



Parent Handbook

Wednesday Night BLAST

Cross Pointe Children's Ministry Vision

Here at Cross Pointe Church we teach Truth, Life, Ministry. We can also apply this to the lives of our children! These are the key values we have as a Children's Ministry and our goal for our children.

Teach the Word of God Fully (Truth)

It is our goal as a Children's Ministry to not leave anything out of the Word of God as we teach our children. We strive to choose curriculum that dives deep into the Word and doesn't just skim the surface.

Teach kids how to apply the Bible practically to their lives (Life)

We strive to teach our children in a way where they can practically apply what they have learned into their own lives.

Teach kids to value serving and growing into the church (Ministry)

We don't want our children to be lost once they graduate out of Children's Church on Sunday Mornings. We aim to plug the older children in as volunteers and help them feel like part of the church body as a whole.

Wednesday Night BLAST



What is BLAST? BLAST is our Wednesday night program for children here at Cross Pointe church. On Wednesday nights we meet from 6:00-7:45pm. At BLAST we have a nursery and 8 children's classes.

A typical night at BLAST includes a lesson from the Bible, games, and music. The Poppers, our 3-year-old class uses the Awana Puggles curriculum, and each of our other classes use the Answers Bible Curriculum. Our preschool class focuses on the gospel and the life of Jesus, and our K-5th grade children will study the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

BLAST Classes

We have eight classes at BLAST, split by the child's age and grade. Each class also has a class color. Children are encouraged to wear the class t-shirt, or the color of their class. BLAST t-shirts are available to order in the online registration.

Poppers (green) - 3-year-olds (and 2-year-olds of volunteers)

Stars (blue) - 4-year-olds, and 5-year-olds who are not yet in kindergarten.

Meteors (purple) - Kindergarten

Rockets (red) - 1st Grade

Novas (yellow) - 2nd Grade

Comets (orange) - 3rd Grade

Asteroids (navy blue) - 4th Grade

Jets (black) - 5th Grade

Each BLAST class has a teacher and at least one assistant. We have separate volunteers for games and music.

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BLAST Calendar

A calendar for BLAST is available to download on our website <https://www.cp-church.org/blast-resources-info>. This calendar also lists our Mission Moments and Theme Nights. These will also be available in printed form on the welcome table in the foyer. If BLAST is cancelled due to weather or another reason, an email will be sent to the email address provided on the registration form. Please add childrens.ministry@cp-church.org to your address book. You should also be receiving periodic emails from this address.

BLAST Meals

There will be a BLAST meal offered each first Wednesday of the month, September-April, at 5:30pm. There is a recommended donation of \$3/child, \$5/adult, or \$20/family for each meal. Gluten free options will be available upon request. We appreciate if you RSVP to these meals a week in advance to Amanda Elliott at 763-355-2414.

Theme Nights

Throughout the year, BLAST has theme nights. If the children would like, on these nights they can dress up according to the theme. Some of these nights will also have a special lesson like Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Mission Moments

We have different *Mission Moments* on our calendar each year. The BLAST students will have an opportunity to serve others through prayer and giving. At the beginning of the month, we will announce the mission and explain it to the children. We will then present a challenge between the children to bring items for the organization. If the children meet the challenge, they will receive a prize. Please see the BLAST calendar for specific dates.

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BLAST Points

The children have several opportunities to earn points throughout the year. These points can be spent at two BLAST stores which will take place each January and May. The teachers of each class will be in charge of recording points for each child in their class. Points can be earned in the following ways:

- Attendance- 5 points
- Bring Bible- 5 points
- Wear BLAST shirt (or class color)- 5 points
- Participate in theme night- 5 points
- Completed take-home or sermon notes (detailed below)- 15 points
- Memorize an assigned Bible Verse- 20 points
- Bring a Friend - 20 points

Memory Verses

Each class has their own list of memory verses. Please work with your children on these verses at home, as they will not spend much time on them in class. When your child is ready with a verse, they can recite it to their teacher during class time. BLAST verse sheets are available to download on our website <https://www.cp-church.org/blast-resources-info>. These will also be available in printed form on the welcome table in the foyer.

Take-Home Sheets

Each week, your child will receive a take-home sheet to complete at home and bring back. If they bring it back to class, completed, they will receive points. This will take some parent involvement depending on the child's age.

Sermon Notes

Third through fifth grade students who attend the main service on Sunday mornings can also earn points by filling out "Sermon Notes for Kids," getting a parent signature, signifying they discussed the notes/sermon with their children, and turning it into their teacher on Wednesday night.

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Child Check-In and Security

- Upon arrival, each child must be checked in at the check-in station by their parents. As they check in, a nametag is printed out for each child. Please have the child wear their nametag throughout the night. This has their parent's phone number on it in case of emergency, and a code for the parent to use for picking up their children.
- The parent receives a printed tag with a code when they check in their child. They must show you this code to pick up their children. If the parent/adult does not have the code matching that of the child, please call a Sheep Dog or Nancy to come to make sure the child is going home with the correct adult.
- Children will be dropped off and picked up at their classrooms.

Behavior Policy

Children are expected to treat their teachers and classmates with respect and listen to instruction always.

If discipline is needed, BLAST leaders will use the following counts:

Count 1: Classroom teacher will talk to the child about the behavior.

Count 2: If misbehavior and disobedience continues, child will be separated from his/her class, in a common area, to speak with a different leader.

- a. Leader will assertively, and calmly speak to the child about his/her behavior. This could be a Sheep Dog, game leader, Nancy, or any other available volunteer.
- b. Leader will explain that the Bible tells us we must submit to authority, for all authority comes from God. Those who rebel against authority are rebelling against what God has instituted (explain in age-appropriate terms).
- c. Leader will encourage student to pray and repent.
- d. Student will be brought back to class.

Count 3: Upon the third offence, parents will be called, and must pick up child as soon as possible. Parents and BLAST teacher will discuss behavior.

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Bathroom Policy

Note- this is for precautionary measures. No event prompted this policy. The CE Board understands that this might be a difficult implementation and inconvenient, but feels it is necessary for the safety of all. Thank you for your cooperation!

The bottom line: A volunteer must NEVER be alone with a child.

Kindergarten-5th Grade

Please do one group bathroom break each evening and follow the protocol below. In the case where there are no male volunteers, a male game leader should be asked to help.

Children will stand in line outside of the bathrooms.

Before allowing any child to enter, two adults will check the bathrooms (male check male, female check female) to make sure they are empty.

The male adult should stand at the male bathroom door, and the female adult at the female bathroom door. They should leave the main doors open, and allow the appropriate number of children in at a time to use the restroom. This number will be based on the number of toilets/urinals.

If applicable, one volunteer should stand at the kitchen sink to assist the children that only need to wash hands (before snack), and not use the restroom.

In the case of a bathroom "emergency," and a child needs to use the restroom outside of the regular group bathroom break time, two adults must be present, and stand outside the bathroom door.

Poppers & Stars

Parents are going to be encouraged to take their children to the bathroom before class, and send them to class wearing bottoms that are simple to take on and off. If a child cannot use the bathroom independently, the parents are going to be asked to stay in the building the entire evening and texted if needed. If they cannot do this, their child should not go to class until he is ready to wipe and pull on/off pants without assistance.

When a child needs to use the restroom, two adults must be present. The bathroom door should remain open, and the adults should assist as little as possible. Provide a stool if needed. Adults must not wipe a child, or pull up pants or underpants.

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Well-Child Policy

We ask that children be kept at home with any of the following symptoms and/or illnesses. A digital lesson may be requested for your child to complete from home if desired. We appreciate your cooperation.

- Fever (must be fever-free 24 hours without medication)
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Runny Nose (excessive or discolored)
- Persistent Cough
- Strep Throat
- Sore Throat
- Active Chicken Pox
- Measles
- Mumps
- Unexplained or Contagious Rash
- Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye)
- Fifths Disease
- Impetigo
- Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease
- Lice (Children should not attend until after treatment, and all live lice and visible nits have been removed).
- COVID-19 diagnosis, close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19, or a suspected COVID-19 illness in your family

If a child is being treated with antibiotics, he/she should be on the medication for 24 hours before attending classes.

If a child develops any of the above symptoms while in our care, we will call and ask you to come get him/her. If you notice your child has an illness after attending our classes, please notify childrens.ministry@cp-church.org or 763-843-2271. Thank you for helping us avoid the spread of illness and helping keep the children and volunteers at Cross Pointe Church healthy.

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Miscellaneous

We can use your help even if you're not in a children's church or BLAST class. You may help outside of service times with:

- Craft and Lesson Preparation
- Prayer for Services
- Painting and Decorating
- Preparation for Special Events
- Camp Counseling and Kitchen Help

BIG EVENTS (Through the year):

Easter Egg Hunt, VBS, Camp JIM, Fall Festival, BLAST store nights, Operation Christmas Child, Christmas Program, and more!

THANK YOU!

Your time, commitment, and faithfulness are paramount to our church! If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, we want to address them!

CONTACT

Cross Pointe Church - 763-689-2667

Trailblazers: Youth Leader - Calvin Peterson 612-402-6446 // petersonc@cp-church.org

Kingdom Builders: Pastor Cubby Westerberg 763-746-6305 // pastor.cubby@cp-church.org

BLAST: Children's Ministry Director - Nancy Cooper 763-843-2271 // childrens.ministry@cp-church.org