## EXPECTANT AND NEW PARENT TRUETT SEMINARY STUDENTS

Congratulations on the birth/adoption of your child! Truett Seminary supports all new mothers and fathers, and we celebrate this blessing from God. In recognition of the challenges of balancing the demands of seminary and parenting a new child, we provide information for new and expecting parents.

Students are highly encouraged to visit with Truett Seminary's Student Services and Academic Services offices BEFORE the arrival of their child. In particular, meeting with Academic Services one semester prior to the semester when the child is expected will be quite helpful when discussing academic planning.

# **Considerations for New Parents:**

Truett Seminary has identified two rooms that nursing mothers may use. Please visit with the front desk of Truett's Dean's Suite (Suite 105) to request a key to either the Bride's Room or the Groom's Room. Both of these rooms are accessible (by key) during Truett's business hours. If a student anticipates that she will need to use a nursing room afterhours, she is encouraged to coordinate with the Dean's Office before 5:00pm. On occasion, the Bride's Room is used for Covenant Group. Please check the schedule with Dorothy Terry and use the Groom's Room as an alternative location during these times.

Truett has two refrigerators parents may use to store their milk. A refrigerator is provided in the Student Lounge (accessible as long as the building is unlocked) and the Dean's Office (accessible between 8:00am – 5:00pm). Students are allowed to bring their own personal coolers to hold milk. Note: Truett is not responsible for anything that may occure during storage, including loss of milk.

If a student anticipates that she will need to take a lactation break while she is in class, she should visit with her professors ahead of time to coordinate these breaks as well as to make up any missed work.

Baylor University provides nursing mother rooms all over campus. A link to a map showing other nursing mother rooms on campus is available <u>here</u>.

## Academic Concerns:

Students are encouraged to visit with Truett's Academic Services Office (either the Director of Academic Services or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs) in Suite 205 if they have questions about how pregnancy, childbirth, or adoption may affect their academic career.

Students may consider taking a semester or a summer off during the term that their baby is due. Truett Seminary will work with students to determine how much time they need to take off and how to have a smooth return to seminary.

Students who take a semester or more off will need to contact Truett's Admissions Office to reactivate their enrollment. Truett's policy states that a student has up to three years that she/he may take a leave of absence without applying for readmission. After three years, a student will need to apply for re-admission.

If a student chooses to enroll in classes during the semester that the baby is due or adoption expected, the student should arrange her/his leave of absence and submission of all classwork with her/his professors. Pregnant students are encouraged to consider Truett's attendance policy as they determine if they will enroll in classes during the semester that they will give birth.

# **Student Worker Concerns:**

If a student is pregnant or planning to adopt and is also a student worker on campus, she should visit with her supervisor to discuss her leave of absence. Students who are fulltime staff or faculty members should reference <u>Baylor's Maternity and Primary Caregiver leave</u> for more information.

# **Questions:**

Students who are pregnant or planning to adopt are encouraged to visit with Student Services (104) for questions about campus accommodations. They are encouraged to visit with Academic Services (205) regarding questions about their academic career while pregnant or after childbirth.

Students are welcome to contact Baylor's <u>Office of Access and Learning Accommodation</u> (OALA) if they would like more information about academic accommodations at Baylor.