



the point

MT PLEASANT CHURCH HOMESCHOOL CO-OP

2024-25

Handbook for

Parents and Students

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Welcome from Pastor Chris Clontz

Fourteen years ago my wife, Amanda, and I prayerfully decided to homeschool our 4 year old son. We had no idea what the future held, but we felt certain this was a call the Lord had placed on our lives. This decision was not always supported by everyone we knew and it forced us to make sacrifices along the way. However, looking back over the years, next to surrendering my life to Jesus and marrying Amanda, homeschooling our kids was the best decision I have ever made.

I am truly excited about the fact that Mt. Pleasant is providing a ministry that will assist other parents in making the tough decision we did all those years ago. I pray that our church is able to be a blessing to your children as we share the unfailing love of Jesus with each of them.

I applaud you for this choice and can't wait to see how God uses this ministry to make an eternal difference in your family and our community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Welcome from Mt. Pleasant Church Elders

The Elders are so happy to see this homeschool ministry becoming a reality!

We know this will make a huge impact on our community. A lot more people are choosing to homeschool their kids, as many parents find the public school system does not provide the spiritual guidance and truth we all need. We believe this ministry will be a great help and a great blessing for those students and their families, and we cannot wait to see this ministry grow!

Welcome from Co-op Director

Thank you for the opportunity to serve your family!

I am thrilled to be the Co-op Director, and to help bring exciting and growth-filled academic and experiential learning to our homeschool community at Mt. Pleasant Church and beyond.

Our first semester has been a joy, and I am thrilled to help make our first full year the best it can be!

In Jesus' unfailing love,

Lauren

Lauren Rathbone
Homeschool Co-op Director

Mission Statement

***The Point is an outreach ministry of
Mt. Pleasant Church
focusing on the Christian, academic,
and experiential
education of our community
homeschooling students,
boldly sharing Jesus' unfailing love,
and training ambassadors to
Christ's mission.***

Contact Information

Co-Op Director

Lauren Rathbone
homeschool@mtpleasant.church

Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather, information regarding classes will be posted on the public social media pages, in the private Band group, and on WXII.

Fall 2024 Proposed Calendar

New Family Information Session	Thursday, February 22nd
Fall 2024 Registration	Current & MTP Families - Opens March 11th New Families - Opens March 18th Registration closes - April 8th
Fall 2024 Orientation and Family Fun Day	Tuesday, August 13th
Fall 2024 First Day of Classes	Tuesday, August 20th
Holiday	Tuesday, September 3rd
Spring 2025 Teacher Interest Meeting	TBD - Mid-September
Spring 2025 New Family Information Session	Thursday, October 17th
Holiday	Thursday, October 31st <i>Mt. Pleasant Church's Trunk or Treat Setup</i>
Holiday	Tuesday, November 5th
Fall 2024 Last Day of Classes	Tuesday, November 26th

Proposed calendar may be changed or altered at the discretion of the Director or Church. Any changes will be communicated as quickly as possible via email and social media channels.

Spring 2025 Proposed Calendar

Spring 2025 Teacher Interest Meeting	TBD - Mid-September
Spring 2025 New Family Information Session	Thursday, October 17th
Spring 2025 Registration	Current & MTP Families - Opens November 18th New Families - Opens November 25th Registration closes - December 9th
Spring 2025 Orientation	Tuesday, January 7th
Spring 2025 First Day of Classes	Tuesday, January 14th
Holidays	Tuesday, February 11th Tuesday, March 4th-Thursday, March 6th** <i>**Light Up the Night Prep Week</i>
Fall 2025 Teacher Interest Meeting	TBD - Mid-February
Fall 2025 New Family Information Session	TBD - Mid-March
Spring 2025 Last Day of Classes	Tuesday, April 15th

Proposed calendar may be changed or altered at the discretion of the Director or Church. Any changes will be communicated as quickly as possible via email and social media channels.

Parental Expectations

Overall, your registration and continued attendance at The Point confirms your understanding of and adherence to our Mission, Vision, and Values detailed below:

Mission - To Boldly Share the Unfailing Love of Jesus

Vision - Authority of Scripture, Authentic Relationships, Obedient Surrender, Expectant Hearts

Values - To Turn our Community Upside Down for Jesus Christ

By signing the agreement at the end of this handbook and with you and your child(ren)'s participation at The Point Homeschool Co-op, you confirm your lack of conflict with the [Mt. Pleasant Church Statement of Beliefs](#) and are aware that all situations and concerns will be approached with these in mind.

In addition, we ask that you familiarize yourself and your child(ren) with the Code of Conduct, Social Media/Photography policy, Additional Guidelines, and course information following in this handbook.

The Point extends opportunities for growth in your family's relationship with Jesus Christ, as well as in academics and experiences. It is the expectation you will fulfill items such as transcript preparation and college/trade readiness within your personal homeschool journey. In addition, we are unable to offer tutoring, IEP assistance, after-school care, or similar items.

As stated further in our Additional Guidelines, volunteering is expected as part of the Co-op for each instruction day to run smoothly and safely.

In addition, parents of K-5th are expected to be **on campus at all times** or to have a responsible proxy adult available **on campus** if an emergency arises. 6th-12th parents are requested to be on campus, but also have the ability to drop off for limited times if necessary **as long as a responsible proxy adult** is available if an emergency arises. The allowance for 6th-12th parents to be off campus may be revoked at any time at the discretion of the Director, Lead Pastor, or Elders depending on the need and/or behaviour of the child(ren).

Parental Expectations

(con't)

Please remember that anytime your child(ren) is/are not in class, they are to be with you.

The Banquet Room (adjacent to the FLC/Gym) is set up for quiet work and reasonable conversation so others may homeschool or complete their employment-oriented work. Please ensure you clean up after yourself and your child(ren). For those in PE-only registration, this room is also set aside for you.

Finally, please make sure you have downloaded Band (<https://band.us/>), a social media-style app, and have completed a profile on it. This is our primary means of communication regarding events, cancellations, updates, and other pertinent information. If you are currently enrolled and have not received an invitation to the group, please email the Director for this.

Code of Conduct

Wisdom
Obedience
Responsibility
Kindness
Self-Control

Using an acronym helps our parents and students remember our basic rules, and apply them more easily.

WORKS is derived from James 2:26, “For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” (KJV) Each portion of the acronym is also a Biblically-based character trait.

Wisdom is God’s truth guiding your thoughts and actions, and has Psalm 111:15 as the reference verse.

From John 14:21 comes **Obedience**, where we obey the first time, every time [with a happy heart!].

Be someone God and others can count on - **Responsibility** is part of Galatians 6:4-5.

To have a friend, you have to be a friend. **Kindness** is an integral part of this - guidance is found in Ephesians 4:32

Finally, **Self-Control** covers many aspects such as action, health, wellness, and thought, amongst others. Don’t be “...like a city that is broken-down, and without walls” as Proverbs 25:28 cites.

Code of Conduct Violations

Although it is expected students will work to keep our Code of Conduct, there may be students not willing to follow our path. For these situations, the following guidelines are set forth for disciplinary action:

1. The student will be set apart from the classroom, and parents will be notified of misconduct.
2. A meeting with the parent(s), student, teacher, and Director will occur to discuss continued misconduct.
3. If a student decides further steps are necessary, the student will be dismissed from The Point.

Additional Guidelines

Social Media and Photography Policy

From time to time, we will take photos or videos to share or use on our website and social media.

It is understood that the parent(s)/guardian(s) gives Mt. Pleasant Church permission to use my child(ren)'s image. The parent(s)/guardian(s) understand(s) the images may be used in print publications, online publications, presentations, websites, and social media. The parent(s)/guardian(s) also understand(s) that no royalty, fee, or other compensation shall become payable by reason of such use. The parent(s)/guardian(s) understand(s) that this permission does not expire.

If the parent(s)/guardian(s) wish to revoke this permission, he/she/they must notify the church via email to office@mtpleasant.church.

This policy is also part of the registration form.

Additional Guidelines (con't)

Volunteer Expectations

It is expected all parents will volunteer at times throughout the semester. Opportunities to help include, but are not limited to:

- Check-in
- Pick up
- Teacher's Assistants/Class Helpers
- Nursery(for teachers/ volunteers needing this)
- Reset Team

Clear and current background checks will be required, and will be completed through Clear Investigative Advantage. If you have not completed a background check for a Mt. Pleasant Church event or ministry, you will receive an email from this organization to complete the background check.

If you are unable to volunteer due to extenuating circumstances, a volunteer opt-out fee may be discussed. If approved, a \$125 opt-out fee will be applied per semester applicable.

In addition, in our goal to have at least two adults in the classrooms at all times, we ask that a minimum of 20 spots be filled by each registering family.

PE-only Registration

If you have registered your child(ren) for PE only registration, parents are expected to fill **8** volunteer spots as PE class helpers or nursery coverage *only*. Volunteer opt-out is not available at this level.

Additional Guidelines (con't)

Add/Drop Policy

When you register your child(ren), The Point holds a spot for your child(ren), estimates costs according to your child(ren)'s attendance, and accepts this as your commitment to the Co-op.

We understand extenuating circumstances require a class to be dropped or enrollment to be withdrawn at times. For this, the following refund tier should be followed:

Registration-Orientation	50% refund
Orientation-First Day of Class	25% refund, Class Materials Fees applicable
After the First Day of Class	0% refund, Class Materials Fees applicable

A withdrawal form should be used to complete this process. Please email Lauren Rathbone, Co-op Director, for this form.

Additions to the schedule may be made on a first come, first served, and space availability basis. The following rate tier should be followed:

Registration-Orientation	No fee
Orientation-First Day of Class	\$10 fee per class
After First Day of Class	\$20 fee per class

No additions to the schedule may be made after the first week of classes

Additional Guidelines (con't)

Complaint Resolution

From time to time, situations arise that cause disagreements within the body of the Co-op. The following complaint resolution process should be used:

First Step	In accordance with instructions in Matthew 18:15, conflict should first be handled within the two parties.
Second Step	If the conflict is not resolved in accordance with Matthew 18:15, a complaint should be made <i>in writing</i> and brought to the Co-op Director.
Third Step	Complaints will be reviewed by the Co-op Director, and addressed via phone call or email.
Fourth Step	If a resolution is not achieved, the complaint will be presented to the Homeschool Co-op Committee. The Pastor, Deacon, and Elders will be notified.
Fifth Step	The Homeschool Co-op Committee will meet with the Co-op Director and person rendering complaint
Sixth Step	If a resolution is not achieved, complaint will be referred to the Pastor, Deacon, and Elders.

Additional Guidelines (con't)

Technology Policy

To keep The Point centered not only on Christ, but on our goal to keep the focus on learning as well as friendship, we are instituting a cell (mobile) free campus policy.

It is encouraged students will leave their cell phones (mobile phones) at home or with parents.

If a student chooses to bring their cell phone (mobile phone) to campus, it will be checked in at the beginning of the day and returned at the end of the day or when the student leaves campus for the day if the student is not enrolled in the full tier of classes. All cell phones will be stored in a locked box.

Laptops/MacBooks/Chromebooks will also be checked in at the beginning of the day, and allowed to be used during applicable classes with the following guidelines:

- The student must stay on task and within the instructions of the teacher at all times
- No photos may be taken for any reason *unless* expressly allowed by the teacher for an assignment
- No shopping, texting, visiting sites containing incendiary political views, pornography, gambling/gaming, e-sports (i.e. *League of Legends*, *World of Warcraft*, etc.), or anything similar may be done.
- At all times, remember the student is a representative of yourself, your family, The Point, Mt. Pleasant Church, and Jesus. The student should conduct himself/herself accordingly.

If the student has possession of their device during the day at any time, the teacher or Director will obtain the device, place it in the lockbox, and the parent will be responsible for picking up the phone from the Director.

2024-25

Tuition and Fees

Fees will be due each semester, Fall and Spring, and are payable upon registration. The exception is the volunteer opt-out fee which is payable according to the previously stated terms.

Registration	\$50 - PE Only Tier ^ \$100 for first child \$25 each additional child \$150 family maximum** ++ <small>^Per Family fee - Volunteer requirement (see p. 15) **Parents wishing to teach receive a \$50 discount on registration fee ++Financial aid may be available on a case-by-case basis</small>
Late Registration** <small>(**Depending on enrollment availability)</small>	\$25
Volunteer Opt-out Fee	\$125^ <small>^Not available for PE Only Registration Tier</small>
Tuition and Materials	Depending on course
Schedule Additions	\$10-20 depending on date completed according to Handbook policy (see pg. 16)

Acknowledgement Page

We understand the policies held within this handbook and promise to do everything we can to uphold them. We further acknowledge our participation and attendance at all The Point events and classes to profess a lack of conflict with Mt. Pleasant Church's Mission, Vision, Values as well as the Statement of Beliefs.

We understand this is a living document which may require additions or updates, and these items will be communicated via Band and email upon implementation.

Parent(s)/Guardian(s)

Child(ren)