



# First United Methodist Church Preschool/MDO March 2008

## From the Director...

Spring is coming! Get ready! What a wonderful time to be alive in the world with freshness and new growth beginning to bloom all around. **Spring Break** is around the corner, **March 17- 21**. Enjoy a safe and fun break!

The children are enjoying the extracurricular activities in Fine Arts Institute, Gymboree, and Jump for Joy. We are so pleased that these activities are offered for your children. Wheeeee!



## Calendar for March

Fall Enrollment: Feb. 25 - Mar. 6  
Tuition due: March 10  
Spring Break: March 17 - 21  
Book Fair: March 24 - 27  
Parent Teacher Conferences  
March 28, Friday

## Enroll Now for 2008-2009

Now is the time to enroll for fall 2008-09! Priority enrollment for students began on Monday, **February 25 and continues through Thursday, March 6**. If you have NOT received an enrollment packet for your child, or need one for a sibling who has never been enrolled, please stop by the Preschool Office to pick one up. Spaces in classes are available on a first come / first serve basis. Enrollment hours are from 9:00-11:00 and 12:30-3:00, by the Preschool/MDO Office.

## Parent/Teacher Conferences on Friday, March 28

In mid-March, please watch for Parent/Teacher Conference sign-up sheets in the classrooms. These conferences are for parents of children ages 3 and up. You will receive important information concerning your child's growth and development. Please take the time to attend your child's conference.

The time you invest is important.

## Take a Reading Road Trip!

The Scholastic Book Fair is **March 24-27**, from 9:00-3:00, in Room 107. Reading to children encourages them to become readers, enables their imaginations to soar, and provides them with a short time to cuddle and experience peace and quiet!



**If you'd like to work at the Book Fair, you'll receive a \$6.00 credit toward the purchase of books.** Fliers will be sent home soon requesting volunteers. Sign up for your shift and return forms to the preschool office.

## Drop-Off Parking & Congestion

The east parking lot can be congested when everyone is bringing their child to school at 9:00 a.m. Please remember the parking lot in front of the church on Hurd street is available for you to park and walk your child to the Preschool/MDO facility.

## Continuing Education Makes a Difference in Our Classrooms!

Our Enrichment and Superstars teachers recently attended a Staff Development Conference. They brought back the latest information on brain and child development and fresh, new ideas for activities and songs in the classrooms.

## Lost and Found

Missing some mittens, hats, jackets, lunch boxes or items that didn't make it home from school? Check the lost and found box by the Security/Welcome Desk. Any unclaimed items will be donated to the Hope Center at the end of each month.

## Holy Week

If you do not have a



church home, I invite you to participate in any or all of the church's Holy Week activities. You will find the schedule attached to our newsletter.

*Glennis Peterman*

## Bunnies (Wednesday)

The Wednesday Bunnies (and their teachers) are patiently waiting for spring and warmer weather. Once it is here we will venture outside to the playground. With all the fun playground equipment and fresh air they will have a blast! Remember to send them in jackets and tennis shoes.

We have been coloring, painting, and experiencing many new things. Thank you for sharing your children as we grow and learn together.

*Mrs. Cheryl, Mrs. Tracey  
and Miss Vicki*

## Bunnies (Tuesday/Thursday)

The Bunnies theme for March is Spring and Easter. We will be creating Easter crafts and having an egg hunt the second week of March. The Bunnies will be expert egg hunters by Easter Sunday!

Hopefully, as spring nears we'll have some nicer weather and be able to go outside to our playground.

*Ms. Janice and Ms. Lisa*

## Busy Bears

Spring is right around the corner! We have some great fun planned for our Busy Bears. Please send coats, gloves, and hats. We will go outside whenever possible.

Our colors the Busy Bears will be introduced to will be yellow and green. Our shapes of the month are triangle and oval. Expect to see caterpillars, butterflies, bunnies, lions, lambs and eggs for in you child's artwork. Information will be coming soon about an Easter egg hunt!

Spring Break is March 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>; there will be no school that week.

Have a great break. Thanks for sharing your little ones with us.

*Ms. Amanda, Ms. Tracey,  
Ms. Cheryl and Ms. Stephanie*

### **Gummy Bears**

February was a very busy month in the Gummy Bear Classroom. We had pet week and made dog biscuits for our own pets. We had two special visitors to our room; Molly, the cockatoo and Tag, the dog. We also brought pictures of our pets to share. Valentine week was full of Red, white, pink, hearts, and everything valentine! Our parties were great fun with "mailing our cards" and sharing special snacks.

Our space week was very exciting with talk of space rockets, the sun, moon, stars and planets.

March's themes include nursery rhymes, Easter, and dinosaurs. Our colors will be pastel colors. We will continue to work on counting to 10 and recognizing our names. We work with cutting and gluing. We will be practicing sequencing and also fine motor skills, such as lacing and pegboards.

With the children maturing, we are expecting them to do more for themselves and be responsible for their own things. Parents, you can help us out with this. Please bring your child into the room, but allow them to take care of their own lunch box, remove their own jackets, and place them with their backpacks in their cubbies. Then, have your child move on to the name tree. It is fun and rewarding to see the children become more independent!

*Ms. Bivens and Ms.  
Glades*



### **Extended Enrichment**

Spring is almost here and always proves to be an exciting time for children! In March, Enrichment will focus on spring, zoo animals, and Easter. In our spring unit, we will cook "dirt" pudding and later plant seeds in soil, so that we can watch them grow. During our zoo animals unit we will make zoo animals from handprints and create a zoo with animal crackers. Our Easter unit will focus on making a stained glass cross and hearing the Easter story.

We are also planning many fun class projects. Please take a moment to look at our friendship quilt in the enrichment hallway! Your children worked very hard at creating the self portraits that were used in the quilt.

As a reminder, please make sure you sign your child in on the Enrichment Class List every time your child attends Enrichment. Our class list is located on the table outside the Enrichment room for our morning students and is located upstairs by your child's class room if your child attends Enrichment in the afternoon. It is very important that every child is signed in, so we can easily and safely transition between classes and have everyone with the appropriate classroom.

We are so thankful for the fantastic families here at FUMC. Thank you for entrusting your children to us! The Enrichment Team,

*Mrs. Cromer, Mrs. Emery,  
Mrs. Fuller, and Mrs. Sturm*

### **Rainbows (Spring and Fall)**

A big thank you to all parents who helped with our Valentines Party--with food, snack materials and delivering Valentines.

March is loaded with lots of fun learning experiences and spring break from March 17<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>. We will finish our "I am Special" unit. Then St. Patrick's Day will give us an opportunity to learn about the color green, shamrocks, and those rascally leprechauns. Hopefully if any leprechauns visit our Rainbow room, they won't play too many tricks on us!

With the arrival of Spring we will be learning about animals and insects. Our color green will be appearing as spring brings growing grass and other blooming plants.

Our colors for March are yellow and green. The shape is diamond, and the number is 9. We love visitors to our classroom. If you would like to share information about your occupation, please visit with a Rainbow teachers for more details.

Be sure to look for information and sign up times for Parent/Teacher Conferences, to be held Friday March 28<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to visiting with you about your

special Rainbow.

*Mrs. Longley and Mrs. Nelson*

### **Sunbeams**

What a great month February was in Sunbeams! Our Valentine Parties were awesome! Thanks to all the parents who brought snacks, drinks, and paper goods to the parties. We are lucky to have such supportive parents! The children enjoyed getting to meet new letter friends and making valentines!



This month, we look forward to learning about letters R, J, and U. Gymboree will visit on March 6, and the Fine Arts Institute will be here on March 12. Don't forget about Spring Break, March 17 - 21. We will miss our Sunbeams that week!

Thank you for reviewing letters and numbers at home with your child, and for having the Sunbeams practice writing their names. We have learned so much this year, not only academically, but socially. Don't forget to read and sing with your child every day. What special times and memories you'll have together!

Parent/Teacher Conferences are set for Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. Please make sure you sign up on the schedule outside our room.

We love being your child's teachers!

*Mrs. Schutter and Mrs. Griffin*

### **Superstars**

The month of March is sure to go by quickly due to our Spring Break scheduled for March 17-21.

Our month is loaded with many fun learning experiences. We will spend a few days learning about St. Patrick's Day. This unit is a fun way to learn about Ireland, shamrocks and leprechauns. Hopefully, when the mischievous leprechauns visit our class, they won't play any tricks on us.

We will also explore prehistoric creatures--dinosaurs!! Our Super Star paleontologists will dig for dinosaur bones, make dinosaur eggs and learn interesting facts about these prehistoric creatures.

Also, be sure to look for information about Parent/Teacher Conferences to be held on Friday,

March 28<sup>th</sup>. We look forward to  
visiting with you about your special  
Super Star!

*Mrs. Bules and Mrs. Fick*

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