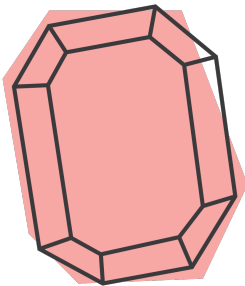




# Welcome Parents!

We are excited to have your infant/toddler in the Gentle Gems Nursery here at Plantation Community Church!



"Children are a heritage from the LORD, offspring a reward from him." (Psalm 127:3)

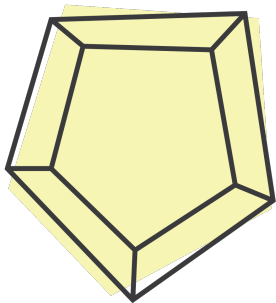
We seek to provide a safe, Christian atmosphere for the youngest of our church family and guests. We believe that our children are God's greatest gift!

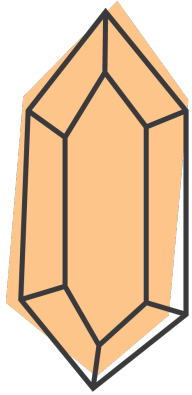
We hope this handout of our policies and procedures will convey our commitment to provide a safe, caring environment through trained caregivers and security personnel that ensures your child's safety. Please assist us in reaching this goal by taking time to review and understand our policies. If you have any questions or suggestions, we hope you will call or email:

**Rick Braswell**  
*Deacon of Nurture*  
(954) 204-9676  
rbraswell46@gmail.com

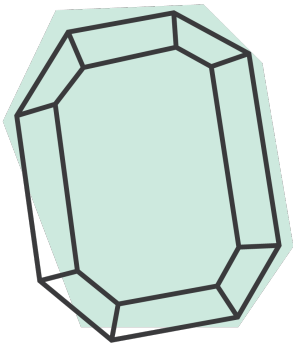
**Hannah Rariden**  
*Nursery Coordinator*  
(954) 806-6754  
hdsoren@me.com

**Kevin Rariden**  
*Associate Pastor*  
(954) 461-9875  
kevin@pccflorida.org

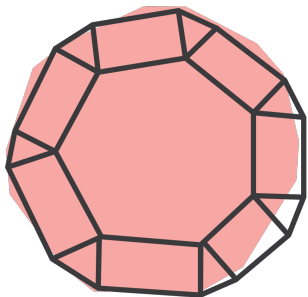




"Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies, to silence the foe and the avenger." (Psalm 8:2)



"When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Mark 10:14)

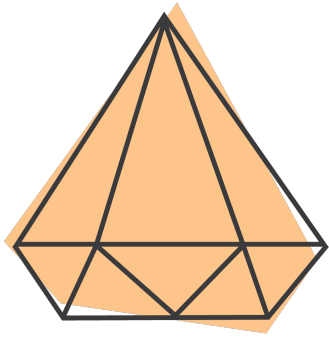


## General Policies:

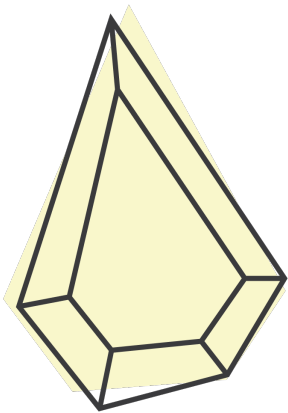
1. The nursery opens 15 minutes prior to services and other scheduled events.
2. Children are to be brought to the nursery by their parent(s) and will only be released to their parent(s) when they present their sticker that matches the child's sticker.
3. Parents should pick up their children immediately following the service or event.
4. Children should not bring personal toys to the nursery. (Diaper bags, bottles, and sip cups are welcomed however!)

## Food Policies:

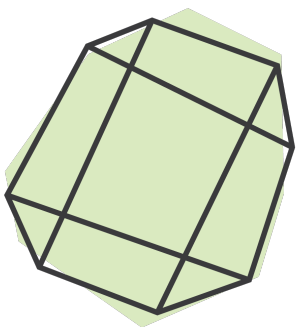
1. We do not generally feed children in the nursery due to the service and events not being more than one to two hours. But if you would like us to feed your child, we will be happy to with the food you provide. Please include instructions on the time you would like them fed, bibs, spoons, straws or other necessary items in his/her bag. Food for toddlers must be cut into bite size pieces.
2. Infants also can be fed formula, milk, juice, or water as provided by the parent in plastic bottles. All bottles should be pre-mixed and poured by the parent as well as kept in a container with ice packs to keep them cool until needed. Warming instructions, if any, should be written and placed with the bottles. Send only plastic bottles in the diaper bag. Please label each bottle with your child's name.
3. Please do not bring any nuts for your child, due to potential allergies of other children. Nuts will not be served in the nursery for the safety of children with allergies.
4. Medications cannot be given by nursery personnel. Please do not put any type of medication in your child's bottle.
5. If your child is allergic to anything or does not tolerate a certain food or drink, please make a note of the allergies/ special needs on the registration paper or tell a nursery worker so that it can be added into the system. We want to make sure nothing that is brought into the nursery is something a child is allergic to. Please note—we will not feed or give a drink to a child if it is not brought by their parents for them.



"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." (Proverbs 22:6)



"Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 18:3-4)



## Health Policies:

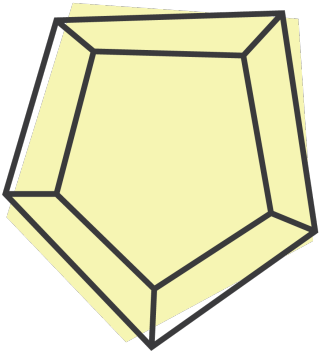
1. For the protection of your child and the other children, parents are requested not to bring a child who appears to be ill. A child should not be placed in the nursery when any of the following exists:
  - A. Fever
  - B. Diarrhea
  - C. Vomiting
  - D. Yeast infection or thrush
  - E. Impetigo (infected wounds), boils, untreated ringworms
  - F. Runny nose with green or yellow mucus discharge
  - G. Communicable eye infections, conjunctivitis (pink-eye)
  - H. Contagious skin rash
  - I. Cough, croup (except in the case of allergy)
  - J. Any symptom of usual childhood disease such as mumps, measles, and chicken pox
  - K. Use of antibiotics within the past 24 hours.

The nursery is cleaned and sanitized weekly before, during, and after nursery care to help reduce the spread of germs and illness. Nursery volunteers also will wear masks for the entire duration of the time they are watching the infants/toddlers and will be washing their hands frequently and wiping down used surfaces and toys.

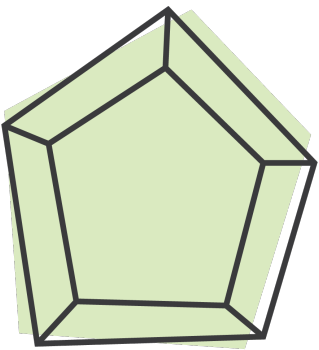
2. If your child becomes ill or injured during their time in the nursery, you will receive a call or a worker will come get you (if during an event that is not in the sanctuary).
3. If your child has a physical condition which may require specialized intervention or precaution, please contact Hannah Rariden, the Nursery Coordinator, at (954) 806-6754 or [hdsoren@me.com](mailto:hdsoren@me.com) to discuss special arrangements.

## Diaper Care:

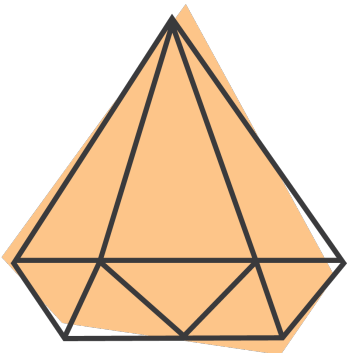
1. On your first time placing your child in the nursery, the workers will ask you if you are comfortable having your child's diaper changed in the nursery. Whatever you decide will be noted on the child's name tag.
2. If you are not comfortable having the nursery workers change diapers, you will receive a call or a worker will come get you (if during an event that is not in the sanctuary) if it is a situation where their diaper must be changed. They will not call you if it can wait until the end of the service/event.



"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." (Proverbs 22:6)



"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." (Proverbs 22:6)



3. If you are comfortable with the child's diaper being changed, the workers will change your child and will make sure the changing table is sanitary with a disposable changing pad and gloves will be used.

## Security:

During the service, the doors to the building are locked and only church members and guests are buzzed in by the nursery workers. There are security personnel walking around and guarding the Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary during services and events.

## Caregiver Qualifications:

In addition to meeting the requirements of the job description for the caregiver, persons working in Gentle Gems at Plantation Community Church meet the following:

1. They enjoy being with children.
2. They show patience and love for children.
3. They have childcare skills which include: diaper changing, bottle feeding, cup feeding, holding, burping, soothing and engaging in play.
4. They go through a yearly orientation for the children's ministry and are trained by the Nursery Coordinator.

We background check every volunteer serving in the nursery and caring for our children.

## How Parents Can Help:

1. Sign-in your child properly by completing all of the forms at the registration desk.
2. Keep your numbered stub sticker in a safe place. You will be asked to produce this when you come for your child.

Thank you for being a part of Gentle Gems at Plantation Community Church!