

Wayside Presbyterian Church

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LOGOS Leadership Team
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LOGOS literally means “The Word.” In John 1:1-18 LOGOS is translated “Word”; “In the beginning was the Word...and the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us...” The LOGOS ministry is one way of continuing the experience of the incarnation of Jesus Christ.

LOGOS Overview

LOGOS is a dynamic ministry of Christian nurture, the goal of which is to nurture children and youth into a committed faith relationship with Jesus Christ and to prepare them for a life of Christian discipleship.

Developing and nurturing Christian relationships is at the heart of the LOGOS weekly ministry. We love one another as Christ loved us, giving each other unconditional, unearned, undeserved grace and love. Learning to do this takes time and practice. LOGOS provides both in a safe environment every week.

LOGOS involves the entire congregation. It is only when everyone makes a significant commitment of time, energy, and ability to the nurture of young people that LOGOS is most effective. Parents, single adults, grandparents, couples without children, and clergy all join together sharing their talents and gifts.

LOGOS at Wayside is divided into five age groups:

★ **NURSERY/PRE-SCHOOL**

(available ONLY for kids of staff and volunteers; children will participate in ways that are suitable for their ages)

★ **ELEMENTARY:**

- Pre-K/K – Gr. 2
(whether your Pre-K child is ready to participate in the bigger group will depend on your child and your desires – see Director or Nursery Coordinator)
- Grades 3-5

★ **YOUTH:**

- Grades 6-8 - Middle Schoolers
- Grades 9-12 - High Schoolers

The Four Parts

The arena for Christian nurture that is found in LOGOS is made up of four equally important experiences in which every young person participates each week. In LOGOS we experience all of them every time we meet so that the full impact of the combined elements can provide an arena for the development of genuine Christian relationships.

In LOGOS, these four elements combine to provide a context within which young people and adults are nurtured through the theology and practice of Christian relationships. It worked for the first century church. It works today.



Worship Arts

The goal of Worship Arts is *to learn and practice ways to serve God through worship*. Youth and children become an integral part of worship as it becomes an integral part of the fabric and language of their souls.

Family Time

The goal of Family Time is *to experience being part of God's family over a shared meal*. It is a time when families of young people and adults are formed around tables. These table families care for and about each other as they share food, fun, and conversation around the table each week.

Bible Study

The goal of Bible Study is *to study the Bible as the model for Christ-centered living*. LOGOS strives to create biblically literate children and youth who apply what they have learned in Bible Study to all aspects of their life.

Recreation

The goal of Recreation is *to experience great fun at the expense of no one else*. We play for theological reasons in LOGOS as well as for fun. Recreation provides the opportunity for many members of the congregation to come and share their hobbies, talents and special interests with the young people. In doing so, relationships are formed.

Worship Arts

All young people in LOGOS participate in worship arts each Wednesday—where they rehearse for their Sunday worship leadership and learn more about the sacraments and what worship is all about. In order to worship, we must learn how; and the best way to learn is through participation and leadership. Worship Arts might look a little different for each age group.

Nursery

Nursery participants are introduced to music in their classroom and are often incorporated into the elementary age skills, as they are able.

Elementary (K-5)

Elementary children participate in a variety of worship skills during the year. Acolyting, drama, liturgy, interpretive movement, and various venues of music are all possible.

Youth (6-12)

The Youth also participate in a variety of worship skills, such as acolyting, choral reading, helping on the Powerpoint, Junior & Youth Nursery helpers and leadership roles for our Ash Wednesday service.

We encourage all families to participate in Sunday worship. There will be opportunities throughout the year for the children to participate in various forms of worship during a Sunday service or special occasion. Announcements will be made.

Bible Study

Bible Study

Bible study is called the heart of LOGOS because our study of scripture informs and directs how we live our lives as part of a Christian community.

We believe a thorough grounding in the Bible is essential to the development of Christian life and character. This historic faith, as presented in the Holy Scriptures, needs to be learned by young people so that they may be nurtured and challenged toward spiritual maturity.

Nursery/Preschool

Our nursery/preschool program offers interactive Bible storytelling and activities that are appropriate for this age group.

Grades K-2

Our younger school age children will use the Bible and the Faith for Life curriculum: Friends and Family in Faith. Seeing Jesus as a friend and studying biblical teachings about friendship will help the children learn about making and maintaining their own friendships with family, peers, adults, and others in the community. At-home activity pages to be expected!

Grades 3-5

Our school age children will use the Bible and the Faith for Life Curriculum: Jesus and His Followers. They will journey through his life and teachings and learn why He is special, why we all follow Him and how we are called to proclaim and serve. At-home activity pages to be expected!

Grades 6-8

Our Middle school group will be working through "Echo The Story 12". This curriculum is designed to help students work through the story of God's redemptive work from Creation and its fall to the Birth of the Church. It empowers young people to have a better understanding in the development of the thriving and worshipping community of God's Church.

Grades 9-12

Our high school students will be working through the "Echo the Story 36". This curriculum will familiarize students of the entire biblical canon, from Genesis to Revelation. It also highlights major themes and figures to aid the students grasp of the full and beautiful relationship that God has been initiating with the people of this world through his Word.

LOGOS Policies

Parent Participation

LOGOS enables parents to fulfill a portion of the basic vows required of them when they present their children for Christian baptism. Parents are to encourage their faith and regular participation (on Wednesdays and Sundays), and to raise them in “the nurture (love) and admonition (law) of the Lord.”

At least as important, however, is the “morale-boosting” effect of the parent's physical presence in the program. Children love to see their parents serving, further strengthening the family unit. This is a vital element in the successful operation of this ministry.

Active participation by at least one parent of every child in LOGOS is expected.

Since the staff is almost exclusively voluntary, part-time service by a large number of people is essential.



Parent Participation Ideas...

You might be wondering... “How can I be of help to this ministry? I am so busy... and I am just not sure what I can do.”

Let us give you some ideas that might fit into your schedule and be of invaluable help to our LOGOS ministry...

- **Kitchen Crew** - Prepare, serve and clean-up dinner. Come early for prep OR come later to clean up. Wash table cloths after an evening. Help tear down tables and chairs to prepare for Recreation.
- **Worship Arts Leaders & Assistants***- Lead students to develop their understanding of worship and teach respect, reverence, faithfulness and stewardship.
- **Recreation Leaders & Assistants*** - Set up for and lead various crafts and sports that provide an opportunity to have fun in a non-competitive atmosphere.
- **Bible Study Leaders & Assistants*** - Equip students to meet inevitable challenges to their faith using the appropriate curriculum and Bible.
- **Table Parent*** - Lead students in relationship building conversation during dinner. Provide supervision and support to those students assigned to your table.
- **Child Care*** - Provide supervision for younger children of program volunteers.
- **Decorator** - Help with theme decorations (can be created at home, and/or use things that we have... and done on YOUR time).
- **Photographer*** - Visually record activities throughout the season.
- **Transportation*** - Offer to drive children that do not have rides of their own.
- **Got a hobby** - Contact the director to schedule a time when you can bring in a hobby of yours and teach the kids about it!

***Clearances are required**

Nursery Care

Nursery care is available for children too young to participate in LOGOS in the evenings and during the time when their parents are volunteering in the program.

Guests

We encourage children and youth to bring their friends to visit. Please email the LOGOS Director by Wednesday morning so that a place can be set at the dinner table. The host should pay for the meal for the guest. **Guests are \$3.00.** Guest Forms that contain important/emergency information requests can be downloaded from our website... or ask the Director for a copy. Please bring a completed form with you the evening that your guest accompanies you.

Inclement Weather Policy

LOGOS at Wayside will follow the Hempfield School District inclement weather schedule. In the event of bad weather, if the school district is closed or dismisses early, LOGOS will NOT be held. We will notify you via email and post on our Facebook page.

Absences

In case of a child's absence, please email the LOGOS Director by 3:00 that afternoon. Also, please notify us of a planned, prolonged absence.

Discipline Policy

There is only one rule in LOGOS:

**Treat every person as a Child of God.
No one is to treat others as if they
do not matter.**

All relationships in LOGOS are guided by this rule. We believe that nothing is more important to God than our relationships with others and with God. All that we do will reflect this theology.

The discipline policy of LOGOS is intended to support this important principle. Courtesy, good manners, and good sportsmanship are expected at all times. Inappropriate boisterous behavior will not be tolerated. All adults function as disciplinarians and teachers, and they are expected to treat each other with this same degree of respect.

Disciplinary problems will be dealt with as promptly, realistically, and consistently as possible. It is our intention to provide a warm, loving, nurturing environment for the development of a strong Christian character.

Following verbal warnings about misbehavior, and if all other strategies for behavior management fail, the activity/classroom leader will offer the child/youth the option of participating with proper behavior or visiting the Comfort Station. At the Comfort Station, the student will be given the opportunity to explain, write a letter of apology to the activity leader, pray about good choices, and then return to the class. Following repeated trips to the Comfort Station, a letter will be sent home to be signed and returned the next week. A parent conference will be scheduled if other methods fail.

Our goal in LOGOS is to build a positive relationship with each child and thus avoid most discipline problems.

Note: We have a Discipline and Classroom Management Policy/Procedures, which guides our leaders in strategies for classroom and behavior management, so as to prevent most discipline issues. If you would like to see a copy of this, they are available outside of all classrooms... or just ask the Director.



Safety at Church

We wish to assure you that we take very seriously the safety of every young person and adult who participates in any program or ministry of the church. We have established standards of safety, and policies and procedures that will keep everyone as safe as possible.

- ★ Before each semester all first aid kits are checked for supplies, and their locations labeled. All leaders are informed as to the location of the kits (kitchen and atrium).
- ★ We have implemented a Child Safety Policy for the protection of our children, and adults. Any adult working directly with children in our church is required to have state, and sometimes national, clearances completed.
- ★ A minimum of 2 approved leaders have oversight of the young people at all times... one of these could be a floater, checking in on all classroom activities.
- ★ An information forms, giving us names and phone numbers to call in an emergency is obtained at registration and whenever a visitor attends LOGOS. Allergy, medical and pertinent information is also requested.
- ★ Directions for evacuating the building are posted outside of classroom, in large rooms and throughout the hallways of the building. Drills are held periodically to practice safe and efficient evacuation.
- ★ It is Wayside's procedure NOT to use names associated with printed pictures of minors. The only exception to this is in the online church directory, where families are pictures, with their names associated with them. This site is password protected.
- ★ Drop-offs & Dismissals: In order for your children to be dropped off and dismissed, you must enter the building and sign them in and pick them up after activities have ended. Children will only be released to those people listed on the registration form as having permission to pick the children up. Parents must notify the Director ahead of time of any other arrangements. Your children's safety is of utmost importance to us. We want to do everything we can to ensure this.

Fees and Payments

LOGOS functions in large part through participant fees and receives additional support from the Wayside general budget and individual donations. The fee for one year of LOGOS is as follows:

- Nursery/Pre-S – No Charge
- K – Grade 12:

<u>1st Semester</u> -	\$30 per child; \$15 additional sibling;	\$52 family max
<u>2nd Semester</u> -	\$30 per child; \$15 additional sibling;	\$52 family max
<u>Full Year</u> -	\$60 per child; \$30 additional sibling;	\$104 family max

The fee includes costs for dinner each week. Wayside’s budget item covers costs for curriculum resources, crafts/supplies, worship art materials, and costs for administrative services and leadership training. Full and partial financial aid is generously available upon request. Each family should select one of the following payment plans:

OPTION I Full payment at time of registration

OPTION II For those registering for entire year: \$25 deposit; the balance is due in 4 monthly payments on the 2nd Sunday of Oct, Nov, Dec and Jan.

For those registering for one semester: \$10 deposit; the balance is due in 2 monthly payments on the 2nd Sunday of Nov and Dec.

OPTION III Full and partial scholarship assistance is available and confidentiality of the applicant is maintained. Please contact the LOGOS Director or the Pastor for information.

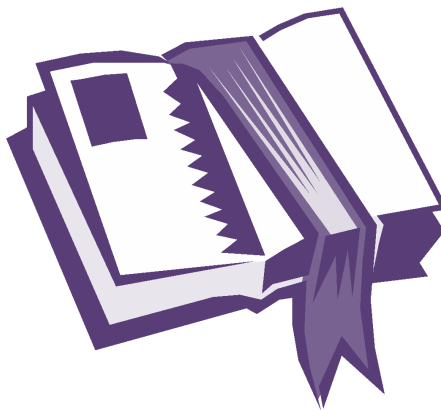
Please make all checks payable to “Wayside Presbyterian Church” with LOGOS in the memo line.

Registration Checklist

Registration is accomplished when all of the following are completed:

- Registration Forms have been filled out.
- A parent has met with the Director.
- A \$25 (or \$10) deposit per child has been received (or up to full payment).
- A parent has signed up to volunteer in the program.

We ask that you complete all forms and turn in your deposit or payment before you leave your meeting with the Director or Registrar, if possible. This allows us time to create rosters for classes, worship, and dinner tables before the first night of LOGOS. If this is not possible, please speak to the Director or the Registrar before leaving.



And finally.....

WELCOME to LOGOS at Wayside!

If you have any questions, always feel free to call the church office @ 717-898-1551 and ask to speak to, or leave a message for Sonja Eckert (Director) or Pastor Steve Fritz.