

# The Playground Observer

The Official Newsletter of Providence United Methodist Church Weekday School  
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## February 2010

### The Month at a Glance:

Thru 2/21	Diaper Collection for Salvation Army Center of Hope
3 & 4	Science Lady - in house field trip
8,9,10	My Gym Fitness - in house field trip
8 & 9	School Tours offered 10:30AM. Meet in church atrium.
12	New Family 2009-2010 registration forms due
15	<b>NO SCHOOL</b>
16,17,18	Story Café - in house field trip
26	Butterfly orders due to PUMC Children's Ministry



"Learning Through Play"



### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

The month of love is upon us! For those of us in the Weekday School that means seeing beautiful shades of red and pink and being surrounded by hearts of all

shapes and sizes. We are fortunate enough to also witness the goodness inside the hearts of the teachers and children that fill our halls every day. This month we are teaching the children about love. We will talk about things they love, people they love, people that love them and most importantly the love that God has for them. What could be more special?

February will be busy with all kinds of extra events as well. The Science Lady (Mrs. McGarrah), a worker from the Post Office, and Wendy Gill with Story Café will all be visiting with us this month. My Gym will also be here for a couple of days. Later in the month, the children will enjoy Chapel and Tiny Chapel. For a short month, it is certainly action packed. I hope that you will find time to talk with your children about their experiences. They will surely have a lot to say.

I also wanted to quickly mention that we have now wrapped up our priority registration and will be closing the registration to the public on February 12<sup>th</sup>. If you have any friends that are interested in joining our incredible preschool family, please pass this deadline on to them. We would love to get to know their children in the upcoming year.

As always, thank you for entrusting your children to our care. We love them dearly!

In God's love,

*Anna Smith*



### DIAPER DRIVE

#### Salvation Army Center of Hope

The Salvation Army's shelter for women and children is called the Center of Hope. Today there are 140 children in this shelter. As all of you know, with young children comes a very crucial need – diapers!

Through February 21<sup>st</sup>, the Weekday School is hosting a diaper drive to support these families. We are asking you, and all the members of PUMC, to participate in this service project. Please bring a package of diapers and place it in the crib located in the downstairs hallway. A member of PUMC will take them to the shelter on Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. All sizes are appreciated, and yes, we will accept open, partial packages.

Thank you for making a difference in the lives of the women and children in our community! If you have any questions, please contact Carol Shinn, Coordinator of Servant Ministries at PUMC, at 704-714-9365.



### NO MAKE-UP DAYS

While we do follow Charlotte-Mecklenburg schools for decisions on school delays, closings and early dismissal due to inclement weather, **PUMCWS does NOT follow CMS for make-up days**. As scheduled, we will NOT have school on February 15<sup>th</sup> – President's Day holiday.

Providence United Methodist Church Weekday School is an outreach ministry of Providence United Methodist Church. The mission of the Weekday School is to communicate God's love, as it is revealed through Jesus Christ, to children by providing an environment that encourages each child to grow spiritually, socially, cognitively, physically and emotionally. We are a Christian program, but we do acknowledge and respect the different religions and cultures represented in the program.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**FAMILY FUN NIGHT**

Mark your calendars for a fun-filled evening!

March 18, 5:30PM

Look for more details to follow!



**SAVE THE DATES**  
**SUMMER FUN DAYS**

Summer Fun Days, the summer camp program offered here at Providence, will be held July 12-15 and July 19-22, 2010. This program is offered to children 2 years old (by Feb 1, 2010) through rising 1<sup>st</sup> graders. Registration will be in late March. Please look for more information closer to that time.

**BUTTERFLIES ARE COMING!!!**

Witness the wonder of the butterfly lifecycle in your home this spring. Butterfly bags complete with larvae, food and instructions are available for purchase from the PUMC Children's Ministry. Reusable homes, called Pop-Up Ports are also available. Purple order forms are located outside the Weekday School office. Orders are due to Tara Bain (office across from the preschool office) by Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>.



-Tara Bain [tbain@providenceumc.org](mailto:tbain@providenceumc.org)

**Used Book Sale**

The women of PUMC Circle 5 are holding their annual used book sale Wednesday, February 10th 9:00-10:00AM in the Sea Foam Green flag room across from the Weekday School office. They will be selling used children's books, puzzles, and DVD's along with adult books all at amazing prices. All proceeds benefit the many outreach programs Circle 5 supports each year. Be sure to stop by before or after drop off.

-Missy Goodrich [goodrichw@bellsouth.net](mailto:goodrichw@bellsouth.net)

**LOAVES & FISHES COLLECTION**

Please help us feed "Ralph the Mouth" and those in need by sending non-perishable food items with your child on his/her designated Chapel or Tiny Chapel day. All donations are welcome. Priority items needed are:

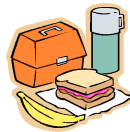
- Canned Meat/Fish
- 100% Fruit Juice
- Beans
- Soup
- Canned Fruit



**LOAVES & FISHES**  
Groceries for Neighbors in Need

Please consider purchasing Harris Teeter Brand items for our monthly collection. You will be helping families in need and our school. We will earn 1% of your purchase if your VIC card is linked to #5445.

**LUNCH BOX REMINDER**



Please remember to label your child's lunchbox with the date every day. This lets the teachers know that the food your child is eating is fresh. In addition, please include an ice pack if your child's lunchbox includes refrigerated food. This is required to guarantee that the refrigerated food is not spoiled. These requirements are for the safety of your child. Thank you for taking the time and effort to keep your child safe.

**EARLY BIRDS AVAILABLE**

Space is available most days in Early Birds, our early drop-off program. You may sign up in the preschool office. Reservations are required at least 24 hours in advance and are based on availability. **WALK UPS WITHOUT A RESERVATION WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** If you have registered in advance and find that you will not be able to attend, please let us know ASAP. Space is limited and you will be charged for the day if you don't cancel your reservation.



**Bible Verse for February...**

"God helps us be friends with others."

Proverbs 17:17