Everyone will participate in all four parts of the LOGOS program.

It is easy for us to accept the privilege of being treated as a child of God. We all want to be valued, accepted, and respected. We must help our children understand that giving this behavior is also a responsibility as they learn to treat everyone else, including all adults, as God's children.

## **DISCIPLINE POLICY**

The root of discipline is disciple. A disciple is defined as a follower of Christ. When we learn to love as Christ loves, we are disciplining ourselves to be the very best disciples we can be. At LOGOS our discipline policy is designed to help our children to learn how to reflect Christ's love to others.

***No child will be excluded from participating in the LOGOS Program due to his/her behavior.*** God does not give up on us, but instead gives us chance after chance and forgiveness after forgiveness. We will strive to treat each child likewise using our step-by-step discipline plan:

*When unacceptable behavior is occurring, such as:*

- Aggressive physical behavior (hitting, kicking, pushing, etc.)
- Verbal abuse of another person (name calling, teasing, swearing)
- Destruction of personal or church property
- Unwillingness to participate in activities

*The following steps will be taken:*

- **Warning about behavior**  
In a loving manner meant as an opportunity to teach why certain actions do not show love and kindness to others
- **Removal from classroom/activity**  
To meet with a LOGOS "Comforter" as a time out to evaluate why actions are occurring and how we can change this behavior. (Though a child cannot be "kicked out" of LOGOS, a child can choose to remove him/herself from a

class or activity by continuing to act inappropriately, breaking the “Only rule of LOGOS.”)

- **Parents contacted**

To discuss the problem and work closely together to assist and encourage the child. Parents are our greatest resource.

Discipline in the church is teaching how to reflect the love of Christ. Each child is expected to share in this covenant:

*As a Child of God:*

- *I expect to be happy, and to be treated with kindness; this means that no one will laugh at me, ignore me, or hurt my feelings.*
- *I expect to be myself; this means that no one will treat me unfairly for any reason.*
- *I expect to be safe; this means that no one will hit me, kick me, push me or pinch me, or in any way be unkind to me.*
- *I expect to hear and be heard; this means that no one will yell, scream, or shout, and my opinion and desires will be considered in any plans we make.*
- *I expect to learn about myself; this means that I will be free to express my feelings and opinions without being interrupted or punished.*

*As a Child of God I will treat every person the way I expect to be treated by them.*

## FEES

Participating in the LOGOS program is an investment in your children and other young people of our congregation and community. There is a monetary fee, plus the commitment of time from at least one parent of each registrant.

The cost of enrollment covers everything from weekly dinners to Bible study materials, crafts supplies and music. The semester fee for LOGOS is:

**\$75 for one child**  
**\$65 for 2nd sibling**  
**\$180 for three or more** (max fee per family)  
**\$25 for adult meals**

Payment plans may be arranged with a LOGOS director. Please make checks payable to Pine Ridge Presbyterian Church - and place them in the LOGOS box in the church office. To allow for simpler record keeping, please do NOT place fees in the offering plate on Sunday morning.

**No one will be denied the rich Christian experience of LOGOS for financial reasons. Scholarship aid is available. All requests and arrangements are strictly confidential. For more information, please speak with one of the directors or the pastor.**

# 2017-2018 LOGOS Calendar

## **FALL SEMESTER**

|                    |                        |                                     |
|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| September 6        | Volunteer Meeting      | 7:00-7:30 pm                        |
| September 13       | LOGOS Kickoff          | Come ready for fun                  |
| September 20       | School Spirit          | Spirit wear                         |
| September 27       | Johnny Appleseed Night | Everything fall                     |
| October 4          | Safari Night           | Favorite wildlife                   |
| October 11         | Beach Bingo            | Ready for the beach?                |
| October 18         | Halloween              | Wear your costume                   |
| <b>October 25</b>  | <b>OFF</b>             | <b>Park Hill Parent Conferences</b> |
| November 1         | Mexican Fiesta         | Party Mexican style                 |
| November 8         | Veteran's Day          | Red, white and blue                 |
| November 15        | Give Thanks            | Wear your holiday finest            |
| <b>November 22</b> | <b>OFF</b>             | <b>Thanksgiving</b>                 |
| November 29        | Space Odyssey          | Astronauts & Planets                |
| December 6         | Polar Express          | PJ's and Sleigh Bells               |
| December 13        | Happy Birthday, Jesus  | Bring an unwrapped toy              |

**\*\*Wednesdays, December 20, 2017 through January 10, 2018 – Christmas/New Year's Break\*\***

## **SPRING SEMESTER**

|                 |                            |                                  |
|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| January 17      | Angel Night                | Dress in white                   |
| January 24      | Luau Night                 | Hula skirts & leis!              |
| January 31      | Super "Souper" Bowl        | Bring a donation or canned goods |
| February 7      | Pirates of Pine Ridge      | Ahoy Matey!                      |
| February 14     | Love One Another           | Dress for Valentine's Day        |
| February 21     | Chinese New Year           | Year of the Dog                  |
| February 28     | Crazy Hat Night            | Wear a fun hat!                  |
| March 7         | Plane Night                | Take a plane ride                |
| March 14        | Leprechaun Night           | Wear green                       |
| <b>March 21</b> | <b>OFF</b>                 | <b>Spring Break</b>              |
| March 28        | Easter-Eggs-treme Makeover | Are you a bunny or an egg?       |
| April 4         | All Aboard                 | Catch the train                  |
| April 11        | Rodeo Night                | Calling all cowboys & cowgirls   |
| April 18        | Closing Celebration        | Heartland Center                 |

## **OUR WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

5:00-5:25 PM – Recreation/Worship Skills  
 5:25-5:50 PM – Worship Skills/Recreation  
 5:50-6:30 PM – "LOGOS Family" Dinner  
 6:30-7:15 PM – Bible Study

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE 2017-2018**

We will participate in worship services on these dates:  
 October 15  
 November 19  
 December 24-Christmas Eve Service (5:00 pm)  
 February 18  
 April 15