

PIPERTON BAPTIST CHURCH

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2023 HANDBOOK



piperton
baptist church

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VBS WELCOME

Hello VBS Volunteers,

Welcome to Piperton Baptist Church VBS. We are thankful for your service to our children in teaching them about Christ. We appreciate each of you volunteering this year and thank you again for being such a blessing to all the children who will be attending our VBS!

VBS starts Sunday, July 16, so please review this short handbook for important information.

Please plan to arrive each VBS day no later than 5:45 (5:30 is preferred).

I pray that all our hard work, prayers and loving presence with the children and their families touch many lives for Him and lead people to Jesus! Thank you all!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

DATE/TIME	EVENT/ACTIVITY
NOW-7/15	Rotation Leaders/Workers - plan & get prepared
7/6, 4 PM	Meet at Germantown Baptist to collect decorations
7/8 Saturday, 10 AM	Put up VBS Decorations. Come help for any amount of time during the day, we need all the help we can get!
7/16-7/18, Sun-Tue, 6-8:30 PM	VBS Week
7/19 Wednesday, 6-8:30 PM	VBS Family Night - VBS children's music, slideshow, games and dinner (All Church Members welcome!)
7/23 Sunday, During Church	VBS slideshow

VBS 2023 THEME: TWISTS & TURNS

Spin the spinner, beat the clock, skip ahead, level up, and play to win! You'll need to bring your A-game for this VBS. Twists & Turns is a fantastical celebration of games of all kinds. From classic tabletop games to video games and more, kids will play their way through VBS while learning that Jesus guides them through all the twists and turns of their lives. They'll find that even when they mess up it's never "game over."

VBS BIBLE VERSE: Make your ways known to me, Lord; teach me your paths. Psalm 25:4

VBS MOTTO: FOLLOWING JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING

DAILY BIBLE STORIES:

SUNDAY BIBLE STORY

DAY 1 – LESSON 1 - JESUS IS HOLY

Bible Story: **Peter Followed Jesus** (Matthew 4:18-20; Luke 5:1-11)
The Point: Jesus is holy and that changes everything!
Bonus Verse: Acts 2:21

MONDAY BIBLE STORY (two lessons in one night)

DAY 2 – LESSON 1 - JESUS IS TRUSTWORTHY

Bible Story: **Peter Walked to Jesus on the Water** (Matthew 14:22-33)
The Point: Jesus is trustworthy even when I doubt.
Bonus Verse: Isaiah 41:10

DAY 2 – LESSON 2 - JESUS IS FORGIVING

Bible Story: **Peter Denied Jesus and Was Restored** (Luke 22:31-34,54-62; John 18:15-18; 21:1-19)
The Point: Jesus is forgiving even when I sin.
Bonus Verse: Colossians 1:14

TUESDAY BIBLE STORY (two lessons in one night)

DAY 3 – LESSON 1 - JESUS IS WORTH FOLLOWING

Bible Story: **Peter Spoke Boldly about Jesus** (Acts 3:1–4:24)
The Point: Jesus is worth following even when it gets tough.
Bonus Verse: Acts 4:12

DAY 3 – LESSON 2 - JESUS IS FOR EVERYONE

Bible Story: Peter Told Cornelius about Jesus (Acts 10)
The Point: Jesus is for everyone, including me.
Bonus Verse: Acts 10:43

VBS KIDS BASICS

KIDS AGES

VBS is open to children age 3 (potty trained) to 6th grade. Children will be placed in groups according to the grade they just completed.

Childcare is ONLY available for VBS workers (for babies - age 3).

PLEASE notify ranae.a.daniel@gmail.com or (901) 270-8823 if you need a spot for your child.

KIDS ARRIVAL/ DISMISSAL

Upon arrival the first day, all children will need to check in at the registration table and receive their name tag. Once students are checked in, they are to go directly to the sanctuary and sit in their reserved area. At 8:18 all classes will return to the sanctuary for the Worship Rally.

KIDS REGISTRATION & RECORD KEEPING

As many children as possible will be pre-registered before Monday evening. Those not pre-registered will complete an enrollment form at the registration desk located outside the sanctuary. Once children are registered, they will be given a name tag that will indicate their Group. Please make sure name tags are collected at the end of each day.

OFFERING

The Pastor will announce who will be competing against each other and what organization will be the recipient of the VBS offering. The group (boys vs. girls) bringing in the most money will get bragging rights.

FAMILY NIGHT (WEDNESDAY NIGHT)

Family night will be Wednesday, July 19th, at 6:00 pm. There will be a presentation in the sanctuary. Group Leaders will be given Certificates to hand out to their children. After the presentation, families may collect their children's crafts in the designated area and proceed outside for dinner and water slide fun.

Please try to spend time on Family Night connecting with families and their children during dinner and water slide activities.

VBS VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITIES

ALL VOLUNTEERS

1. Pray for children who attend VBS and their families.
2. Participate in the VBS Family Night on Wednesday.
3. Prepare to talk with any child who asks questions about becoming a Christian.
4. Assist with cleanup daily (rotation sites & Worship Rally areas) and at the end of the week.

REGISTRATION/ADMINISTRATION RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Keep attendance records for Learners and Leaders/Workers
2. Prepare name tags for each Learner and Leader/Worker
3. Help count each group's daily VBS offering & record it

ROTATION LEADERS & HELPERS

- 1. ALL ROTATIONS** (Bible, Crafts, Missions, Music, Snacks & Recreation, Toddlers/Babies)
 - Prepare and lead the rotation sessions (23 minutes) for your assigned area each day.
 - Be familiar with each day's Bible story, Bible verse, and life application.
 - Assume responsibility for the setup and cleanup of your site daily, and at the end of the VBS week. Return any supplies to supply rooms.
 - Obtain needed supplies and notify the VBS Director of any help needed with supplies and/or any special requirements. Please turn in all receipts to the VBS Director.
 - Help decorate the site to support the theme.
 - Assign specific tasks to helpers as needed.
 - Try to finish prep work early or late to try and attend the daily Opening and Closing Worship Rally (or at least send one team member who can update everyone).
- 2. BIBLE ROTATION**
 - Prepare and teach the Bible Lesson to assigned age groups each night of VBS
 - Gather all needed supplies for lesson
 - Engage children in the lesson and application of God's word
 - Highlight key verses each night during Bible Story rotation
- 3. CRAFT ROTATION**
 - Prepare and organize crafts and supplies
 - Notify VBS director of any shortages or needs
- 4. MISSIONS ROTATION**
 - Present video and information about mission's project
 - Promote and engage children in participating in the project
- 5. MUSIC ROTATION**
 - Choose 2 songs in addition to the theme song for kids to perform on Family Night
 - Choose music and activities for each night of VBS
 - Engage children in fun, lively music relating to the theme
 - Participate in OPEN and CLOSING Worship Rally each night

VBS VOLUNTEER RESPONSIBILITIES (CONT.)

6. RECREATION ROTATION

- Choose games and recreation activities for the age groups each night

7. SNACKS ROTATION

- Prepare meals for Volunteers Monday and Tuesday night to be ready at 5
- Prepare supplies in advance and snacks each night
- Serve snacks at assigned time to each group
- Clean up snack area each evening

GROUP GUIDES

1. Move with children to the VBS rotation sites.
2. Stay with your children throughout the night, even when they are with rotation leaders.
3. Be sure to watch the time and get them to the next rotation on time.
4. Be familiar with VBS Scripture, each day's Bible story, and "Today's Point" for each day.
5. Ensure that children are released to the appropriate parent/family member each night.
6. Collect name badges at the end of each night, except Family Night.
7. **CHILD CHECKOUT PROCESS:**
 - Children will remain in their group, in the assigned pew in the church sanctuary.
 - After CLOSING Worship Rally parents/family members will come to the group leader and check out their children.
 - Take each kids name tag, each night, as part of the check-out process.
 - Keep the name tags in the pew with the group, and kids will get them as they arrive the next day.

PROFESSIONS OF FAITH

When someone is ready to respond to the gospel, we use the letters A, B, and C to remind us of three important words.

- **A** stands for **ADMIT**. When God's Holy Spirit lets you know it is time to trust Jesus as your Savior and Lord, the first thing you must do is admit to God that you are a sinner. You need to ask God to forgive you of your sin, and tell God you don't want to sin anymore. This is called repenting.
- **B** is for **BELIEVE**. To become a Christian you must believe that Jesus is God's Son and receive God's gift of forgiveness from sin.
- **C** stands for **CONFESS**. Confess your faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord by telling others about the decision you have made.

Jesus becomes your Savior and Lord when you admit you are a sinner, believe that Jesus is God's Son and trust Jesus to save you, and confess your faith in Him as your Savior and Lord.

PBC DISCIPLINE POLICY

The role of PBC is to support and supplement parental training by upholding high standards of behavior, respect, and discipline. In that vein, appropriate expectations for the children at PBC include:

- participates with a willing heart;
- has an attitude of respect for authority; and,
- is obedient and not disruptive in behavior.

We recognize that children will be children, and also that learning about and serving the Lord often includes fun! However, if a child chooses to persist in being unruly, volunteers will take appropriate action to prevent behavioral concerns by:

- **Calling for a new behavior**
 - By verbal redirection
 - By allowing the natural consequence of misbehavior when possible
 - By removing privileges if necessary
- **Calling for a new location**
 - Beside a different child if possible
 - Apart from the group if necessary
 - Applying a Biblical approach to apology, forgiveness, and restoration
 - Praying for and with children involved, asking for God's help
- **Calling for a new environment**
 - Allowing parents to handle persistent misbehavior by alerting parents to come and remove the child

PBC DISCIPLINE POLICY (CONT.)

No child at PBC should ever be subject to:

- (1) **corporal punishment** (including, but not limited to, rough handling, ear pulling, shaking, slapping, hitting, and spanking);
- (2) **emotional abuse** (including, but not limited to, name calling, shaming, threatening, humiliation, or yelling); or,
- (3) **the use of physical restraint** (unless restraint is necessary to protect the child or others from harm).

TIPS FOR GUIDING BEHAVIOR

PREVENTION IS THE PREFERRED STRATEGY

When it comes to classroom management, we would rather prevent a problem and/or behavioral concern. To be preventative, we must answer these questions...Why is the child acting out? What is it that would cause him to consistently misbehave?

THE WHYS OF POOR BEHAVIOR

Understanding the “why” behind misbehavior can help us help kids to be successful and prevent the poor behavior. Consider some of these “whys” for poor behavior:

- **Need for more attention**—There are a variety of reasons that some children need more attention than others. At times they will do whatever it takes to get it. Giving extra attention to these children can prevent outbursts and actions that fill their needs in negative ways.
- **Masking insecurity** —The class clown may prefer to be laughed with than laughed at. Be careful not to create situations where this child chooses to hide his lack of knowledge (or maybe even his lack of ability to share knowledge) by acting out. Remember, look past the actions and look for the cause.
- **Find it hard to manage their anger**—Kids who “blow up” and are quick to “fight” may not have the skills to avoid these outbursts. Watch for opportunities to head off the poor behavior and give a child the chance to cool down and self-correct.
- **Looking for ways to be in control**—Some kids feel more secure when they are in control. They want to be the teacher and look for ways to fulfill that desire, even if it means disrupting the teacher’s plans. Remember that the very thing that irritates you most about these children may be the very thing God wants to use for their success. Look past the arrogance of their behavior and choose to foster their leadership potential.

TIPS FOR GUIDING BEHAVIOR (CONT.)

THE WHYS OF POOR BEHAVIOR (CONT.)

- **Full of energy**—Most kids are full of energy. It's the way God created them and is part of His plan to help them develop. Unfortunately, many teachers ignore that fact and attempt to suppress their energy instead of joining God in His plan. It's been said that a child has an approximate one-minute attention span for every year old she is. Asking a four-year-old to sit still and listen for ten minutes goes against how she was created. Don't fight it; join it! Look for opportunities to include movement in your sessions. Move away from the tables and chairs and let the kids move!
- **Boredom**—When a child gets bored (or thinks he's bored) he starts looking for something to do. Most of the time it doesn't include the session teaching aim. Some kids get bored easier than others and teachers need to be ready. Plan sessions that consider the children, their preferences, and their abilities. More often than not, behavior issues can be connected to the sessions we plan or fail to plan (ouch).

MAKE BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS UNDERSTOOD

Often, kids don't live up to our expectations because they don't know what we expect. Make sure your behavior expectations are understood. If you have kids who don't understand their behavior is wrong, they won't know how to prevent poor behavior. Don't make a mile long list of rules, but share that respect for each other is mandatory. That really covers most issues.

At the end of the day, behavior is all about knowing and understanding the kids you teach. Read and discover general characteristics, try to learn as much as you can about the kids you will be teaching, then put systems in place that will allow for success. Consider the why and then create a solution.

VBS ROTATION SCHEDULE

Group 1

6:00	-	6:13	Worship Rally
6:15	-	6:38	Bible
6:40	-	7:03	Missions
7:05	-	7:28	Craft
7:30	-	7:53	Snack & Recreation
7:55	-	8:18	Music
8:20	-	8:30	Worship Rally

Bible

6:00	-	6:13	Worship Rally
6:15	-	6:38	Group 1
6:40	-	7:03	Group 2
7:05	-	7:28	Group 3
7:30	-	7:53	Group 4
7:55	-	8:18	Group 5
8:20	-	8:30	Worship Rally

Group 2

6:00	-	6:13	Worship Rally
6:15	-	6:38	Music
6:40	-	7:03	Bible
7:05	-	7:28	Missions
7:30	-	7:53	Craft
7:55	-	8:18	Snack & Recreation
8:20	-	8:30	Worship Rally

Missions

6:00	-	6:13	Worship Rally
6:15	-	6:38	Group 5
6:40	-	7:03	Group 1
7:05	-	7:28	Group 2
7:30	-	7:53	Group 3
7:55	-	8:18	Group 4
8:20	-	8:30	Worship Rally

Group 3

6:00	-	6:13	Worship Rally
6:15	-	6:38	Snack & Recreation
6:40	-	7:03	Music
7:05	-	7:28	Bible
7:30	-	7:53	Missions
7:55	-	8:18	Craft
8:20	-	8:30	Worship Rally

Craft

6:00	-	6:13	Worship Rally
6:15	-	6:38	Group 4
6:40	-	7:03	Group 5
7:05	-	7:28	Group 1
7:30	-	7:53	Group 2
7:55	-	8:18	Group 3
8:20	-	8:30	Worship Rally

Group 4

6:00	-	6:13	Worship Rally
6:15	-	6:38	Craft
6:40	-	7:03	Snack & Recreation
7:05	-	7:28	Music
7:30	-	7:53	Bible
7:55	-	8:18	Missions
8:20	-	8:30	Worship Rally

Snack & Recreation

6:00	-	6:13	Worship Rally
6:15	-	6:38	Group 3
6:40	-	7:03	Group 4
7:05	-	7:28	Group 5
7:30	-	7:53	Group 1
7:55	-	8:18	Group 2
8:20	-	8:30	Worship Rally

Group 5

6:00	-	6:13	Worship Rally
6:15	-	6:38	Missions
6:40	-	7:03	Craft
7:05	-	7:28	Snack & Recreation
7:30	-	7:53	Music
7:55	-	8:18	Bible
8:20	-	8:30	Worship Rally

Music

6:00	-	6:13	Worship Rally
6:15	-	6:38	Group 2
6:40	-	7:03	Group 3
7:05	-	7:28	Group 4
7:30	-	7:53	Group 5
7:55	-	8:18	Group 1
8:20	-	8:30	Worship Rally

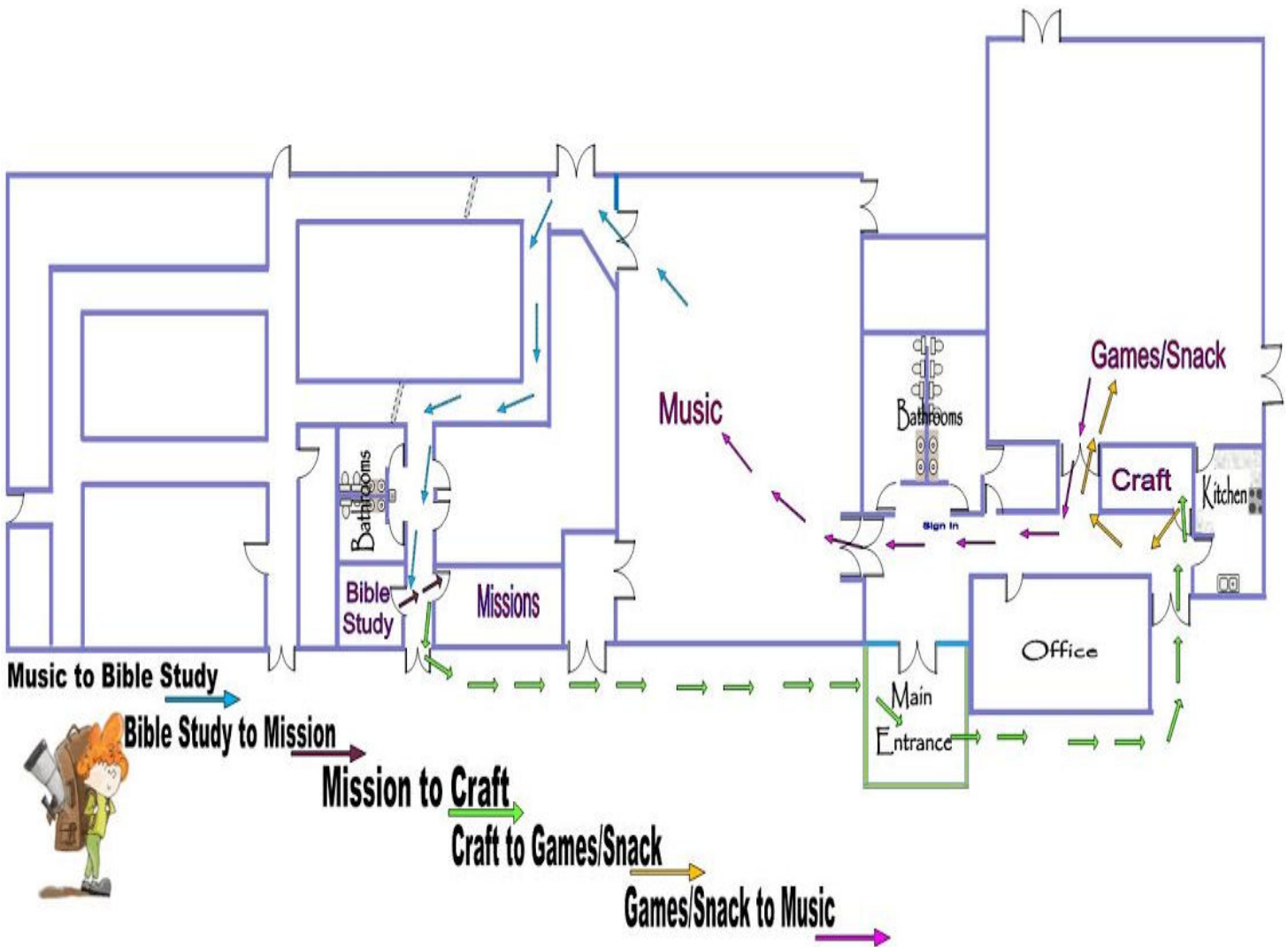
VBS GROUP AGES

(Subject to change based on participant registration)

GROUP #	AGE
Group 1	Ages 3 – 4
Group 2	Ages 5 – K
Group 3	Ages 1 st – 2 nd
Group 4	Ages 3 rd – 4 th
Group 5	Ages 5 th – 6 th

VBS ROTATION ASSIGNMENTS & MAP

	Rotation	Room
1	Music/Worship Rally	Sanctuary
2	Bible Study	Joy Sunday School Classroom
3	Missions	Adult Sunday School Classroom
4	Craft	WED Night Kids Classroom (near the kitchen)
5	Recreation (Games)/Snacks	Christian Activity Center (Gym)/Outside



TOP 20 TIPS WHEN WORKING WITH CHILDREN

“Then little children were brought to Him that He might put His hands on them and pray, but the disciples rebuked them. But Jesus said, ‘Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.’” Matthew 19:13–14

1. **Show love.** All children, regardless of age or appearance, need to be loved. Greet them warmly each day, and always be ready with smiles, giggles, encouraging words, and appropriate hugs.
2. **Learn names.** It makes a child feel important and loved to be called by his name. Make sure visible nametags are always on each child.
3. **Keep it moving.** Children have short attention spans.
4. **Use active learning.** The more children can actively be involved in the learning process, the more they will retain.
5. **Be all there!** Try to leave behind whatever is currently going on in your life and focus your attention on the children under your care during VBS. Listen to them and care for them.
6. **Eliminate down time.** Find activities to do when you have a few free minutes so all time is being used in a fun and productive way. Practice memory verses, play review games, or ask fun conversation starters.
7. **Think safety.** Ensure there are always at least two adults with the children at all times.
8. **Be thematic.** Children love costumes, fun cheers, songs, and anything that goes with the theme so be ready to don some fun gear.
9. **Walk worthy.** Be an example in both word and deed. Children need to see authentic Christianity, so make sure you are walking the walk and not just talking the talk.
10. **Notice the good.** Children want attention and will sometimes act up in an effort to receive attention, even if it is negative attention. Be proactive by noticing and praising the things they do right. Be an encourager.
11. **Be aware of age level characteristics.** With younger children, activities need to be hands-on, concrete, short, and simple. Older children love to talk and are processing and questioning information. Be ready to give an answer for the hope that is within you.
12. **Challenge them.** Children generally rise to the level expected of them, so challenge them to learn their memory verses and song lyrics. At the same time, encourage in them a true love for the Lord and His Word.
13. **Pray.** Before, during, and after VBS, be a faithful prayer warrior for the children in your care.
14. **Be organized.** Read through all the handbook information, ask questions, and faithfully prepare any materials for which you are responsible.
15. **Be a team player.** Children do not need to hear negative words from their leaders. If you are frustrated or upset, take it to the Lord, but do not complain or get angry in front of the children.
16. **Remember to take bathroom breaks.** The younger the child, the more important this is!

TOP 20 TIPS WHEN WORKING WITH CHILDREN (CONT.)

17. **Maintain order.** Children like order! Think through potential trouble spots in your day and decide on a firm, loving discipline strategy. Ask for help from experienced individuals.
18. **Build team spirit.** Work as a team rather than allowing cliques to develop. Everyone should be an important member of the group.
19. **Use guided conversation.** Be alert and ready to turn conversations to spiritual matters. Build upon what the children are learning throughout the VBS day.
20. **Be prepared to lead a child to Christ.** Use the Bible and the information in Professions of Faith to help you be prepared should God give you the awesome opportunity to talk to a child about Christ.