



▶ DIRECTOR'S CHAIR & PASTOR RANDY'S WORDS 2

○ ISSUE 7 | ○ VOLUME 28 | ○ APRIL 2010



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Preschool *press*

A MONTHLY COMMUNICATION OF DAVID LUTHERAN CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL



From www.onetoughjob.org

Activities To Do With Your Preschooler



If you are the parent of a preschooler, you are probably hearing a lot of, "No!" and "I can do it myself!" as your child starts to want to be independent. At this age, your child is learning new things every day, and you can support his development by letting him make some small decisions, doing fun activities, and helping him explore new things!

Tips for spending time with your preschooler:

Give your child choices. If you ask your child what she wants to wear that day, you are probably setting yourself up for a morning of tantrums when she picks out a sundress in the middle of winter and you have to say no. Help your child make some small decisions by giving her options, such as choosing between two outfits or between cereal and toast for breakfast.

Let your child try. Be patient with your child, as it may take many tries at tying his shoes before he can finally do it himself. Buy clothes that your child can easily put on and take off by himself. If he becomes frustrated, help talk him through a difficult task, and praise him when he completes it. Most importantly, remember that a sense of humor can turn a stressful moment into a fun one. If your preschooler refuses to put

on his coat, put it on the dog - the distraction and laughter may make him put it on right away without a fuss!

Say what you mean and mean what you say. Preschoolers need clear directions. For example, saying "I see you put some toys away, but I'd like it if you put the rest in the toy box" tells her what you want her to do and reinforces good behavior, whereas saying "this room is still messy" is not as specific and is negative. Also, preschoolers need limits. Let your child know what to expect and what is expected of her when it comes to small chores that she can and should do, and consequences for when she doesn't listen.

Think outside the box. Your preschooler is active and always needs to be busy doing something, but you don't have to go far to think of things to do. Preschoolers have good imaginations and like to use them. Play dress-up with your child, get out some paper and crayons and make a book, or just take a walk! All of these things will keep your child busy, help him learn, and be fun for both of you!

Help your child transition. At this age, children still need to know what to expect from their day. Even with a regular routine,

your child still needs time to adjust to different things in the day, such as being dropped to school. You can make these times easier by talking him through them. For example, tell him he has ten more minutes to play before it's time to leave for school, and reassure him that you will be there to pick him up after rest time is over at school.

Talk and read to your child. The best way to support your preschooler's learning and spend quality time with her is to have a conversation with her and read to her. Take advantage of things like car or train rides to talk about your child's day and discuss your surroundings. Take your child to the library and help her pick out some books that you can read together. And of course, make reading part of your child's bedtime routine, even if she asks for the same book every night. You'll see that this might even become your favorite part of the day!

DELIC's Annual Mother/Daughter Event will be May 1 at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. The program will feature Irish Dancers and the meal will be provided by Blue Moon Catering. Cost of tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 3-10 years and free for those younger unless they plan to eat.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

April

3 Egg Hunt at DELC
10am

7 & 8 Turtle Lady Visits!!!!

8 & 9 Speech & Hearing
Screening

15 & 16 **PPC Trike-a-thon

21 & 22 Devotions with Pastor
Randy

May

4 NO SCHOOL—Election
Day

10 & 11 Special Science
Program with Mrs.
Dillman

12 & 13 Devotions with Pastor
Randy

20 & 21 Last Days of School

24 & 25 Graduations (10am &
1pm)

25 Picnic at Slate Run at
6pm

August

1 Paperwork & Supply
Fee due to preschool
office

30 3-year-old Parent
Orientation (7pm)

31 4 & 5-year old Parent
Orientation (7pm)

September

1-3 Visitation Days

7 & 8 First Day of Classes (90
minute sessions)

****Denotes PPC Events**



Spring, spring, spring! I love this time of year! Time has gone by so quickly that I can't believe the school year will soon be wrapping up. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first year with DLCP and working with you and your children.

Thank you to all of you that participated in Preschool Sunday

A monthly column by DLCP Director, Julie Benedict

From the Director

on March 7th. I thought it turned out really well and I hope you all did too! Also, thanks to all who came to Parent-Teacher Conferences. I hope you all found them insightful and beneficial.

Please take a moment to look at our new art display case at the bottom of the second stairwell. The church generously turned this over to the preschool to use for 3-dimensional art. Displays will be updated periodically.

Classrooms for next school year are filling up! If you have not registered for next year yet, but are planning on it, please do so

soon to ensure that you get a space.

We have wrapped up most of our work for NAEYC. We should be hearing from them at any time. I am very proud of the hard work all of our staff has done towards this accreditation.

Like always, if you have any questions or concerns at any time, please do not hesitate to stop in and see me or give me a call. I always have time for you and your children.

Blessings, Julie

MAUNDY THURSDAY – April 1st @ 7:15 PM
“The Road to Gethsemane”

GOOD FRIDAY – April 2nd @ 7:15 PM
“The Road to the Golgotha” - TENEBRAE SERVICE

EGG HUNT — April 3rd @ 10:00 AM

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD
Easter Sunday – April 4th
Easter Sunrise Service - 6:00 a.m.
Easter Breakfast from 7:15—9:00 a.m.
Worship at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Preschool Sunday!

First a word of thanks to the PPC and all involved in the Winter Carnival, despite all the scheduling conflicts and winter weather it was another great event. Also it was great to see all of you on Preschool Sunday. And now Easter is coming! The celebration of the resurrection of Jesus is the centerpiece for us in the Christian faith. It is because of Easter that we build churches, have preschools, and seek to

live the life in faith. The Easter event of the empty tomb reminds us that there is something beyond humanity's reach in the purpose of this world. I invite all of you to participate in any of our Holy Week and Easter activities and services – please feel invited to attend. I particularly call your attention to the main kid event that we have on the Saturday morning before Easter with our Easter Egg Hunt.



Blessings! Pastor Randy

A monthly column by 3's & 4's Teacher Faye Heintz

Mrs. Heintz

Thanks to all the parents and guardians, who took the time to come and speak with us, during the parent/teacher conferences? We have wonderful children at David Lutheran Preschool.

Spring is finally here. The children are enjoying the warm temperatures, the sunshine and being able to play outside. Hopefully, March will leave like a lamb and April showers will bring beautiful May flowers.

During the month of March we have been enjoying stories by

Dr. Seuss, St. Patrick's Day, opposites, rhyming words, spring, and preparing for Easter.

After spring break, we will be working on a camping unit which will include pond life (turtles and frogs), butterflies and plants. We will be working on writing first names and using scissors. We will be finishing the children's color, shape, and number book.

A special thank you for the parents and grandparents who took the time to help with the Easter Party, Easter egg hunt,

and supplied eggs for the Easter egg hunts. The children have a great time and enjoy the parties. We couldn't do it with out you.

The Turtle Lady will share her turtles, lizards, and snakes with us on April 7th, and April 8th.

Speech and Hearing screening will be the mornings of April 8th and April 9th. There is still time to register for this service. If you would like to have your child checked, please contact Julie in the preschool office for more information.

Saint Jude's Trike-a-Thon will be April 15th and April 16th. Look for more information as time grows nearer.

If you would like to come and visit the classroom, please sign up for a day in April or May. You are welcome.

If you have questions or concerns, please schedule a conference either before or after school or a phone conference.

Your Preschool Teachers,
Mrs. Heintz, Miss Mary Lou,
Miss Dorothy

A monthly column by 3's Teacher Kathy Nelson

Mrs. Nelson

I would like to take a moment to thank all the parents who took the time to discuss the wonderful progress your child has made in preschool this year. It is very encouraging to see that you have taken an interest in your child's early education. Thanks and please keep up the

good work.

March was an enjoyable month filled with lots of new experiences. The children enjoyed playing with dirt in our sensory table and were very pleased with the growth of their marigold

flowers.

During the month of April we will continue learning about Spring. We will learn about new beginnings. Included in this series are animals and insects. We will go on a nature

walk to look and listen for signs of Spring.

Enjoy your Spring Break and I will see you when you return on April 6th.

Mrs. Nelson

A monthly column by 5's Teacher Tina Dillman

Mrs. Dillman

Can you believe it's April already? So much fun to have and so little time left to have it in. We'll be getting ready for spring and all that goes with it.

It was nice to talk to you all at the conferences. Your children are working so hard and doing so well. Mrs. Karen and I are so proud of them. Parents, of course, we know you've been working hard too! (Parents, you may pat yourselves on the back.) They are ready for kindergarten!

As you know, I will be taking a medical leave and not be teaching for a few weeks after Spring Break. My goal is to

return by April 26th. I hope to come and visit for awhile after the 20th. Please keep me and my family in your prayers. Mrs. Karen will be lead teacher while I'm gone and is busy getting the lesson plans ready. Some things to look forward to are: printing our address and phone numbers, learning new letters on our world wall and spelling, and of course continuing our phonics letter books. I am sorry that I will miss one of my favorite people, The Turtle Lady! She visits us on April 7 & 8.

Dad's mark your calendars for our annual Dad's Day at David's. It will be on Wednes-

day, April 26th. We'll have our get together the last hour of your child's class. The children will be working on preparing a special class for your enjoyment. If you can't join us, your child can invite anyone they want, perhaps an uncle or grandfather, even a mother is fine. Mom, your day is coming too! We'll celebrate your special day on May 12th. We'll have a special time together the last hour of class. Please remember, no siblings are allowed to attend.

Parents, don't worry if your child seems a little hesitant to come to class or a little more clingy than usual. It sometimes

happens after Kindergarten Round Up. I think they get a little nervous about moving on. The best thing to do is to keep the same schedule, bring them to school and if necessary, let us take them into class. Mrs. Karen had to literally peel my Andrew off my leg every day for several weeks. He was always fine once he got into the room. I lived through it too.

It's been so nice to use the playground again. Let's hope the April showers only rain after 3:30 p.m. That gives them a little time to play after school

God Bless, Mrs. Dillman

Vacation Bible School volunteer sign-ups start in April. Sign-up sheets will be located on the table in the narthex. This year's theme is Baobab Blast, God's Great Get-Together.



Mrs. Mayer

The month of April will be an exciting one here in the pre-school classroom. The three-year old class's theme unit will be "Down on the Farm". We will be building a barnyard in the classroom and studying all about the various aspects of farming. We will be growing some of our own crops and talking about farm machinery and farm animals. We will study pigs, cows, chickens, and sheep and have math, music and art activities to go along with each animal. We will also get to look at a real John Deere tractor, and maybe even milk a real cow. Our letters for April

will be C, F, P, H, R, and S. We will also be working on recognizing numbers 1 through 10. Put on your overalls and join us for some fun down on the farm!

The four-year old class's theme unit will be The Ocean. In this unit, we will actually have the ocean right in the classroom. As we study various ocean creatures, we will also have an art project and then put them into our classroom ocean. By the end of the month, our ocean will be teeming with fish, dolphins, starfish, sharks, whales, sea turtles, sea horses, jellyfish, sea anemones, octopi, and

crabs. The ocean unit will end with a pretend trip to Hawaii where the children will pack their bags and board the plane for an exciting flight to Honolulu. We will study the beautiful state of Hawaii and also talk about volcanoes. The last day of the unit will be Beach Day on April 29 and 30. The children will wear their swimsuits to class and spend a day of fun at the beach. Mrs. Kandy and I are excited to go on this journey of discovery with the children. I know we have as much fun as they do! Of course, we will keep up on our letters with V, W, X, and Y and also numbers 9 and

10 and the color yellow. Grab your surfboard and join us for some Beach Day fun!

There are some important dates to remember for April. The Turtle Lady visits on April 7 and 8. St. Jude Trike-A-Thon is scheduled for April 15 and 16. There will be more information sent home about these two events.

God Bless,
Mrs. Mayer, Mrs. Kandy,
Ms. Karen

Mrs. Johnston

In March we finished our nursery rhyme unit begun in September culminating with the completion of the Nursery Rhyme Color/Shape book. We read and found rhymes in several rhymes, sang some of them, did finger plays to others, and Humpty Rhyme variation together. The rhymes included *Humpty Dumpty*, *Twinkle Twinkle, Little Boy Blue*, *Hey Diddle Diddle*, *Hickory Dickory Dock*, *Queen of Hearts* and *Baa Baa Black Sheep*.

In addition we finished our study of "The Arts" with music, dance, and drama. We learned vocabulary involved in music such as rhythm, tempo, dynamics (loud

and soft), instruments, orchestra, conductor, and musical groupings. We had guest speakers, Bill Johnston (Mrs. Johnston's husband) who played guitar for J1 and J2 and the other classes, Mr. Fruth (Jake Fruth's dad) who played guitar for J3 and Mrs. Johnston who played flute for all her classes. In dramatic play we had a "Music Shop" dramatic play center.

For dance Mrs. Heintz's daughter Erika discussed all aspects of dance and performed for ALL MWF classes. We read the book *On Your Toes* by Rachel Isadora. For drama we discussed and performed "Little

Red Hen," and "Billy Goat's Gruff," and "Caps for Sale."

For Bible we studied the events of Holy Week using Picture That, a rebus book, drama, and Resurrection Eggs. On March 16 and 17 we took a break from our Easter unit and studied St. Patrick's Day with a story, finger plays, craft and clue hunt.

On March 25 & 26 we had our annual Easter egg hunt. Thank you parents for your help and the supply of eggs.

We continued our letter book with quilt Q on Q-tip painting, red ribbon R on roller painting, Dots

on "D" on Duck Directions and Drama, and Eight Easter Eggs on Ecu "E" on Easel painting. The letters for April will be K, L, V, X and Z.

The last week in March we started a dramatic play center "IN THE TALL TALL GRASS" based on the book by Denise Fleming. WE are emphasizing insects. My April units will be based on those chosen by my classes: ponds (4/5-16) (J3 top choice) and ice cream (4/19-30) (J1 & J2 top choices).

Happy Easter!

Mrs. Johnston



The Turtle Lady will be visiting DLCP on April 7 & 8!!! Siblings are allowed to this program (as long as a parent stays) which will take place at 10:30 & 12:45 each day.



Speech & Hearing Screenings

April 8 & 9

There is still space available if you would like to have your child participate in the Speech & Hearing Screenings on the mornings of April 8 & 9. Please contact Julie in the preschool office for more information.

Carrot Cake



Filled with finely grated carrots and crushed pineapple, then spread with a smooth coating of cream cheese icing, this classic dessert will be an extra-special treat for your aspiring baker to make. For the finishing touch, she can even tint some of the frosting and top off the cake with sweet piped-on carrots.

Ingredients:

FOR THE CAKE

- 1-1/4 cups flour
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon each of baking powder, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg, and ground ginger
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 3 large eggs
- 3/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1-1/4 cups finely grated carrots
- 1/2 cup each of finely chopped walnuts and chopped raisins

FOR THE ICING

- 12 ounces regular cream cheese, at room temperature
- 4 tablespoons butter, softened
- 1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract

- 3 to 3-1/2 cups sifted confectioners' sugar
- Food coloring
- FILLING AND GARNISH
- 3/4 cup crushed pineapple, well drained
- 1-1/2 cups sweetened flaked coconut (optional)

Instructions

1. Prepare two 8- by 2-inch round cake pans. Trace around one of the pans to create 2 waxed paper circles and cut out the circles. Lightly grease the pans and line them with the waxed paper circles. Then grease the papers and dust the pans with flour, knocking out the excess. Heat the oven to 350 degrees.
2. Sift together the flour, sugar, baking soda, baking powder, salt and spices into a large bowl. Make a well in the center and add the eggs, oil, and vanilla extract.
3. Using an electric mixer on low speed, beat the liquids briefly in the well, then blend the entire batter on low speed just until evenly mixed.
4. Using a rubber spatula, fold the carrots, walnuts, and raisins into the batter between the cake pans, smoothing it with a spoon.
5. Bake the cakes on the center oven rack for about 25 minutes, until toothpick inserted into the center of the layers comes out clean. Transfer the pans to a large cooling rack. Cool the layers in the pans for 10 minutes, then run a butter knife around the edges to loosen them.
6. Remove each cake from its pan by topping the pan with a wire rack, holding the pan and the rack together, and inverting the whole ensemble. Then slowly lift the pan from the cake and peel away the waxed paper. Let the cakes cool completely (at least 1 hour) before icing them.
7. **Prepare the Icing:** Using an electric mixer, beat the cream cheese and butter in a bowl until smooth. Blend in the vanilla extract.
8. Add the confectioners' sugar, about 1 cup at a time, beating until smooth and fluffy after each addition. Reserve about 2/3 cup of the icing, dividing it between 2 small bowls. Cover and chill the bowls.
9. **Decorate the Cake:** Place the first cake layer on a serving plate. Smooth a generous layer of the icing over the top (if the icing is too soft, chill it for about 30 minutes before continuing). Then spread the crushed pineapple over the icing.
10. Place the second layer on top of the first, then ice the top and sides of the cake. Cupping some of the coconut in one hand, gently pat it onto the side of the cake, working your way around the whole perimeter.
11. For the finishing touch, dye one of the reserved batches of frosting orange and the other green. Use a pastry bag to pipe carrots on top of the cake. Store the finished cake in the refrigerator until you plan to serve it, then let it sit at room temperature for 20 to 30 minutes before slicing. Makes 8 to 10 servings.

Preschool Press is a monthly publication of David Lutheran Christian Preschool, a not-for-profit organization.

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Bob Hoffman
Jennifer Nack
Nancy Stagg
Amy Walch

Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Sunday School room upstairs.

The food pantry is in need of toothpaste, toothbrushes and mouth wash for the month of April.





Next PPC Meeting
April 7
7:00pm

In room 10, upstairs
UPCOMING MEETINGS:
MAY 3 (LAST FOR YEAR)



It's Trike-A-Thon time at DLCP once again. The Trike-A-Thon will take place on April 15th and 16th during your child's regular class time.

After Spring Break, your little ones will be learning about the importance of bike safety along with how to help

the children of St. Jude's Hospital. Look for more information to come home in your school bags the week of April 5th. Last year we raised \$9000 for St. Jude's. Let's work hard to reach or surpass our goal of \$5000 this year. Packets are due back by April 16th. Please remember even if your child is not collecting donations you must sign the permission slip for you child to ride with his/her class the day of the Trike-A-Thon. Also be sure to watch for sign up sheets to volunteer to help out with your child's class. Let's make this the best year yet!!!

PPC Board

Co-Chairmans

Penelope Roush
Sheley Kolonchuk

Treasurer

Ranae Hamilton

Secretary

Marilyn Keane

PMT Liaison

Amy Walch

SPRING SALE



Our Spring sale this year is underway. You should have received order forms already. This year we are selling Longaberger products and Spring flowers. These will make wonderful Mother's Day gifts while helping raise money for the preschool. Please remember to return all order forms and money no later than April 9th. Delivery will be the week of May 3rd, just in time for Mother's Day. Thank you in advance for your support of this wonderful fundraiser.