



Trinity UMC Preschool Newsletter December 2015

Dates to Remember

Supper with Santa Wed, Dec. 2nd
Christmas Break - 12/21/15 - 1/1/16

Looking Ahead to the New Year

Happy Days for Moms and Dads - Children
return to school - Mon. Jan. 4th
School Closed MLK day - Jan. 18th
School Closed - Jan. 25



Inclement Weather

If we should get snow or freezing weather and it is sticking, please come for your children, immediately. Don't wait for Charlotte Mecklenburg to close. If you wake to bad weather, check to see if CMS is closed and we will be also or call the school's number 704-399-1684 ext. 23 for a message from Claudia. Please remember to dress your child appropriately for the weather outside. The children do go outside daily unless it is raining or snowing.



Hornets Nest Elementary School

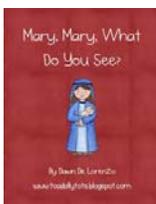
FIRST ANNUAL WINTER BAZAAR

Saturday, December 5, 2015

9:00 a.m-1:00 p.m.

Charlotte, North Carolina

An invitation from the church



"MARY, MARY WHAT DO YOU SEE?"

Please make plans to join us at Trinity on Sunday, December 20th at 5:00 pm for our presentation of the children's Christmas program, "Mary, Mary What Do You See?" Come enjoy hearing the Nativity from the perspective of each person that was there, as shared by some of our youngest members! Afterwards, enjoy some sweet treats and fellowship with the cast, crew, and their families. We hope to see you there!

The Mighty Oak

We don't know how old the oak tree out front was, but all this school year we knew that we were going to soon lose her. I remember being a young girl at Trinity and hearing stories from Mr. Bill of how they tied their horses and wagons to the tree, when they came to church. Many children have played under that Mighty Oak. On Friday the 13th of November the small group of preschoolers that attend on Fridays watched as it was taken down. We have been talking about the tree since the beginning of school. The children have taken it quite seriously in Miss Susan's class. They have collected her acorns and many of the acorns have been planted all around the area. Following are thoughts about the tree from Miss Susan's class.

- Anthony Wilmouth** - The big tree is old, I think! Cause it's leaning. I think it might die. I will miss it!
- Griffin Walker** - The tree is old cause it has holes in the trunk! Squirrels live in that tree. I will miss that tree!
- Tyler Woolford** - The old tree is changing colors. It always makes leaf piles so we can jump in them. I will not miss that tree...I guess.
- Abby Black** - I love that old tree! He is my best friend! When he falls down, I will miss him so much!
- Drew Yandle** - When I go to school I look at the big tree! It has lots of leaves and acorns on the ground! I will miss him so much!
- Anthony Falcone** - That tree makes my pigs so happy because they eat those acorns! The tree leans way over! I bet it is 82 years old. That's old!
- Bristol Brown** - The big tree is leaning. It is leaning cause it is starting to fall! I love to play at the tree. I will hug it goodbye!
- Eizabeth Rockett** - The big tree has lots of leaves. It has acorns on the ground. I like to pick them up. Bye Bye tree!
- Bentley Bruce, Eli Kidd and Evan Jackson all agree that:** They are all going to miss that tree and they did not have a chance to kiss it, hug it and say goodbye.

Supper with Santa

December is the month for one of my favorite events. For many years Santa has visited the first Wednesday in December. As you all know the Hot Dog Committee serves lunch each Wednesday from 11:00 until 2:00 PM. On **DECEMBER 2nd**, they will reopen at 6:00 so we can welcome Santa Claus! He comes each year on Long Creek's Volunteer Fire Department truck. It is such a magical night as we stand on the steps waiting. The first thing that happens is we hear the siren and then we see the blinking lights through the trees as he makes his way down Beatties Ford Road. Adults feel like children again. Santa always arrives around **6:30pm** and will be available for photos with your child, so be sure and bring your camera. We will open the doors for Supper at 6:00 so come and enjoy a meal with your family before Santa arrives. On the menu you can choose from a hot dog or chicken nugget plate. The price is \$3.00. Invite your neighbors and join us for a magical night.



Miss Cindy, you will be missed!

Miss Cindy was offered a job with Cabarrus County Public schools that she felt God was leading her to. Before coming to us she was an elementary teacher. What started out as a few years away from elementary school turned in to over ten years with us at Trinity. For a while Cindy will still handle the finances for the school. We are looking for the very best replacement for the class that she teaches. In the meantime, Andrea Tarleton, a past teacher who had around fifteen years' experience teaching at Trinity will be the interim teacher. We will keep you informed and will make sure the best possible solution is found.



December Birthdays



Five Years Old

Bentley Bruce December 18th

Four Years Old

Georgia McMillan December 3rd

Three Years Old

Levi Key December 24th

Two Years Old

Apple Stanley December 16th

Jake Black December 27th

TUITION REMINDERS

All tuition monies for December must be in the office no later than 12:00pm, Tuesday, **December 15th**. After that, a \$10 late charge will automatically be charged to your account, unless you have talked to Cindy and made other arrangements. **Tuition fees for December do not change. Tuition is figured on a yearly basis, and then broken down for your convenience into monthly payments. If you have any questions about tuition, please see Cindy or email her at tumcmoney@yahoo.com**

Do you enjoy playing basketball? If so Wednesday evenings beginning at 7pm, Trinity is the place to be. See Claudia for more details.





With Love from Miss Claudia

I played under and around the old oak tree as a child, so the day it came down was an emotional day for me. I was sitting outside in a chair and Bristol Brown, from Miss Susan's class was standing beside me. At some point I put my arm around her waist and as the tree fell, she pressed her cheek against mine. I told her afterwards that the hard things in life were certainly easier if you went through them with a friend and when I thought of the tree, I would think of her.

Every day at the school, the children are making friends. I recently read a great article about the stages of friendships. Just as children usually crawl before they walk and walk before they run, they also show a developmental sequence in their friendships. Children as young as six months get excited about seeing their peers. Sometimes they will crawl or scoot to get near another child, but at this age they tend to view their classmates as toys to explore. Around 12 to 18 months, children start showing a preference for certain peers. They begin to play simple games like peek a boo or their favorite, one child runs from one end of the room to another while squealing and another child imitates and does the same. At this point they are beginning to realize their peers are other people with ideas of their own. Children two to three years old become more gentle and kind to their friends. If one of their friends is sad, they will stroke or offer something to the child to make the child feel better. At that time they prove that they can have empathy and know it is not always about them.

Between the ages of 3 and 6 years they view friends as momentary playmates and it is all about having fun. Their friends are the ones who are convenient. We have all witnessed at restaurant play areas, our four year old playing with a child they have never met, as if they had been friends forever.

From 6 to 9 years, most likely they define friends as children who do nice things for them with less emphasis of how they themselves contribute to the relationship. Children at this age want friends and will even put up with some not so nice behavior just to have a friend. At this age they may also use friendships as a bargaining tool, "I will be your friend if you do this for me" or "I won't be your friend anymore if you don't do this. Sounds horrible but the beauty of that age is pain is short lived and the two would probably be the best of friends in about ten minutes.

From the ages of 10 to 15 years, friends help each other solve problems and will share thoughts and feeling with close friends that they won't share with others. There is a lot more compromising during this time. They finally realize that you can do kind things for others without keeping score. The reason...they genuinely care about each other's happiness. Of course I am not saying there are not arguments but 99% of the times, friends know that their relationship is much more important than differences. There are times at the beginning of this stage that friends are "Joined at the Hip", especially girls and expect each other to do everything

together and they can feel betrayed if their friend spends time with someone else. But Thank Heavens after that short period they learn to accept and even appreciate the differences between themselves and their friends. They are less likely to feel threaten if their friend spends time with someone else. At this point, true friends trust, support and stay close, despite separations.

I grew up right in this area and at that time we did not have such a wide selection of schools to go to. Everyone within a five to ten mile radius of Trinity went to Long Creek Elementary. Most families had been here for generations so the same kids were with you every year. A few Saturdays ago we had a Long Creek Reunion, ages 63 through 66 years old. Some who came traveled quite a distance to be here to see people that they had not seen in over 40 years. None of us were quite sure what it would be like and made sure there were name tags so we would know each other. I am so happy to report that we were as comfortable with each other as we were when we were together playing as kids. As a matter of fact, you or anyone else would have seen a sea of grey hair, but we saw ten to thirteen year olds. We decided we will get together a few times a year because we had such a wonderful time so, if there was a group of people that you travel through life for many years together, look them up. Best way in the world to turn back the clock.

Love the thought that the children of this preschool may hold on to these friendships for a very long time!



*Our Christmas wish for you
is that you have joyful,
happy times during the
Christmas Season, but most
importantly that you have
those quiet, awe struck
moments as you remember
"Why" we celebrate the
season.*

