

The Playground Observer

The Official Newsletter of Providence United Methodist Church Weekday School
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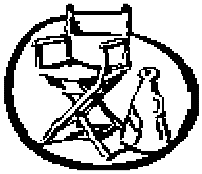


"Learning Through Play"

November 2009

The Month at a Glance:

2 & 3	Individual black/white photos by Wayne St. John Photography
4	Cookie Dough Pick-up 9:30-10:30 Church Atrium
11-13	NO SCHOOL
24	Thanksgiving Feast – 4's & TK
25-27	NO SCHOOL – Happy Thanksgiving!!



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Fall is in full swing! October's events kept the children engaged in learning about fire safety, pumpkins, colonial life and more. It ended with our annual Halloween parade winding through the church Atrium and the halls of the Weekday School. We had a great time seeing all of the children in their costumes and all of the proud parents watching the parade. Thank you to all of you who took time out of your busy schedules to be with us for the grand event. The children love having you participate in their weekday school activities. I hope that you will come back and join us more as the year progresses. You are always welcome!

November has brought us cooler weather and God has provided us with a beautiful display of color outside. The children are taking nature walks and learning all about the world around them. They are also preparing to learn about the First Thanksgiving, friendship, healthy foods and all of the wonderful things we have for which to be thankful. Thanksgiving activities will culminate with feasts in the classrooms for the younger children and a large feast for the four-year-olds and TK. It is a wonderful time of year here in the preschool.

Please take special note of the calendar this month. We will be out of school on Wednesday, November 11 in honor of Veteran's Day and then again on the 12th and 13th for our teachers to attend the Western North Carolina Conference United Methodist Children's Ministries Weekday Workshop.

This is a great opportunity for our teachers to learn new ways to teach and interact with your children in the classroom. In addition to these dates, the weekday school will be closed November 25th – 27th to celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday. I hope that you will take this opportunity to spend special time with your children and help them focus on the things that are important in your family.

As we all count the blessings in our lives, please know that I count you and your precious children in mine. Happy Thanksgiving!

Blessings,

Anna

Anna Smith, director

HEALTH UPDATE

Parents: The flu is here. We have already had several children in the preschool diagnosed with the flu. We have seen both the regular flu and the H1N1 variety. As soon as we see a child that is not feeling well or has any flu-like symptoms, we are sending them home. Please respect your fellow parents and only send your child to school if they appear to be 100%. **A child that requires medication in order to feel well or be without a fever should not be at school. This includes Tylenol or Motrin.** If everyone will follow these guidelines we will have a much healthier environment. Thank you for your help!



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.

COOKIE DOUGH PICK-UP NOV 4th



Thank you for supporting our Otis Spunkmeyer Cookie fundraiser. Cookie Dough will arrive on Wednesday, November 4th.

Please pick up (or arrange to have picked up) your delicious orders in the church atrium immediately following student drop off. The cookie dough is frozen so be sure to schedule a quick trip home to put it in the freezer. **ALL orders must be picked up Wednesday morning 9:30-10:30AM.** There is no available storage at the church. Thank you!!

-Phyllis Lautenschlager
-plauten@carolina.rr.com

BRRRRR!!! FALL WEATHER IS HERE!!!



Please remember that outside play is a part of each non-rainy day's activities here at PUMCWS and dress your child appropriately for the daily weather. Be sure to send a sweat-shirt and/or jacket with your child each day. Also, if your child has an extra set of clothes either in the classroom or in his/her bookbag, please make sure that it is appropriate for cool weather.

Thank you for Yummy Treats!!



Thank you to all the parents who have brought treats to the mini-kitchen for the teachers during the months of September and October. We appreciate the treats and your generosity. ☺

Thank you Starbucks @ Morrocroft for donating delicious coffee to us and to Susan Groves & Pam Bennett for delivering it along with delicious bagels.

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.

Mary & Joseph Breakfast



Children of all ages, bring your mom and dad to the Mary & Joseph breakfast at PUMC to begin the Advent Season, Saturday, November 21st 9-12AM. Come have a delicious breakfast, learn about Advent, create an Advent calendar & wreath, enjoy a puppet show, help others with a service project & have your photo taken with Mary & Joseph. To make a reservation for your family, call 704-714-9384. For more information, contact Tara Bain, minister w/Children & Families 704-714-9372 or 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.

Theme for November...

The Parable of the Lost Sheep – Luke 15:1-6