

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - CLARKSVILLE HOME-SCHOOL SUPPORT GROUP CHARTER

GENERAL INFORMATION:

First Baptist Home-School Support Group began in Clarksville about thirteen years ago. This group was organized as a support group for families with school age children by several dedicated families who shared their educational vision, and Christian faith. Their goal was to provide an opportunity and environment where their children could come together for learning and fellowship. Although some of the faces in our group have changed, our vision and goals remain the same.

MISSION STATEMENT

FBC Home-School Support Group is a Christian group, the purpose of which is to support and encourage one another in Christ Jesus as we educate our children by providing:

- Opportunities for fellowship between home-schooling parents.
- Opportunities for our children to fellowship with other home-school children.
- Opportunities to expand our children's education through field trips, volunteer activities, and other events in the surrounding area.

STATEMENT OF FAITH

This statement of faith, along with our mission statement, will serve as the foundation for the harmonious fellowship, encouragement, and support on which this group will function.

We Believe ...

The Bible is the inerrant, inspired Word of God.

There is one God, eternally existing in three Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

In the virgin birth of Jesus Christ, His sacrificial death on the cross to redeem all who believe on Him alone as Savior, and His resurrection from the grave.

That all men are sinners by nature and choice, and have no power to save themselves. A person must believe in God and receive Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, not trusting in their good works but in the death of Christ on the cross. "That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved". Romans 10:9

Salvation and eternal life are offered as a gift of God's grace through the redemptive work of our Lord Jesus Christ. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace..." Ephesians 1:7. "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast". Ephesians 2:8-9

RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS

Since we represent First Baptist Church, this support group, home educators, and Christians, it is **imperative** that our behavior reflects the Christian values we seek to live by and to teach our children.

Therefore, we encourage parents to:

- Support each other and the activities of this group.
- Pray for the families who are members of our group.
- Insure appropriate conduct by students in their care.
- Stay on site when having an event.
- Be prompt and courteous.

RESPONSIBILITY OF STUDENTS

- Listen, respect, and abide by the voices of authority in our group (*i.e.* parent, trip coordinator, field trip host).
- Welcome new students in a kind and warm manner.
- Make a sincere effort to include, **not** exclude, others.
- Remember our group is a **guest** of First Baptist Church-Clarksville.
- Dress in a modest and appropriate manner reflecting our Christian values.
- Use respectful and appropriate language.
- Limit building use to our designated areas only.

MEMBERSHIP RESPONSIBILITY

- Families with at least one registered school aged child, grades K-12, may join our group.
- To be an active member of this group, members are **required** to plan, coordinate, and assist in one activity per year.
- To be successful, we need and desire everyone's participation in this group.
- A roster of the active membership will be maintained by our group.
- Members will be retained on the active roster for one year only.
- At the beginning of each new home-school year, our group will have Fall and Winter registration planning meetings where members may update their membership.

- Registration must be completed by the cut-off date otherwise members/perspective members will be required to wait until the next registration period before membership will be considered active.
- Since it is a difficult task for the membership person to call to confirm member information and status, we ask that members report any changes in information to the membership person.
- Inactive members will be removed from our list after one year of non-participation.
- We ask that you be respectful of the time volunteers give in serving by being responsible about your membership. We are all busy with this home school journey.

FIELD TRIP GUIDELINES

- Field trip/on-campus activities are for current registered members of First Baptist Church Home-School Support Group only unless otherwise stated as an **open** activity.
- Please do not ask to bring non-member friends to our activities unless it is designated as an open activity. Please encourage them to become an active member of our great group instead.
- All members participating in our group's activities, whether on campus at First Baptist Church or a field trip, **must** have current registration and release of liability forms on file.
- Field trip coordinators are encouraged to verify the status of membership for all persons signed up for field trips or other activities.

ADMINISTRATION GUIDELINES

Our group falls under the Office of the Minister of Education (Dana Abee, Office Assistant). Remember to thank Dana for her help.

We encourage event planners to reserve church rooms, when needed, 30 days in advance of our event.

LIABILITY

- Participation in any support group function is voluntary and at your own risk.
- Students must be under the supervision of a parent, legal guardian, or other supervising adult (as designated by the parent or legal guardian) at all times.
- First Baptist Home-School Support Group and First Baptist Church will not be liable for any property damage or personal injury sustained or inflicted by any members or members' students occurring in any group meeting or activity at the church or during a planned outside activity.
- Signature on a separate liability release will be required for each family.