



Unit Letter
"Designed by God"
September, 2011

Dear Families,

Welcome to a new year at Family of Christ. We are so excited about the experiences we will share together as we walk through this season in our life journey. Mrs. Loftus and I are looking forward to getting to know each of you better.

You will be receiving a communication letter like this at the beginning of every thematic unit. We will be sharing an overview of the lessons, songs and activities planned for your child during this time. Important special events of the month will also be highlighted. Occasionally, a special notice or reminder will be contained here as well. A unit lesson plan, posted outside the classroom doorway, will provide more detailed information about our daily activities.

Our first unit will help create an atmosphere where children will feel safe and comfortable knowing that God has designed them uniquely. We will be focusing on developing a comfortable transition to the new school year and making each child sense the wonder of who they are. God is our best cheerleader and we want to make this a place where your child knows he/she is a delightful personality. During the year we will be introducing the children to books, toys, games, ideas, investigation, exploration and problem solving. We look forward to helping your child build friendships with his/her new classmates. As influencers of these relationships, the staff will be looking for positive actions and noticeable skills each child displays and will express recognition and appreciation for them.

Each day will also contain some GROUP TIME, FREE CHOICE TIME, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY TIME, SNACK TIME and a devotional time we call JESUS TIME. These first weeks, we will enjoy our outside playground as much as possible. When the winter weather arrives we will use our indoor LARGE MUSCLE AREA. (NOTE: We expect/plan to go outside every day during these pleasant fall days. Please dress your child appropriately for playing on our playground. Bring a jacket if you feel your child needs one and please error on the side of caution. Closed toe shoes are the most comfortable while running and playing in the wood chips on our playground.)

Your child's mailbox is our first avenue of written communication with you at home. Everyday some precious piece of art, new cuttings or other valuable information may be contained there. Every week you will find a Bible Story that reviews the lesson your child has heard at school. You will also find birthday celebration notices, snack requests, helper volunteer reminders and book order forms (purchase is optional) arriving at appropriate times.

As the year progresses, your child will be bringing home a variety of activity bags. We will introduce the "Star Bag" this week. Instructions will be contained inside each bag. Waiting for your turn is one lesson these activities are intended to teach. Thank you for helping your child enjoy and understand these activities.

It is a privilege to share these days with your child and you. Our future is as bright as the promises of God. May we all experience His abundance and peace each and every day!

Throughout the year we will be introducing new songs and finger-plays to your children as we seek to manage transitions, teach concepts, impart new information or develop relationships within our class. Here are some of the songs we will use to start the year:

Higgeldy, Piggeldy

Higgeldy, piggeldy, apple jam,
Can you look to where I am?

Hello Everybody

Hello everybody, how do you do?
How do you do? How do you do?
Hello everybody, how do you do?
God loves you today.

I'm Happy Over YOU

I'm inside, outside, upside, downside, happy over you.
I'm inside, outside, upside, downside, happy over you.
You are my special friend, I like you as you are.
I'm inside, outside, upside, downside, happy over you.

Good Bye Everybody

Good bye everybody, good bye everybody,
I'm glad you came to play.
Good bye everybody, good bye everybody,
We had a happy day.

Information and Dates to Remember

September 20: Open House, 6:30-8:00 PM

September 22/23: Online/Regular Book Orders Due

October 6: Chapel @ 9:15 in Sanctuary. Parent's are invited to join us for chapel.

October 13: School Pictures

October 20: NO SCHOOL, MEA Conventions

*Trusting in a good God and knowing He has blessed my life and yours,
we look forward together. The best is yet to be.*

*Mrs. Arlene Skaff
Mrs. Karen Loftus*