

## **Q and A with Pastor Jacob West about First Kids After School Care (ASC)**

### **Why should after school care be provided at First Baptist Church Plainview?**

After visiting with several parents and school administrators, a commonly expressed need is the need for childcare in Plainview. Our Mother's Day Out (MDO) has a great reputation in the community and we considered as to how afterschool care could be an extension of our MDO. The employees for MDO are CPR certified, background checked, and have experience with childhood education. After visiting with Erica Hasteley, our MDO coordinator, she expressed a passion for this type of program.

We have the space and the people to help meet this need in Plainview.

The most important reason to do this is to provide a safe place that assures parents of their child's well-being. As with our MDO program, it is our goal to love each child participating in First Kids ASC with the love of Christ. This effort is consistent with our church's mission and purpose.

### **Do you have to be a church member to attend?**

No, this ministry is open to anyone in the community.

### **Why is First Kids limited to 15 children.**

Erica, our program director, James Stowe, our children and family minister, and I agree that quality is preferred to quantity. We are just starting this program and want to make sure the launch is successful.

### **Is this a free program?**

First Kids ASC is not free, but the cost is 50% below the statewide average. To provide daily care for the 180 + days children attend school, we must ensure people are in place to receive the children each day rain or shine. The cost of the program ensures qualified caregivers are secured each day to provide consistent and Christlike care for the children.

### **What will kids do during the time?**

Kids will arrive to the Family Life Center where they will be greeted by a caregiver. They will be brought to the FLC where a snack will be served. While eating a snack, a devotional will be read to the students. Game/play time will follow in the gym or playground. Homework assistance will then be offered to every child.