

Childcare and Babysitting

Babysitting is taking care of babies and toddlers in the Babysitting Tent. Childcare is watching over children (of all ages) playing on the meetinghouse lawn and playset areas, as well as keeping children from disturbing adult programming that maybe occurring in the meetinghouse.

Children’s Religious Education Committee (CREC) oversees hiring a few people for babysitting/childcare and has been primarily focused on ensuring babysitting is covered during the morning Religious Education Classes on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

The Program Planning Group generally needs to augment these with assistants to help during childcare/babysitting times when there is no children’s programming.

A few weeks before sessions a list of registered children will be sent to CREC and the Program Planning Overall Coordinator.

There are three time blocks for Childcare and Babysitting:

- Morning: (Th, Fr, Sa 8:30 a.m.-noon) This is during the morning Religious Education classes, only babysitting is needed, since children of older ages will be in classes.
- Morning: (Su 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.) Babysitting is needed. If there is no Sunday morning children’s programming than childcare will be need with people to assist the paid caretakers after the Reading of the Epistles, ~9:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.
- Afternoon: (Th, Fr, Sa 3:00-5:30 p.m.) While there is organized recreation and the craft tent during this time, it is also an open play time, so people may be needed to assist the paid caretakers.
- Evening: (We, Th, Sa 7:15-9:00 p.m.) When there is children’s programming only babysitters would be needed, and should be able to be covered by the paid caretakers. Friday evening there is no babysitting or childcare since dancing on the lawn is a family program. Some years there have not been a Wednesday evening program. If this is the case, then childcare in addition to babysitting would be needed and people may be needed to assist the paid caretakers.

Time slots for childcare/babysitting

Total = 29.75 hours

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Wed		3:45-5:30 pm	7:15-9:00 pm
Thurs	8:15 am – noon	3:00-5:30 pm	7:15-9:00 pm
Fri	8:15 am – noon	3:00-5:30 pm	
Sat	8:15 am – noon	3:00-5:30 pm	7:15-9:00 pm
Sun	8:15 am – 12:15 pm		

Responsibilities:

- Make sure that there are enough childcare helpers. There will be a sign-up sheet for people to volunteer to assist the paid childcare workers during the time slots listed above, but sometimes people need to be sought out to fill in the blanks when it is known that extra people will be needed.
- **Make sure that there are a minimum of two adults at the Babysitting Tent/play area during all the above listed times.**
- Some childcare people will allow children to play loudly and run about on the front lawn and the east side (meetingroom side) of the meetinghouse. This background noise cause hearing difficulties for someone of the older folks. Please keep children from playing on the front lawn and east side of the meetinghouse when a program is occurring in the meetingroom. Now this the schedule change this is usually just during the evening program on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday, as well as the Sunday morning Plummer Lecture and worship.
- CREC arranges for paid childcare workers to cover the hours indicated by the chart above. CREC arranges the hourly rate, keeps track of hours worked, and makes sure payment is made by sending the treasurer the hourly rate and hours worked so a check can be written while at Annual Sessions.
- Make sure that the Babysitting Tent and play area are properly maintained. Toys should not be left scattered around on the ground around the play area. Rather, they are to be put back in their containers at the end of their assigned time.
- Check before Annual Sessions that the Babysitting Tent is supplied with a large variety of toys. These toys are stored in the Clear Creek House storage shed. Site prep moves them from the shed, washes/soaks them in a bleach solution, and puts them in the babysitting tent. Double check that this has been done. Also double check that all the equipment/toys are up to current safety standards.
- Daily check the swing set chains. While Site Prep check them, once the swings get heavily used after a year of non-use, links may start to show signs of breakage.
- Contacts a CREC representative with any questions or concerns.

Safety is a priority! At no time may a childcare helper be alone with a single child where they cannot be observed by others. Having two adults with a group of children is preferable for child safety.