

WARD'S CHAPEL PRESCHOOL



CHATTERBOX



VOLUME 44, No. 4

Ward's Chapel Preschool

DECEMBER 2024

DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

- 10 **FIELD TRIP** – Arts on Stage – AM 4s –
8:45 Arrival
- 17 MT 2s Sing-a-long at 11:00 am
- 18 Wed 2s Sing-a-long at 11:00 am
- 18 Christmas Program - MTW 3s at 10:30 am
- 18 NO LUNCH BUNCH
- 20 Christmas Program – AM 4s at 9 am
- 20 Christmas Program – ThF 3s at 10:30 am
- 23- **NO SCHOOL** - Christmas Holiday
- Jan. 3

JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

- Jan. 6 **School Reopens**
- 6 **Sub Sale Begins**
- 14 **2025-2026 Registration Day**
- 20 **NO SCHOOL** - Martin Luther King Holiday
- 23 **Sub Orders Due**
- 24 **NO SCHOOL** – Staff Planning Day
- 23 **Sub Orders Due**
- 24 **NO SCHOOL** – Staff Planning Day
- 28 Irvine Nature Ctr. Visits MT 2s, MTW 3s
- 30 Irvine Nature Ctr. Visits ThF 3's, AM 4s

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | | |
|----|------------|---|
| 3 | Kanyon W. | 5 |
| 6 | Maurice S. | 5 |
| 6 | Dillon L. | 4 |
| 10 | Melissa Q. | 3 |
| 24 | Lily T. | 4 |

DECEMBER PRAYER

Thank you for this time of year, to celebrate a birth so dear. You sent your Son from up above that all who know might learn to love. Amen

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

Please check the calendar and the separate letter you will receive for details about your child's program.

THANK YOU...

- To all who donated abundantly to the food pantry.
- To the Grandparents that visited the 3s classes.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



STANDING INVITATION to WCUMC

If you do not have a church family, we invite you to attend Sunday Services and/or Sunday School. There are 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services with a Nursery available during the 11:00 service.

From 9:45–10:45, there are Sunday School classes. All are welcome.

We also invite you to join us in Christmas activities and services:

- Sunday, Dec. 15
9:45 am Family Advent Activity
- Sunday, Dec. 22
10:00 am
- Tuesday, Dec. 24
7:00 pm Candlelight Service

Singing With Santa Christmas Party

AT WARD'S CHAPEL UMC
Saturday, December 7
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT
Free Food Live Music

"KIDS TO KIDS" OCTOBER

In October, we took a collection of new and gently used coats, plus new socks and underwear to Everstand, formerly Methodist Board of Child Care.

NOVEMBER

Your generosity in November helped us feed 48 families at the Wards Chapel Food Pantry for Thanksgiving. The food pantry here at church is open the third Saturday of each month if you know anyone in need.

DECEMBER

For the holiday season, we will be donating *Golden Books* to Carroll County Hospital Center Pediatrics Unit and Emergency Department. Please bring them to school by Friday, December 20. A flier will be sent home.

FROM THE STAFF

We wish you and your family a Blessed Christmas season and a New Year filled with love, happiness, and good health.

FROM THE OFFICE...

- **INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY** - We will follow the Baltimore County or Carroll County Public School closings. If either or both Baltimore or Carroll Counties are closed, we will be closed. If they go one or two hours late, we will implement our alternative schedule. **The 2's will meet 10:00–11:45. The other morning classes will meet 10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon.**

LUNCH BUNCH (T/W/Th) will meet 12 noon – 1:30 pm.

Please check the school or local TV station websites for the Baltimore and Carroll Counties information. You can expect a text message from Remind.com. Please alert sitters or grandparents to this policy, especially if they have your children in the mornings.

- **RE-ENROLLMENT** - Re-enrollment papers for all classes will be sent home the week of January 6. Registration Day for the 2025-2026 school year will be Tuesday, January 14, 2025. A more detailed letter will follow.
- **UPDATES** - Please let us know if you have had a recent change of address, phone number, or emergency information.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE HOLIDAY

- ❖ Don't get caught up in the holiday hype. The holidays are meant to spend time with family and create memories.
- ❖ Make sure that you find individual time for each child, especially when you know there will be many people celebrating the holiday with you.
- ❖ No matter what your religion, you can explain the real meaning of Christmas to your child, that for Christians it is the celebration of Jesus' birthday.
- ❖ Remember not to get your family bogged down with gifts, dinners, visiting and other holiday activities. Let your kids have fun, too!
- ❖ A good tip to remember is to involve your children in both the festivities as well as the tasks, like helping out with the dishes, wrapping and decorating.
- ❖ There are many meaningful things to do during the holidays, like donating to a food drive or serving dinner at a shelter.

PROCESS AND PRODUCT

As adults, we are concerned with the outcomes or the product of our efforts. We want the report to look nice, the cookies to taste great, or the hedges to be perfectly straight. We participate in few activities just for the fun of doing them.

In part this is because we are not still learning how to do most of these activities. But do you remember when you learned how to play tennis or golf? Or use a new computer program? In the beginning you needed to do a certain amount of time for "messing around" – exploring what happens if you did this or that.

That is the way it is with your child. Kids are learning new things all the time, and they need the freedom to try things out without worrying about the product.

Luckily, young children tend to be more involved with the process or the doing than they are with the end product or results. That is why your child may draw all afternoon yet still not be able to tell you what he drew. And why one child can pour rice back and forth between pitchers all day long, and another will string and unstring beads every day for a week.

It is hard for us adults to look beyond the product of an activity and see what the child is learning from the process. Perhaps he's learning coordination or beginning writing skills or making discoveries about triangles or gravity. He's certainly finding out that doing for one's self is very satisfying – and that builds confidence.

Be patient. Allow your child the time to grow and learn through the various processes that are part of the task. Enjoy watching his or her involvement. Later, we all can be proud of the product.

...From – Family-Friendly Communication for Early Childhood Programs, Deborah Diffily and Kathy Morrison, ed., NAEYC

COMPASSION

The value for December is Compassion. Children learn about compassion as they grow to appreciate other's feelings, sorrows or hardships. This leads to feelings of helpfulness, sympathy, empathy and understanding. When a child understands that other people have the same feelings, he has, this leads to feelings of compassion for that person. We can foster this compassion in many ways. One way is when a child gets hurt, we can show the other children that the child is okay and help him or her to feel better. There are also children's books on compassion: *Rose Meets Mr. Wintergarden* by Bob Graham, *Lucy's Picture* by Nicola Moon, *I Walk with Vanessa* by Kerascoët.

