

# The Playground Observer

The Official Newsletter of Providence United Methodist Church Weekday School  
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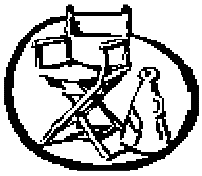


"Learning Through Play"

## October 2009

### The Month at a Glance:

5	Training for Substitute Teachers 9:45AM
12 & 13	Creative Movement
19 & 20	Story Café
21	Doughnuts for Dads – 4's & TK
27 & 28	Science Lady
28	Costume Parade



### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

Greetings to All~

Fall is here! It is hard to believe that we are already into our second month of school. September kept us busy trying to get ad-

justed to our classes and enjoying our first Chapel and visits by My Gym. The children have been actively engaged in learning and enjoying their teachers and classmates more each day.

Personally, I enjoyed a few days off and wish to thank all of you for your well wishes as I begin this new chapter in my life. I hope that all of you are feeling at home and comfortable here in the Weekday School.

October always provides us with a full calendar. The list of activities is long and full of wonderful opportunities for the children to grow and learn. We are looking forward to having Chapel, Tiny Chapel, Creative Movement, Story Café, the Science Lady and a visit by the fire trucks and firefighters of Station 14. A special thanks to Captain Carr Boyd (one of our extraordinary parents) for helping to make this happen! The month will conclude with our annual Halloween Parade. Look for details on this event here in the Playground Observer. Whew! The fun here at the Weekday School never ends. Remember to ask your children about the exciting things happening in their classrooms as well. They will certainly have a lot to share with you this month.

I want to thank all of you who have supported the backpacks for the Haiti outreach project. There are still a few backpacks to be purchased out in the preschool hallway. If you want your child to be a part of this valuable mission, please draw a picture (optional), write a check and grab a backpack. The ship-

ment will go out soon so don't delay. I am looking forward to seeing the pictures of the smiling Haitian children when they receive their new backpacks and the pictures that are included inside. I only wish I could deliver them myself!

As you spend time outside during this beautiful season, remember to share God's love and God's plan with your children. His creation is magnificent and his design, perfect. Help them to see the beauty in his ever-changing world. Also take time to read, talk and spend quality time with your children. They are so very precious! Thank you for continuing to share them with us!

Warmest Regards,

*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

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Cookie Dough fundraiser. All of the orders have been collected and we are expecting delivery on **November 4th**. Please pick up your cookie dough in the church atrium between 9:30 and 10:30am. Since the product arrives frozen, we're only able to distribute on one day. The school doesn't have space to store tubs, so coordinate with a friend if you can't make this pick up date. Thanks again for supporting our fundraiser and making it such a big success!! Questions, contact Phyllis Lautenschlager at 704-365-8942 or plauten@carolina.rr.com.

-Phyllis Lautenschlager, Fundraising Committee



## 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.

## HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARADE



On Wednesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> our 3's, 4's and TK students will take part in our Annual Halloween Parade. All children in the parade should come to school dressed in his or her Halloween costume with regular clothes under the costume. We will parade for the church office staff and all the other classes. Remember our younger children are very new to Halloween and scary costumes may frighten them. Please help your child make a good costume choice for school. Please also send a paper grocery bag with your child's name on it so that your child can bring his/her costume home. This is a real Kodak moment so bring your cameras and enjoy. It will truly make you smile.

## FAMILY FUN NIGHT

We are beginning to plan for our annual Family Fun Night and we need your help. This event typically occurs in February or March. We are currently looking for parents willing to serve on a planning committee for the event. The commitment will be several short meetings over the next few months and a concentrated effort the week of the event. If you have good ideas or a strong desire for fun, please come by the office and volunteer for this committee. You can also email Anna Smith at [ashulstad@providenceumc.org](mailto:ashulstad@providenceumc.org) and indicate your willingness to help. We will look forward to hearing from you.

## CLASS ROSTERS

To help you stay in touch with other students and families in your child's class, class-specific rosters were sent home with all children. These rosters are to be used for preschool business only. Please do not use them for solicitations.

## THANK YOU ROOM PARENTS

Thank you to all those room parents who attended the room parent meetings. Your willingness to volunteer and commit your time and effort is so appreciated by the weekday school. If you were unable to attend either meeting, please call (704-366-8829) or email me at [smakemson@carolina.rr.com](mailto:smakemson@carolina.rr.com) so that I may get you the information that was discussed. Also, please remember to call me anytime during the school year if there are questions or concerns that arise. We are off to a great start...GO ROOM PARENTS!!!

- Sherrey Makemson - Parent Involvement

## FALL FESTIVAL



Providence UMC Children's Ministry invites you to attend our annual **FALL FESTIVAL**. Our annual Fall Festival (formerly known as "trunk-or-Treat") will be held on

**Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>** from 3:30 - 5:00PM in the lower PUMC parking lot. This event is for the whole family! Come and wear your Halloween costumes and get treats from the PUMC youths' car trunks. There will be exciting activities for all, including a moon bounce, an extreme obstacle course and a costume contest. Hope to see you there.

-Tara Bain, Minister w/ Children & Families

## **Theme for October...**

Let the Little Children Come to Me – Mark 10:13-16