

**Beginnings Preschool at Good News Methodist Church**

**License #CO1WA0012**

Brenda Ousley, Director

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www.goodnewschurch.life

Director's hours ~ when school is in session: 7:45 A.M. – 3:15 P.M.

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#4747 US Highway 98 W Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459

**Information for School Year 2025-2026**

**Mission Statement:**

Beginnings Preschool strives to provide a caring and Christian based educational environment to promote the growth of each child.

**Philosophy:**

Beginnings Preschool believes that learning in the first five years of life is vital to future successes in education and society. Students will be taught a Christ-centered, Florida Department of Education approved curriculum using center areas in the classroom and outdoor play. The qualified staff aims to promote the five child development theories of growth through teacher directed lessons and facilitated independent play. The five areas of development are social & emotional, physical health, motor development, language & communication, and cognitive development. Beginnings Preschool will celebrate and focus on the true meaning of all Christian holidays. Teachers will adapt fundamental Christian beliefs into everyday lessons. We encourage parental involvement and ask parents to pray for the school each day. We're helping children build their lives on the reality of Jesus Christ.

**REGISTRATION FOR AUGUST 2025 - MAY 2026**

Registration for current & returning students, for siblings of current students, and for Preschool & Church employee's students, opens on February 19, 2025. The form & registration fee are due by Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Registration for waitlist church members opens on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, and forms are due by Wednesday, April 30, 2025

Registration opens for waitlist students based on availability on Monday, April 7, 2025, and forms and fee are due by Friday, May 2, 2025

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**"Mini Tour"** Dates Spring 2025: Monday- Wednesday, April 7-9, 2025 @ **10:30 AM**

Mini Tours are for prospective families of Beginnings Preschool. Your attendance at a Mini Tour is requested if you want a placement at Beginnings Preschool. Meet Ms. Brenda in front of the preschool building for a site tour. Prospective students are welcome to attend the tour. Please leave older siblings at home. No need to sign up, just show up! The tour is ~20 minutes.

**Private Tours:** Given to families when a spot is available for their child

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Additional information required by state regulation is available in the preschool office. This includes the Flu brochure, Distracted Adult brochure, and “Know Your Childcare Facility” brochure.

**School Year 2025-2026:**

**Orientation:** Monday, August 11, 2025 @ 11:00 AM

**School Year:** Tuesday, August 12, 2025 to Tuesday, May 19, 2026

We follow the Walton County School Schedule for Holidays and Teacher Workdays

**School Day (Regular Hours):**

All Classrooms PreK-2, PreK-3, and PreK-4: 8:45 AM to 2:00 PM

**“Early Drop”** (ED) offered from 7:45-8:45 AM for \$15 per day

**“Late Stay”** (LS) offered from 2:00-3:00 PM for \$15 per day

Monthly discounted rates offered for ED & LS for prior sign-up & prepayment

**Daily Curriculum Used:** ELLM/Plus Curriculum

In addition to the daily curriculum, we provide large motor skill development; an extracurricular activity such as music, art, or exercise; and Christian Curriculum daily. We offer culinary classes 3-4 times per year and encourage and request parent volunteers. The children may perform recitals twice per school year.

**General Information:**

5-Day Placement is Monday-Friday, 4-Day Placement is Monday-Thursday, 3-Day Placement in PreK-2B and PreK-3A is Tuesday-Thursday

Student-Teacher Ratio in our PreK-2 room (not potty trained, ages 24-36 months) is 10:2

Student-Teacher Ratio in our PreK-3A room (potty trained) is 11:2

Student-Teacher Ratio in our PreK-3B room (potty trained) is 12:2

Student-Teacher Ratio in our PreK-4A room is 12:2

Student-Teacher Ratio in our PreK-4B room is 13:2

The Director is on-site daily in addition to the classroom teachers

The students in PreK-2 sleep for ~ 75 minutes each day (we provide the mat)

The students in PreK-3 & 4 sleep/rest for ~50 minutes each day (we provide the mat)

You pack a healthy snack & lunch for your child each day

You pack a spill-proof water cup/bottle for your child each day

All classes may have pizza day periodically; \$8 each (pizza, crackers, fruit & paper products)

We may offer a “special event” some months and may charge a fee for the event.

Student drop-off is from 8:45-9:00 am and student pick-up is from 1:45-2:00 pm daily

All classes may “fieldtrip” to the church Sanctuary, church café, and/or the front porch for either periodic active play, culinary class, Chapel, special events, and other activities.

**Registration Fees, Supply Fees, and Tuition Fees for 2025-2026**

**Registration and Supply Fees are non-refundable annual fees**

PreK-2: Accepting 2-year-old children, turns 2 by September 1 (not potty trained)

PreK-3: Accepting 3-year-old children, turns 3 by September 1 (Potty Trained)

PreK-4: Accepting 4 & 5-year-old children (Potty Trained)

**Registration Fees for 2025-2026:** due with registration papers and is non-refundable

\*Current/returning students: \$150

\*New student and new sibling registration: \$250

**Annual Supply Fees for 2025-2026:** Pay the full amount by June 20 or Pay 1/3 of the supply fee by June 1, 1/3 by July 1, and final 1/3 by August 1 and is non-refundable

**Annual Supply Fees for 2025-2026: Due in June**

5-day-per-week program: \$525.00

4-day-per-week program: \$500.00

3-day-per-week program: \$475.00

2-day-per-week program: \$450.00

**Monthly Tuition Fees for 2025-2026: PreK-2, PreK-3, PreK-4 (8:45 am - 2:00 pm)**

Pay full price tuition each month from August through May

5-day-per-week program (7:45 am – 3:00 pm): \$1050.00

5-day-per-week program (8:45 am – 2:00 pm): \$850.00

4-day-per-week program (8:45 am – 2:00 pm): \$775.00

3-day-per-week program (8:45 am – 2:00 pm): \$700.00

2-day-per-week program (8:45 am – 2:00 pm): \$625.00

Daily Rate (8:45 am – 2:00 pm): \$100.00      Daily Rate (7:45 am – 3:00 pm): \$130.00

**Daily Rates for ED and LS:**

**Early Drop (ED)** is offered from 7:45-8:45 am for \$15 per day

**Late Stay (LS)** is offered from 2:00-3:00 pm for \$15 per day

**ED & LS Monthly Fees:** Monthly discounted rates for ED & LS are for prior sign-up and prepaying students

5-day-per-week program ED or LS only: \$100.00; 5-day-per-week program ED & LS: \$200.00

4-day-per-week program ED or LS only: 90.00; 4-day-per-week program ED & LS: \$180.00

3-day-per-week program ED or LS only: \$80.00; 3-day-per-week program ED & LS: \$160.00

2-day-per-week program ED or LS only: \$70.00; 2-day-per-week program ED and LS: 140.00

Daily Rates: ED or LS is \$15.00; ED and LS: \$30.00

**Medical Forms for child's file:** The 2 medical forms are due by the end of August. The 2 forms are the child's Florida Immunization Record and Florida Physical Form. Both forms can be obtained during a well-child check-up at your pediatrician's office or contact the Walton County Health Department for additional information.

**Beginnings Preschool at Good News Methodist Church Discipline Policy** as stated in our Parent-Student Handbook. A full copy of the handbook is posted online at [www.goodnewschurch.life](http://www.goodnewschurch.life)

**Discipline:** Beginnings Preschool uses positive reinforcement and conflict resolution to promote appropriate behavior. Children will never be denied outdoor/active play because of misbehavior. Children will be encouraged to work out disagreements. If the teacher's attention and/or

intervention is needed, the child/children will be directed to another activity or sent to the “Safe Place” established inside each classroom or on the playground. The “Safe Place” may be a reading area, chair, wall space, bench, or other designated quiet area either inside the classroom or on the playground. Upon continual disruptive behavior, the child will be sent to the director’s office to “cool down”. In extreme circumstances, the director will notify the parents to remove the child from school for the rest of the day. Sometimes our program does not meet an individual’s needs, and the preschool reserves the right to determine if our program is appropriate for the child. In accordance with state regulations: Children shall not be subjected to discipline, which is severe, humiliating, or frightening; Discipline will not be associated with food, rest, or toileting; and Spanking or any other form of physical punishment is prohibited.

**Bite Policy:** A child who bites another child or staff member 4 times may be subject to dismissal from the program.

**Hitting/Pushing Policy:** A child who hits or pushes another child or staff member 4 times may be subject to dismissal from the program

**Tantrum/Behavior Policy:** A child who throws a tantrum or uncontrollable behavior fit that endangers the safety of themselves, another child, or staff member 4 times may be subject to dismissal from the program.

**Termination of Services/Expulsion Policy:** There may be situations in which termination of service to an individual child or family is initiated by the Preschool. Although each circumstance is unique, efforts will be made by the parties concerned to improve the situation prior to a termination decision. Should termination become necessary, a two-week written notice is generally provided.

**Nutrition Policy - Preschool Classes:** We are not a peanut free school, and it is your responsibility to tell us if your child has a peanut allergy or other allergy. Beginnings Preschool reserves the right to accept or deny a child into our program due to a food allergy.

**Snack:** Each child is required to bring a personal snack including food and water in a spill-proof water cup each day they attend Beginnings Preschool. Please pack the snack in a brown paper bag labeled with the child’s name and date or send in a reusable lunch box labeled with the child’s name. If you write a special note to your child on the bag or in the box, the teacher will help them read the note. Healthy snacks & meals are essential for your child to perform to the best of their ability.

**Healthy Snacks** include, but are not limited to Granola, Trail Mix, Fruit or Fruit Cups, Dried Fruit, Healthy Cereal, Cereal Bars, Cheese, Yogurt, Crackers, pretzels, goldfish, **Water**  
**Unhealthy Snacks** include, but are not limited to Airheads, Candy, Chocolate, Cookies, Cup Cakes, Gummies, candy bars, fruit roll-ups, full-sugared juice, pop-tarts, sugared cereal, brownies, etc.

**Lunch:** Each child is required to bring a personal lunch including food and water in a spill-proof water cup each day they attend Beginnings Preschool. For all items needing refrigeration, please include a “cool pack” in the child’s meal/lunchbox with the child’s name written on it. No refrigerator or microwave will be provided for student use. For health and safety concerns, all used, and eaten food will be thrown away daily. Please remember to pack a utensil, straw, and napkin if needed.

**Forbidden Foods as stated in the Florida Childcare Facilities Rules and Regulation**

**Guidelines:** “Foods associated with young children’s choking incidents must not be served to children under 4 years of age, such as, but not limited to, whole/round hot dogs, popcorn, chips, pretzel nuggets, whole grapes, nuts, cheese, cheese cubes/sticks and any food that is of similar shape and size of the trachea/windpipe. Food for infants must be cut into pieces ¼ inch or smaller, food for toddlers must be cut into pieces ½ inch or smaller to prevent choking. This applies to all food, even food provided by parents/guardians.”

**Pizza Day:** Pizza Day may be held periodically. Look for the dates in the Director’s Newsletter and/or Teacher’s calendar. The cost is \$8.00 per pizza day and can be included in your tuition statement or the student can bring cash on pizza day. The charge covers pizza, crackers, fruit and paper products. Parents are not required to participate in pizza day and can send a regular lunch on pizza day. Parents send a snack for their child on pizza day.

**Birthdays/Special Occasions/Celebrations:** Birthdays are very important to you and your child and Beginnings Preschool is happy to help you celebrate. We will celebrate during snack time or lunchtime. You may send special treats such as store-bought cookies, brownies, or mini cupcakes. **We prefer small portions and sizes of sugary sweet.** Only store bought, unopened packages of treats can be served. You are welcome to join us on your child’s special day. Please send party invitations to school only if every child in the class is invited.

**Please do not bring hard candy, gum, nuts or peanut butter products for celebrations!**

**By order of the Walton County Health Department: No homemade foods of any kind can be served to the students of the preschool. All celebration food must be store bought and/or prepared at the preschool.**

**Culinary Days (Cooking in the Café):** All classes may participate in periodic culinary classes throughout the school year. The classes may include, but are not limited to, Pumpkin Bread Baking, Pumpkin Carving, Cookie Baking, Cupcake decorating, Resurrection Rolls (crescent roll), Dye hard-boiled eggs, and/or homemade pizzas. Each parent is required to sign a consent form, located on registration papers, allowing their child to participate in the culinary classes.

**Fieldtrips:** No off-site fieldtrips are planned currently. Beginnings Preschool will invite and encourage community leaders to come to the school for special events. All classes take periodic “mini fieldtrips” throughout the church building and front porch areas. The areas include, but are not limited to, the lobby, Sanctuary, family restroom, women’s restroom, café, front porch, etc.

**Registration:** We use the Brightwheel software for our childcare facility. You will be sent an invitation from Brightwheel once availability becomes available for your child.