



First United Methodist Church Preschool/MDO March 2009

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 16-19**. 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.

Calendar for March

Fall Enrollment: Feb. 23 - Mar. 5
Tuition due: March 10
Spring Break: March 16 - 19
Book Fair: March 23 - 27
Parent Teacher Conferences
March 27, Friday



Enroll Now for 2009-2010

Now is the time to enroll for Fall 2009-2010! Priority enrollment for students began on Monday, **February 23 and continues through Thursday, March 5**. 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 27

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.



LIGHTS, CAMERA, BOOK FAIR!

Books are center stage, as we roll out the red carpet for our annual Scholastic Book Fair, **March 23-27**, from 9:00-3:00, in Room 107. Reading to children helps them 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. Please contact one of the Book Fair co-chairs: Cindy Jones (cindyjones12@yahoo.com) or Edith Pavon (edithmaya@yahoo.com), to let them know when you'd be available for a work shift. Or - stop by the PS/MDO office for a volunteer form. Thanks so much.

Tornado Safety Plan

Some of your children were on site when the tornado sirens went off on February 10. The teachers quickly walked with their students from their classrooms to the main church building basement. This "field trip to the main building" (as we call it) is our tornado plan to keep your children safe if the weather dictates that we take cover.

The church is also a city tornado shelter site, so community residents come in for safety. Our students are kept separate from the community.

We will keep your children sheltered until the all clear has been issued, so don't feel you have to pick up your child at the appointed time for school to end. If you choose to come to the church to take shelter, feel free to do so.

If you have any questions - don't hesitate to stop by the 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.

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.



Lent and Holy Week

Holy Week is April 6-12. If you do not have a church home, I invite you to participate in any or all of the church's Lent and Holy Week activities in March and April. Please call the church at 341-0107, for a schedule.

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 your Bunny 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.

Ms. Cheryl and Ms. Tracey

Bunnies (Tuesday/Thursday)

We cannot believe how the year is flying by. The Bunnies theme for March is "spring." Our weeks this month include fun activities with kites, daffodils, chicks, and baby bunnies (including Little Bunny Foo Foo)!

We continue to introduce

manipulatives to our children. This month the Bunnies will practice with pegs, sponge and bristle blocks, and snap beads.

It has been nice to go back outside and play on chilly and warmer days. Hope everyone has a great Spring Break!

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.

We will introduce our Busy Bears to the colors yellow and green. Our shapes of the month are triangle and oval. Expect to see caterpillars, butterflies, bunnies, lions, and lambs in your child's artwork.

Parents, please be sure to check the snack schedule, there is a copy posted outside the classroom.

Have a great Spring Break. Thank you for sharing your little ones with us.

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

Gummy Bears

February was a busy month in the Gummy Bear room with Valentines, pet week, and our space unit. We had a great party. Thank you to all of our parents for being so generous with your time and effort.

During pet week we made doggy biscuits and got to see pictures of a lot of our pets. We had a special visitor come to class. In Space week, we learned about the sun, moon, stars, planets, and rockets.

March themes include a unit on dinosaurs. We will learn about different dinosaurs, open dinosaur eggs, and dig for bones in the rice. We will have a unit on St. Patrick's and shamrocks. Gummies will make heart shamrocks, play with green shaving cream, and create with green manipulatives. Our month also includes nursery rhymes, and the Gummies will learn several. See if your child can repeat them to you. We will also have a unit on zoo animals. The children will create zebra stripes and elephant paint.



Parent / Teacher conferences are scheduled for Friday, March 27. Watch for the sign up sheets for conferences times. We look forward to visiting with you about your awesome children.

Ms. Bivens and Ms. Glades

Extended Enrichment

March is already here and it is going to be an exciting month in Enrichment. Our activities this month include zoo animals, community helpers, spring, and outer space. Take a moment to look at our "Hungry Caterpillar" in the Enrichment hallway. The children loved creating this, and it is really awesome!

Please make sure to check your child's file outside the Enrichment room and pick up their art work.

It's still chilly in March, and we will be going outside whenever possible. Please be sure your child's name is on his/her coats, etc. This is such a GREAT help for the teachers and we appreciate you. We look forward to seeing your child in Extended Enrichment this month!

*Mrs. Cromer, Mrs. Emery,
Mrs. Atikens and Mrs. Fairchild*

Rainbows (A.M. and P.M.)

The month of March is sure to go by quickly due to our Spring Break from March 16-19.

March is loaded with a lot of fun learning experiences. We will finish our "I am Special" unit, and then we'll spend time learning about St. Patrick's Day. This is a fun way to learn about the color green, shamrocks, and leprechauns. The Rainbows will have to watch out for those pesky leprechauns, so when they visit to our Rainbow class they won't play tricks us! Maybe we'll find their gold!

With Spring on its way, we will begin learning about animals and insects. We will also plant grass seed, watch our cup of grass grow, and become hair for our funny faces.

Our colors for March are yellow and green. The shape is a diamond and the number is 9. We love visitors in our classroom. If you would like to share information

about your occupation, please visit with your child's teacher for further details.

Be sure to look for information about Parent/Teacher Conferences, to be held on Friday, March 27. We look forward to visiting with you about your special Rainbow..

Mrs. Peterman, Mrs.

Harrison, and Mrs. Nelson

Sunbeams

The school year is marching on, and our Sunbeams have shown so much growth in all areas: Not only physical, but social, emotional, intellectual and general work habits. We have begun evaluating your child to determine where they currently are developmentally in these areas. After Spring Break, on Friday, March 27, we will conference with you to discuss results.

Our Valentine Parties were awesome! Thanks to all the parents who helped out. 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 the letters I, U, and R. Fine Arts Institute will be here on March 4, and Gymboree will visit on March 12. Don't forget about Spring Break, March 16 - 19. Thank you for reviewing letters and numbers at home with your child, and for helping the Sunbeams practice writing their names.

Don't forget to read and sing with your child every day. What special times and memories you'll have together! We love being your child's teachers.

Mrs. Schutter and Mrs. Griffin

Superstars

With Spring Break scheduled for March 16 - 19, the month of March is sure to go by quickly.

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

We will also explore pond life.



We will learn interesting facts about tadpoles, fish, ducks and more!!

Be sure to look for information about Parent/ Teacher Conferences to be held on Friday, March 27th.

We look forward to visiting with you about your special Super Star!

Mrs. Bules and Mrs. Fick

SPRING