

Trinity UMC Playschool

Newsletter

February 2009



February

Birthdays

One Year old

Alex Jackson February 24th

Two Years old

Caleb Kidd February 11th

Three Years old

Tyson Poppen February 26th

Four Years old

Preston Allman February 3rd

Destiny Mubia February 3rd

Grace Foy February 7th

Samantha Hill February 16th

DATES TO REMEMBER

Feb. 11th - In House Registration

Feb. 18th - Sibling and Church Members Reg.

Feb. 14th - Valentine's Day

Feb. 16th - Playschool is OPEN

Feb. 25th - Registration Open to Public

LOOKING AHEAD

March 2nd - Cookie Fundraiser Kickoff

(Information Coming Soon!)

March 5th - Trinity's Famous BBQ - 11am-until

April 4th - Easter Egg Hunt/Party - 10-12 noon

Attention Parents

1. Make sure you register your child for the coming school year and summer sessions before Feb. 18th, which is the starting day to register siblings. If you need enrollment forms for siblings or friends, you may pick them up in the playschool office.
2. Extra Parent Surveys are in the playschool office. Please fill out one if you haven't done so. We would love to have 100% participation.
3. Parent Fellowships will continue each Thursday in February. See special details for the next class on page 4. Can't wait to see you there.

Cookie Dough Fundraiser

It's that time of year again! We will be selling gourmet cookie dough for our spring fundraiser. The cookies are delicious and easy to sell. The fundraiser will start on Monday, March 2nd and will end on Friday, March 13th. More information coming soon!

WE ARE



Parents we are now scheduled to be open Monday, February 16th. It was originally a teacher workday that CMS is now using to make up for the recent inclement weather. We will also use the 16th as a make-up day here as well.



Inclement Weather Reminder

Parents please be sure to check Channel 9 (WSOC TV) anytime that there has been snow or ice in our area. We will post our closing as Trinity UMC Playschool. Our general rule is to close anytime that CMS does, but check for our posting through the television broadcast or online at www.wsoc.tv/closings to be sure.

With Love from Claudia

As you probably remember, it wasn't long ago that I was teasing you about counting to three with your children. Just about all parents are guilty of doing it. When my two kids were preschoolers, I was guilty. Thank Heavens; they never called me on it as I have heard some children do over the past years. The best I heard and witnessed was a mom in a store with her precocious two year old son. When she got to three, he smiled his biggest smile and screamed "Blast Off!" and down the aisle he ran.

Of course maybe you have become the parent that has figured out "Counting to three" will not teach children to make wise decisions. After realizing this many parents go from bad to worst. Not only do they not give their child to the count of three, they jump the second that their child breaks a rule. Not too long ago a new parent and her son were visiting the school. The first thing her child did as we entered the class was to go up to one of our children and try to take a car out of his hand. The mom broke into action as she started toward her son while screaming, "No!" She resembled a race horse out of the gate. I reached and took her arm and whispered, "Watch". As we watched, I explained that the one year class was a place the children learned many things and one was how to interact with peers. The playschool child looked the new child in the eye and hung on tight to the car. You could almost see the wheels turning in the new child's brain. He was thinking, "I want that car, but you most want it too and right now, you have it." The child walked over to the shelf and picked up his own car. The child learned so much more than if the mom had continued to scream and stopped him.

Parents who are attending the Thursday night classes are discussing traits that parents need to do their best. One of those traits, "Patience", was a trait my daddy had by the buckets full. Daddy was a truck driver, a large muscular man. He could have put the Fear of God into any child had he raised his voice, but

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he didn't parent through fear. Growing up my brother Danny and I use to fight like cats and dogs. My mother was constantly hollering, "Stop that!" and separating two strong willed children that were continuing to swing at each other. It really aggravated and amazed her that after a long day of refereeing, Daddy could just walk into the room where we were fighting and just look at us. He would have a look on his face that looked like we had really shocked him, that he could not believe his children were behaving that way. The fighting would stop instantly and one of us would find ourselves admitting to starting the fight and the other would admit that they should have not swung back, but walked away. Did he count to three? I now believe, "Sure, he did", but we never heard him count. I think the count was done silently as a reminder to him, not to start hollering at us and telling us what we already knew. He gave us the time; those few precious seconds, to think about what we were doing. He didn't have to call us wild animals; we knew we were acting that way. He never had to say, "Tell your brother you are sorry." Daddy gave me those seconds to look at Danny and see him, red faced, tee shirt stretched at the neck where I drug him and to feel sorrow on my own. When I said, "I'm sorry" I truly was... Sorry I had hurt my brother but also sorry I had disappointed this man who loved us and believed in us so much.

Daddy died when my first child was only one and a half. How I would have loved for my brother's and my children and the grandchildren to have known him, but in a way they do. We spent many hours learning how to parent from him as he lead by example, never asking anything of us that he himself wasn't willing to do. We have no memories of our daddy all red faced, veins a popping and hollering. He just didn't do it. When I remember of my daddy, I see his smiling face that seems to say, "That's my girl."

How will your kids remember you?

The 50th Annual Bar-B-Que

Trinity's Bar-B-Que will be held on Thursday, March 5th. We will use the same pickup instructions as we did last year. If you were not here last year or forgot, we will send out instructions for you to follow.

You can purchase advance tickets for the Bar-B-Que in the Playschool office. Each ticket is \$8.00 for one plate or three sandwiches. It may also be purchased for \$7.00 per pound.

Every Sunday:

Open Hearts
Open Minds
Open Doors



We invite your family to be a part of our family each Sunday.

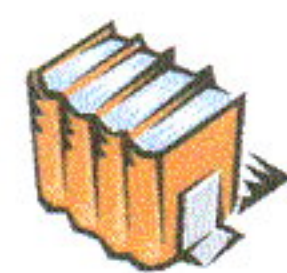
Celebration Service: 9:00AM
Sunday School: 10:00AM
(New Fellowship ALL ages)
Worship Service: 11:00AM

Kids join us Sunday evenings for youth group. Feel free to stop by and see what it's all about. We have programs from 5pm-6:30pm for ages K-8th!

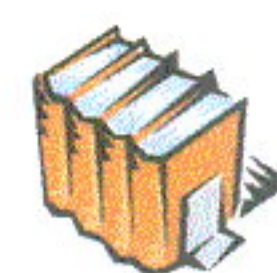
K-2nd Led by Holly and Shea Hartsell
3rd-5th Led by Margie O'Shields
6th-8th Led by Shelly Swaringen

9th-12th Led by Donna and David Stroupe
7:00-8:30pm @ Assurance UMC

Talk to Claudia or call the church office (704-399-1684) for more information!



MR. CHARLIE'S STORY TIME



Another wonderful visitor the children have enjoyed for the past year has been Mr. Charlie. This year Mr. Charlie has got to know our Threes Classes better by reading to one of them each Wednesday. Mr. Charlie is a member of our Trinity United Methodist Church family. His grandson graduated from Trinity Playschool last year, but that hasn't stopped Mr. Charlie from donating his time to read to your children.

He has read Bible stories which include the Prodigal Son and Zacheus. Mr. Charlie is very impressed by how smart and attentive the kids are. He found that the kids knew the story of Zacheus very well and were able to relate to it the best. Thank you Mr. Charlie for your time; we know the kids have loved the stories!

Spanish with Miss Rubi!

For the past year, the playschool classes from the older threes on up have enjoyed learning Spanish from Miss Rubi.

Some parents may already know Miss Rubi. She lives at the nearby Latta Springs and teaches Spanish classes every Monday at the Havana Social Club in Huntersville. Not only is she fluent in Spanish, but she also teaches private ballroom dancing lessons.

Your children have enjoyed learning Spanish from Miss Rubi through song and dance. The great part is that Miss Rubi speaks mostly to the children in Spanish and yet they are still catching on so quickly. Her teaching style is fun and upbeat so that the kids are always watching and learning through her actions. We look forward to having Miss Rubi here twice a week for the rest of the year.

ADIOS!

Life in the Classroom

With Miss Debbie's Fours

Good morning, welcome to our four year old class. We are having such a fun year in Miss Debbie's class. As you can see our class is filled with so many things to do.

The first thing you see are the tables with all our markers, crayons, colored pencils, scissors, and paper. Sometimes we have some really neat color sheets too. Miss Debbie likes for us to be creative and draw our own pictures. Occasionally there are stencils, ink pads and different kinds of stamps on the table too.

Then we have another table with different things to do. It's different every week when we come to school. Sometimes there are puzzles, dry erase boards, number sheets, and letter stamps. The list is so long that we can't even begin to name them all.

We have a great Lego table. Sometimes some of us stay there all morning long. We also have a science table. It was pretty empty when we started to school in September, but we have brought in some great things to put on it. We have cotton that came straight from the cotton field, some great big acorns, sea shells Miss Debbie brought from the beach and we have a big basket full of ocean creatures.

Beside the science table there is a big book area. We love to look at books. Miss Debbie put some big pillows there for us to lie on. The block area is great too. All the children love to build castles and towers and then knock them over with cars.

The last place that we play in is the home living area. You might be surprised to know that the girls are not the only ones who play here. ☺

After free play, we clean up and have together time. Miss Debbie picks a different helper and caboose everyday. The helper assists Miss Debbie with the calendar, weather, and sentence of the day. Then he/she draws a picture about the sentence.

We're also learning our lower case letters and the sounds. We have even started putting sounds together that make words. When we're done the caboose gets to turn off the lights and he is at the end of the line. He has to make sure everybody stays in line. Miss Debbie says that will help us when we go to big school.



Registration Time is HERE for Summer Sessions and the 2009-2010 School Year

- In House,
(Children enrolled this year)
Wednesday, Feb. 11th
- Siblings (of children now enrolled) and Church Members
Wednesday, Feb. 18th
- Open to Public
Wednesday, Feb. 25th

Registration forms are now going out with details on how to register your child for the upcoming school year and Summer Sessions.



PARENTING FELLOWSHIP

You are invited to join us in this coming week's parenting fellowship class. It will be on **Thursday, February 12th**. For those of you who have attended the class before the format will be a little different this time. This session will be special! **We want the parents to have an adult only dinner.** This means that your children will be eating with the nursery helpers. We ask that you pack a dinner for your children from home. Please pack each child's dinner separately because they will be eating with children their age and may not be with their sibling. The menu for the adults will include marinated chicken breast, baked potato and salad. If your spouse is unable to come, don't worry because we have a father whose wife says he has enough charm to share with a table full of women. Each fellowship night has been great so far and many things have been learned. So please join us Thursday February 12th at 6:00pm for dinner, the class will start at 6:30pm. If you haven't attended the class before this will be a wonderful time to start! We offer free babysitting and the children love being at Playschool at night. We hope to see you there!



Life in the Classroom

With Miss Becky and Miss Cindy's Older Twos

When you come to the Older Twos' classroom in the morning, you might find Zachary creeping around the corner trying to sneak up on Miss Cindy and Miss Becky. You might hear Mimi or Joshua running in yelling, "Good Morning!" and running to give the teachers a hug. Miss Cindy and Miss Becky are greeting everyone with a warm, "Hello!"



Next, the day of fun and learning starts. The children get to go play in the many centers of the room. You will find Michael and Davis playing with the superheroes, Ethan and Aidan are playing with the pirate ship and pirates, while Haden and James play with the trains. Building with the blocks and knocking down Miss. Becky or Miss Cindy's towers are sure to produce many laughs. The house keeping area is usually full with Megan, Carly and Kylee playing with the doll house. Hannah, Mycah, and Morgan are usually cooking a yummy brunch for all their friends, while Gracie and Abby are playing mommy with the babies. Wondering around the room and playing with a little bit of everything is Lex and Chase.



While we are having fun playing with our friends, we are also working on creating beautiful master pieces of art. We all love to get very messy, as you Mommies and Daddies might have noticed. Most of us line up to do art, and cannot wait for our turn. Oh how we want to be the first to do art.

After we did our art and cleaned up our messy room of toys, we sit down for circle time. During circle time, we talk about our theme for the month. We also talk about our numbers and colors. We then read a book or two, and have a few laughs. Before we go to the table, we have to say our blessing and clean our hands.

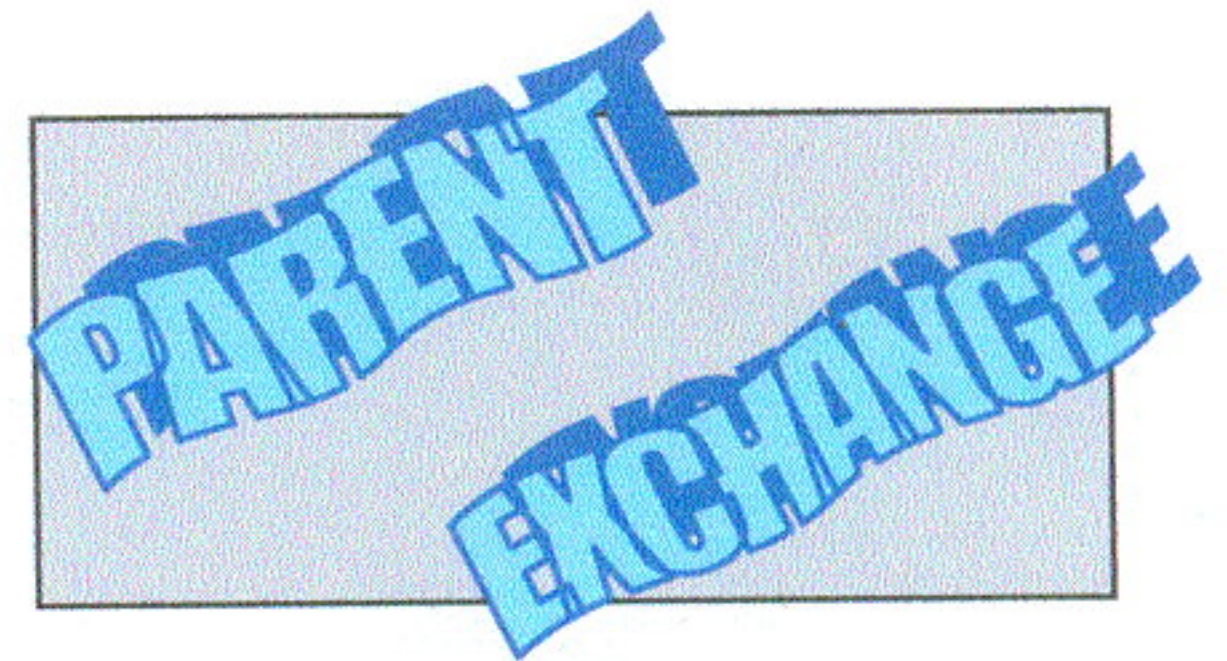
We get very excited after we say our blessing because this means that it is snack time. Snack time is our second most favorite time of the day. We love to eat and drink our juice. Miss Cindy and Miss Becky get a good laugh at the conversations that go on during snack. You might hear about what someone did the day before, or what they are going to do that afternoon. You also might hear one of the kids repeating something Mommy or Daddy said to them.



After snack is our most favorite part of the day, Playground Time!!!!!!! We so love to go

outside, run around and get all of our energy out. The boys are usually playing trucks or digging in the sand. The girls continue to play house. Everyone loves the little roller coaster ride.

Now, it is time to come in and sing songs. The Great Big Spider is our favorite song, and we love all its other versions too! Sticky Sticky Bubble Gum is a close second thanks to Miss Shea. The class would sing forever if we let them. Anything with moving and dancing is a plus. The day has come to an end and it is time to say Good-Bye. Everyone goes running to Mommy or Daddy when friends tell them that they are here. What a day! We had lots of fun. See you tomorrow for another fun and exciting day!!!



Still Needing Buddies

Do you have a younger child who is not enrolled in preschool? Those of you who do have younger children have probably experienced the frustration of having to carry little ones into school in a car seat carrier or finding an extra arm or hand to carry them.

Children's safety is extremely important to the staff at Trinity Playschool, therefore we would like to remind you about the BUDDY SYSTEM many parents are using. This system is for parents who could use the help of leaving your little ones in your car while you take your enrolled child to class. Your "buddy" will meet you wherever you both decide to meet in the Trinity parking lot. Then your buddy will stay with your child(ren) at your car while you take your enrolled child to his/her class. That way you can leave your windows down and doors open when it's hot, or keep the heater on when it's cold so your child(ren) will be safe with a buddy keeping an eye on them.

If you could use the help of a buddy, please sign up on the sheet hanging by the office. **We especially need volunteers to be a buddy for a fellow parent.** If you can help with this, please sign up for the "Volunteer Buddy List", also hanging by the office.