

**Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About Registration
At
Smyrna 1st United Methodist Church Kindergarten
For prospective families
2010-2011**

I am an active member of Smyrna First Methodist. When can I register my student for next year?

Registration applications for church members may be turned into the Kindergarten Office anytime up until Friday, February 6, 2010. Applications that are mailed must be postmarked no later than midnight, February 6, 2010. Please mark your envelope “Registration Materials-Church Member”. Church membership will be verified.

What constitutes an active church member?

An active church member is one who has officially joined Smyrna 1st United Methodist Church, attends worship services on a regular basis, has an established pattern of giving, and is active in the life of the Church.

I am NOT a member of Smyrna First Methodist. When can I register my student for next year?

In order to participate in the initial Enrollment Lottery, applications for non-church members may be turned into the Kindergarten Office anytime up until Friday, February 6, 2010. Applications that are mailed must be postmarked no later than midnight, February 6, 2010. Please mark your envelope “Registration Materials – Community”.

What should I turn into the Kindergarten Office to be eligible for the Enrollment Lottery?

Mail your completed registration form, completed letter of agreement, and \$25 Application Fee to:

Smyrna 1st United Methodist Kindergarten/Preschool
1315 Concord Road
Smyrna, GA 30080

The \$100 Registration fee will not be required until you are notified that we have a space for your child.

Will there be an opening for my child?

That depends. Currently enrolled students and their siblings are registered first. Available openings depend on the number of our current students who plan to return next year, and the number of their siblings who choose to attend school here next year. Church members will have next priority for registration. If the number of Church member’s applications exceeds the number of spaces available at a particular age level, enrollment will be offered based on length of Church membership, regular attendance at Worship services, an established pattern of giving, and involvement in the life of the Church. When all Church members have been registered, any available openings will be offered to non-Church members on a lottery basis.

What classes are available for two year olds?

We have four classes available for two year olds with a maximum of 12 students in each class. Three classes meet 2 days a week and one class meets 3 days a week (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday).

Who is eligible for the 3 day 2 year old class?

Only the older 2 year olds will be considered for the 3 day class – usually those with fall birthdays. Children will be offered placement in this class based on the following criteria:

- Parental interest
- Date of Birth
- Class Balance (gender)

How are the two day two year old classes divided?

Two day two year olds are divided into classes by age. We register 36 two day two year olds and divide them in thirds by age. The 12 oldest 2 year olds will meet on Mondays and Thursdays. The 12 mid-age 2 year olds will meet on Tuesdays and Fridays. The 12 youngest two year olds will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays. When 36 two year olds have been registered, you will be notified by mail as to which days your child will attend.

What classes are available for three year olds?

We have three classes for 3 year olds, with a maximum of 16 students in each class. Two classes meet three days per week, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The other class meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Will I be able to register my 3 year old for a 3 day class?

The 3 day class will be filled by our currently enrolled students but occasionally some openings do occur. If you are interested in the 3 day class, indicate your interest on your registration form. Openings will be filled based on the standard criteria.

How are the 3 day three year classes divided?

The 3 day 3s are divided by age, with the oldest 16 being assigned to one class and the youngest 16 being assigned to the other.

What classes are available for 4 year olds?

We have three classes available for 4 year olds, with a maximum of 16 students in each class. The Zebra class meets four days per week, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The Kangaroo class meets four days per week, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. The Panda class meets all five days each week.

What classes are available for 5 year olds?

We will have one Kindergarten class, the Dandy Lions. This class meets from 8:45 to 11:45 on Mondays and Fridays, and from 8:45 to 12:45 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

Will there be openings for my child in the 5 year Kindergarten class?

We will probably have limited openings in our Kindergarten program for next year. Additional openings may occur after private school acceptances are mailed in April and perhaps during the summer as some families may relocate. Children applying to our Kindergarten program will be asked to come in for an observation with our Kindergarten team prior to acceptance.

How will available spaces be filled?

Church members will be enrolled or waitlisted based on the criteria for Active Church Membership outlined above. Information concerning church membership will be obtained from the Church Membership Secretary, Financial Secretary, and Program Staff. Non-Church members will be offered enrollment or waitlisted based on a lottery system.

How will I know whether or not my child will be offered enrollment or waitlisted?

If your child is offered a space for next year, you will be notified, by telephone, no later than Friday, February 12th. If your child is placed on a waitlist, you will be notified by mail.

Why is it important to get my child's name on the wait-list?

Historically, we have a great deal of turnover between the time of registration and the beginning of school – families relocate or their needs change. Last year, 32 children who were registered in February did not start school in September. Openings generally occur at the time the first tuition payment is due in June. When a spot becomes available, we offer placement according to your position on the waitlist. You will have a 24 hour period to either accept or decline the space for your child. If your summer plans include travel, it would be wise to notify us if you will be away and preferably leave a cell phone number where you can be reached.

Several of our families have already indicated to us that they plan to move prior to the beginning of school, but that they will register to hold a space for their child “just in case”.

If my child is offered placement for next year, what do I do next?

When you are notified that your child has a space for next year, you have until February 19, 2010 to complete your child's registration process by remitting a check for \$100.00 payable to Smyrna First United Methodist Kindergarten. If we do not receive your registration fee by February 19, 2010, your child's placement will be forfeited, and we will offer the space to our waitlisted students.

How many openings do you anticipate for the 2010-2011 school year?

Based on a non-binding survey sent to our currently enrolled families, we anticipate approximately 32 openings throughout the school for the 2010-2011 school year. The majority of the openings will be for two year olds, with limited openings at the other levels. Additional openings in the 3, 4, and 5 year classes may occur after private school acceptances are mailed out in early April.

What if I miss the deadline for the initial lottery?

We will continue to accept applications after February 6, 2010. Although these applicants will not be a part of the initial lottery, they will be placed on the waitlist in the order in which they are received. We do keep an active waitlist throughout the school year to fill any vacancies that may occur.

How can I obtain additional registration forms?

Registration materials are available in the Church Welcome Center and on the Church's website, www.smyrnafumc.org.

