

The Playground Observer

The Official Newsletter of Providence United Methodist Church Weekday School
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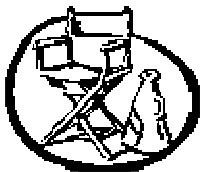
March 2010

The Month at a Glance:

10&11	Class pictures
17&18	Science Lady - in house field trip
18	Family Fun Night with Farmer Jason, 5:30 Charter Hall
22&23	Chapel - Palm Parade
28	PUMC Easter Egg Hunt



"Learning Through Play"



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Unbelievably, a new month is upon us and the promise of spring is just around the corner. After a long, cold winter, it will be a nice change to enjoy the warmth of the sun! Hopefully

the playground will have the sound of children playing coming from within its walls again soon. It seems to have missed a lot of activity these last few months.

The month of March is full of activities to keep the children happily engaged in learning. We start off with a celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday. The celebration continues all month long with the children enjoying hearing stories by the famous author. What a wonderful way to focus on rhyming. The Science Lady will be back mid-month to share the wonder of some of God's creations. Also this month, we will be visited by a couple of local Dentists. The children will learn about the proper way to brush their teeth and keep their mouths healthy. They love to smile and show off their beautiful teeth! Chapel and Tiny Chapel will focus on the events of Palm Sunday and the children will participate in their own Palm parade. This is always a treat for the children, and teaching them about God's love for them is a treat for us.

Another highlight for the month is our Family Fun Night being held on Thursday, March 18th. The night will consist of good food, good friends and great entertainment. Our guest performer, Farmer Jason, has a country sound and will certainly get the children dancing. If you put on your jeans and cowboy hats, he just might get your toe's tappin' as well. I hope that I will see you all there.

Fondly,

Anna Smith



FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Mark your calendars for the Weekday School's Family Fun Night on Thursday March 18th! We will have a **dinner** catered by Jason's Deli, a **silent auction**, and a **concert** for the children featuring Farmer Jason. The fun begins at 5:30 in Charter Hall at PUMC. Order forms for dinner and t-shirts are due Thurs, March 4th. The form was sent via e-mail or is available in the office. It's sure to be a great evening with lots of toe-tappin' fun you won't want to miss! Thanks so much to all who have donated items or made a contribution for the silent auction!



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 1st graders. Registration will be in late March. Please look for more information closer to that time.

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.

ART BY ME

Soon our school will be providing you with a unique opportunity to purchase professionally made products from your child's artwork. Art By Me is a unique fundraising art program that transforms your student's artwork into beautiful, professionally made products. In the coming month you will receive your child's artwork on a preview magnet that can be purchased as well as other products such as t-shirts, totes, mugs, and key chains. Regardless of purchase, your child's artwork will be returned for you to keep. Keep on the lookout for this exciting Art By Me program.



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.

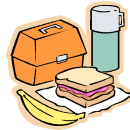
BUTTERFLIES ARE COMING!!!

Pre-ordered butterfly bags and Pop-Up Ports will be ready for pick-up outside the PUMC Discovery Center around March 10th. Watch for signs in the hallways.

-Tara Bain tbain@providenceumc.org



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.

CLASS PICTURES

Class pictures will be taken on March 10th & 11th. Please check with your child's teacher or the class calendar for the specific date.



EASTER PRAYER VIGIL

The annual PUMC Easter Prayer Vigil will be held in the chapel, beginning at 8:00PM Good Friday, April 2nd and continuing through 6:00AM Easter Sunday, April 4th. Time slots are available on a one-half hour basis. A sign-up sheet for the prayer times will be located at the Welcome desk in the church lobby starting on March 13th. All are invited and welcomed. This is a great time to have in the chapel individually or as a family as we prepare for the Easter season. This is a wonderful and meaningful tradition at Providence. Please come and be a part of the Easter Prayer Vigil.

Book Collection 4 Classroom Central

During the month of March, the Chipley Sunday School Class of PUMC is collecting gently used books for pre-school-12th grade students in high poverty schools. Their goal is to collect 5,000 books for Classroom Central, a free store for teachers in these schools. Books donations can be dropped off in Carol Shinn's office on the preschool hall.

UMW PLANT SALE

It's time for the UMW Plant Sale. Please pick up your order forms by the Welcome Desk. We will be selling potted geraniums, containers or mixed Spring Plants, and Boston Ferns. Plants will arrive April 21st. Deadline for ordering is Sunday March 14th. Questions – contact Randi Koistinen: randikoistinen@yahoo.com

Bible Verse for March...

Palm Sunday - Mark 11:1-11