

The logo features the word "Greater" in red with a yellow and orange cross integrated into the letter 't'. Below it, the word "things" is written in a blue, lowercase, sans-serif font. Underneath "things" is the text "After-School Program" in a smaller, grey, sans-serif font.

Greater
things
After-School Program

Old Fort Baptist Church

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Summerville, SC 29485

Phone: 843.875-1931

Email: smcdonald@oldfortbaptist.org

Website: oldfortbaptist.org/GreaterThings

Greater Things after-school program serves students from surrounding public schools, ages K5 to 5th grades. Students will ride their assigned school bus to Old Fort Baptist, where a teacher will greet them as they get off the bus. The child will have an issued ID card to ensure safety. Parents must bring a blue sign with child's name and age on it to be able to pick up from Greater Things. *We will provide you with both types of ID before the first day of school.* Greater Things is open until 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

******Greater Things after-school program follows the DD2 school calendar. When there is no school (whether it is a scheduled day off or a day called off because of inclement weather), there is no after school care provided.

*On early release days, the children usually get to Greater Things around 11:30 and will receive a lunch, in addition to their afterschool snack at 2:30.

Registration:

Greater Things divides the grades into three groups: K5; 1st and 2nd; and 3rd, 4th, and 5th. Space is limited to 15 students per group. This ensures quality time with academics and with enrichment development. If a group is full, a waiting list will be offered to you. A registration fee of 50.00 is required to have your name put on the waiting list. This fee goes toward the 130.00 registration fee and is non-refundable if family decides not to accept the spot when one becomes available.

Greater Things follows the mission statement and vision statement in all we do.

Mission Statement:

Greater Things provides the opportunity for Spiritual growth, academic success, and enrichment development to elementary school students, in partnership with their families, by offering a quality after-school program, one that recognizes Jesus as LORD of all.

Vision Statement:

To see the next generation follow Jesus in obedience to His Word.

Standards:

Greater Things after-school program includes the whole family unit when working with your child. Frequent communication between the family and Greater Things is paramount to the success of your child(ren). Frequent communication works to ensure the parent/guardian is aware at all times what is offered to your child(ren) between the hours of after school and pick up time. Our philosophy is best described as a three-legged stool, as we strive to reach the child with all three components: Spiritual growth, academic success, and enrichment development, within the home, school, and after-school care. If one of those “legs” is missing, the stool cannot stand!

Attending Greater Things after-school program is a privilege, and students will be treated with the utmost respect; in turn, we expect the same respect from the student. If discipline is needed, the teachers will use positive discipline, as they help the students use their words to express their feelings of frustration without using their hands. At no time is anyone allowed to put their hands on anyone else. A student may be asked to use a “cool down” spot so he or she can think about what choices need to be made to help find a solution to the problem or difficulty. Students, even at the young age of kindergarten, can be taught to work toward solutions to problems or challenges that happen in a classroom. In this way, the student owns the consequence, thus moving forward in a positive way.

If at any time, we see that your child needs more help that we can offer (severe discipline problems, emotional challenges beyond our training, etc.), we may ask you to seek another after-school program that can better meet those needs. If a family is asked to withdraw, there is no guaranteed monetary refund.

Curriculum

Upon arriving to Greater Things, the students will visit our café to receive a nutritious snack. Choices will include: veggies/dip; fruit; hotdogs with toppings; popcorn; cheese and crackers, among others. Drinks will be cold water or sometimes lemonade. You will receive a form with the choices on it, and you will check up to two choices for the child (there will be daily items to choose from, plus a daily “special.” Having the children choose their choices ahead of time ensures there is enough quality food available for your child.

After eating, we will all join together for a 15-minute time of praise and worship and Bible study.

After our Bible study time, the students will join their designated groups for academics and enrichment. Depending on age and interest, the students will rotate through their prescribed academic time and then their enrichment time. The enrichment choices will change, depending on the day and week that the volunteers and/or teachers are available, but each child will have the choice to participate in at least two enrichment choices per day (chosen from a list of ones offered that week) and may choose to stay on the next week with same enrichment classes, or change it up.

Those students in attendance the last 30 minutes of the day (5:30 – 6:00 p.m.) will enjoy a read aloud time and a time for viewing a Christian video.

Field Trips

Most field trips will be on Fridays, although there may be others scheduled during the week. All students will ride on the Old Fort Baptist Church bus, or the Greater Things bus. No children will ever ride in a teacher's personal car. Field trips will be announced at least a week ahead. If parents/guardians wish to attend, they may drive their own car, and there may be a parent fee charged (depending on the trip). Siblings may not ride on the bus with the registered Greater Things students at any time.

Fees:

A registration fee of 130.00 *per family* is due before the child may be officially registered. Checks or cash accepted. If you wish to add your name to a waiting list, a 50.00 fee will be collected that will go toward the 130.00 registration fee. The 50.00 waiting list fee is non-refundable if the family decides to decline the spot when it becomes available. Make checks payable to Old Fort Baptist Church, and write Greater Things on the bottom of the check.

Tuition: 100 dollars a week, per child, cash or check. This includes all food, field trips, and enrichment materials. The tuition must be paid in full by the first of the month to continue in the program. There is a 20.00 late fee if paid after the 10th of the month. There are no refunds for absences.

Late pick up fees: If you know you are going to be late, it is imperative that you text the Director, Mrs. McDonald at 724-689-9929. Late fees are \$15.00 from 6:01 to 6:15 p.m. and one dollar a minute after 6:15 p.m. We will work with you if there is an extenuating circumstance.

Communication with Parents/Guardians

We ask that parents provide a valid email address, as this will be primary means of communication. Please check your email at least once a day to ensure you are aware of all communication. If you should change addresses, emails, or phone numbers, please let us know as soon as possible. Communication is key to understanding and mitigating *misunderstanding*.

Safety

At all times, building doors are locked for the children's safety. A fob must be used to enter anywhere we have the children. If the children are outdoors and a lock down or safety call must be administered, we will take the children to the nearest locked area until the all clear is given. We will practice fire drills and emergency drills with the children all throughout the year.

Health Information:

If your child comes off the bus sick, or develops any symptoms of illness while in our care, you will be called immediately and someone will have to come pick up your child as soon as possible. With your permission, we will take your child's temperature with a non-contact thermometer, and have him or her lie down in a cool, supervised, safe room while waiting on someone to come pick up. We are not allowed to give any medication at any time.

In case of an accident needing first aid, we will cleanse the area with soap and water and apply a bandage. An accident form will be filled out and a copy given to you. If the child needs more than first aid, we will call you immediately and inform you of the situation and follow the protocol in your child's folder. If it is a severe accident, we will call 911, contact you immediately, and follow the appropriate protocol.

Visitors:

Parents are allowed to visit Greater Things anytime during the hours we are open. If parents wish to observe their child's enrichment time, please give us notice, so we may ensure the space is adequate for the number of people.

Family Relations:

It is the parents' responsibility to let us know in writing if there are certain people who are NOT allowed to pick up your child. To ensure the highest security at pick up time, the person picking up is required to have the blue sign that will be given to each family before school starts, which tells us he or she has permission to pick up that child. If the person has no blue sign (temporarily lost it, in the other car, etc.), he or she will be required to show picture ID, and we will look up on the child's record to ensure the person's name is on the "allowed pick up" form. We take this very seriously and will not deviate from the safety protocol. We appreciate your understanding.

(Please go to the next page, sign and date, and return it to Mrs. McDonald or Ms. Cheryl, our Administrative Assistant, before first day of school)

Please sign this form and return it before first day of school.

Child's name _____

(if more than one child, please list both names)

I _____ (parent's name) have read the
parent handbook, and I understand the information within.

Signed (Print name) _____

Signature _____

Date _____