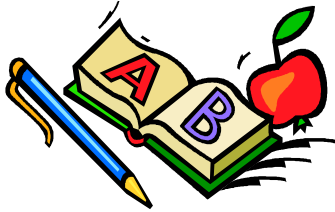


Family of Christ Christian Preschool

16345 Polk St. NE, Ham Lake, MN 55304

763-434-7337 ext. 240



September Newsletter

Welcome!



We would like to begin this newsletter by welcoming all of you to our Preschool! We are excited to be working with you and your child. For those of you who are new to our program, we thank you for taking the time to attend parent orientation and the parent/child half school day. We also thank you for helping with our classroom supply lists and cutting projects.

At Family of Christ, we believe that children are gifts from God. They grow and develop at individual rates that are sometimes unrelated to age. We believe that children's play is fundamental to their development and that during our free choice time, their own interests lead to learning.

Children learn best by play, and they also learn from each other. At our preschool, we provide an environment based in trust and freedom within limits in order to teach children to be self-reliant and to use their own initiative.

We plan to enhance your child's physical, emotional, social, intellectual, and their spiritual development as well. Each day at preschool, your child will learn of God's love and that Jesus loves everyone so much that He gave his life on the cross and came alive again to give us victory over sin. We celebrate this great news in our classrooms each day. We urge you as your child's first and best teachers to talk about Jesus in your home.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year together! It is our prayer that your child and family will be blessed this year as you are part of our preschool.

Substitutes Needed

Are you interested in, or do you know someone who would be interested in being part of our substitute list? We are looking for individuals who have previous early childhood or teaching experiences to occasionally sub in our classes. If you are interested in being part of our sub list or if you would like more information about being a substitute, contact Mary Hiller at 763-434-7337.



Prayer Requests

"Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done." Philippians 4:6

If you have a prayer request, we would love to pray for you! Please fill out one of the prayer request forms located by the "Sign In / Out" book and hand them to your child's teacher when completed.

Parent Association

Thank you to all of you who have signed up to be part of our Parent Association. We will be having our first meeting on October 11th at 7pm. We meet 3-4 times a year, operate two large special events, and oversee fundraising for the preschool. Please remember that all parents are welcome and encouraged to come to any or all of the meetings.

Volunteer Opportunity

We need two parents who would be willing to organize, place orders and distribute our books. It would be best to have one be a parent of a 3-4 year and one parent of a 4-5 year old. If you could help with please talk to Mary Hiller. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

Book Orders

Reading aloud to your child is the most important thing that you can do to help them learn how to read. That is why each month we will be providing you with opportunities to purchase books for your child.

Included with each newsletter you will receive a book order. By purchasing books from these clubs you will save money and benefit the preschool. You save money because Book Club prices are much lower than retail prices. And you benefit the preschool because each time you make a purchase from one of the Book Clubs; the preschool receives points that can be used to earn free books and other classroom materials.

To place an order, just fill out the order form, attach your payment, and return them to your child's teacher by the due date. *Please make all checks out to Scholastic Books.*

Book orders due: Friday, September 23
Online: September 22

PRESCHOOL OPENINGS

We are full in many classes, however if anyone you know is still looking for preschool, we still have a few openings. We will also take names for waiting lists. For more information, please call Mary Hiller, 434-7337.

A CLOSER LOOK ...Easel Painting

How does painting at the easel help my child's development? There are a number of positive things that are taking place as your child works at the easel. Painting at the easel provides your child with sensory experiences that allows them to explore colors, color mixing, textures, and sensations such as slippery, drippy and wet.

Painting also provides opportunities for your child to work creatively to express themselves, which often leads to a sense of satisfaction as they review the final project.



It is also an excellent manipulative activity as it helps to develop hand and finger muscles to prepare them for printing and writing. Furthermore, as your child uses their whole arm to spread paint, they are developing control over their large muscles.

What is My Child's Class Number?

- Class 1: M/W A.M. (3 & 4 yr. olds)
- Class 2: T/Th A.M. (3 & 4 yr. olds)
- Class 3: F A.M. (3, 4 & 5 yr. olds)
- Class 4: M/W A.M. (3 ½, 4 & 5 yr. olds)
- Class 5: T/TH A.M (4 & 5 year olds)
- Class 6: M/W Extended Day (4 & 5 year olds)
- Class 7: T/Th Extended Day (4 & 5 yr. olds)

Family of Christ Library

Our library is located off the church's worship center/sanctuary. It is filled with books, videos, DVDs for adults and children and it is available for your family's use. We appreciate returning the items promptly so that these materials can be utilized by many others. Thank you!

Late Fee Policy

In fairness to all families, our tuition late fee policy will be strictly enforced. If we have not received your tuition payment by the 15th of each month, a \$5.00 late fee will be charged to your account. As a non-profit organization, we rely on your tuition payments for smooth operation of our program. Thank you for your cooperation regarding this manner.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



September Birthdays

Caiden Becker
Christina Foley
Alexander Hughes
Max Kinney
Molly Mayer
Griffin O'Hanlon
Tyler Schoffelman
Benjamin Tombers
Kristiana Rempp
Mackenzie Uecker
Zackery Uecker

Snack Prayer

"Johnny Apple Seed Prayer"

Oh, the Lord is good to me.
And so I thank the Lord.
For giving me the things I need,
The sun and the rain and the apple seed.
The Lord is good to me.
Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen
AAmen.

Missing Forms

Please turn in all missing forms for your child's file. If we do not have your child's health form by September 16th, your child will be suspended until the pink health summary/immunization record has **been signed by your physician or clinic and is in your child's file.** These regulations are Minnesota State Law.

School Pictures

October 12th, 13th, and 14th will be picture days at Family of Christ. Jim and Linda Schumacher from Portraitfx Photography will be taking our pictures again this year. They have done a marvelous job for us in the past and we are excited to have them back with us this year. Please watch your child's mailbox for more information in October.

Please Remember...

- To sign in your child when you drop them off and to sign out your child when you pick them up. If someone else will be dropping off or picking up your child, please make sure that they do this also.
- To let us know if your child will not be in school on their class day. You can talk with your child's teacher, or leave a message on our voicemail. The number to call is 434-7337 EXT. 240. Thank you!
- To bring your child to the bathroom to wash their hands before coming into the classroom. It would also be great if you encouraged your child to use the toilet before coming to class. By doing these two things we can reduce the number of germs that come into the classroom and reduce the number of bathroom accidents that we have.

Helping Hands Fund

Our Helping Hands Fund can give partial financial assistance for families who meet these qualifying guidelines:

Guidelines for Helping Hands

<u>Family Size</u>	<u>Income Level</u>
2	Under 39,000
3	Under 49,000
4	Under 59,000
5	Under 69,000
6	Under 79,000
7	Under 89,000
For each Additional person	Add 1000.00

If you would like an application, please speak to Mary Hiller. Applications are due by September 23th.

Fund Raiser

Family of Christ Preschool will be partnering with Papa Murphy Pizza as a fundraiser this fall.

We will be selling discount coupon cards for \$5.00 and the school will be receiving a \$4.00 profit from each card. Papa Murphy's is a take and bake pizza chain store. The coupons may be used at any store throughout the country...not just those listed on the card. We are open to having people take several cards to sell at work as well as for individual family use. Watch your mailbox for the order form and fill out the desired amount that you would like and return it to your teacher or the tuition box in the preschool office. Thank you!

We are in need of...

- Clothes (sized 3,4, 5 & 6) to be used in case of bathroom accidents or spills on clothing.
 - Boots sized

Growing Children's Needs

Children are as fragile
As the petals of a rose
Their need for love and guidance
Will go on each year they grow.

Walk lightly through the flowers
Making certain they have room,
For if you overcrowd or step on them
You may never see them bloom.

Nurture them with kindness
As you see to all their needs.
Treat children as you would a plant
You've started from a seed.

The fruit of all your labor
Will be sweet and bring you pride,
For guidance builds good children
When it's tenderly applied. -Lyle Nachand

Zoo-Phonics

Family of Christ Christian Preschool is beginning a new phonics program this year. Here are some of the fundamentals about Zoo Phonics.

- **The Animal Alphabet helps children remember the shapes and sounds of the letters.**
- **Lowercase letters are taught before capital letters because they are used more frequently.**
- **Children will be taught a body movement for each Animal Letter which will help "cement" the sound and letter into a child's memory.**
- **The alphabet is taught sequentially, and as a whole entity, "a - z." The alphabet is not fragmented.**
- **Short vowels are taught before long vowels.**