Christ Memorial

December 2021 Newsletter

For unto us a Child is Born. Isaiah 9:6

December is a month filled with wonder and celebration at Christ Memorial Christian Preschool. We will be busily preparing for Christmas by teaching the true meaning of the season. The children will have the opportunity to create special crafts and holiday keepsakes. They will learn Christmas songs as well as the meaning of the many symbols used at Christmas. We will also be participating in two special giving projects described below. Through these projects we hope to help the children understand that giving gifts is as important as receiving them. We will culminate the month by celebrating Jesus' Birthday together!

SHOW AND TELL

There will be no Show and Tell during the month of December. It will resume in January.



WINTER CLOTHING:

Please remember to send your child with gloves/mittens and hats as the days turn colder, all labeled with their name. We will always try to get outside to play whenever we can. Also, remember to check your child's change of clothes to make sure they are now weather appropriate.



Our Inclement Weather Policy

Just as a reminder our inclement weather policy is as follows: If Howard County Schools are closed due to weather we are also closed. If Howard County Schools are delayed either 1 or 2 hours we will open at 10:30 am and close at 12:30 pm. You will not receive notification from the preschool on these days. Please check the local channels and Howard County Website for closing/delay notifications.



Christmas Giving Projects

We will be partnering with Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church for two Christmas giving projects this year. Both of these projects are up and running already!

The first project is call The Angel Tree. The Angel Tree is a program through which families in need receive donations of items that they need/want for the holiday season, whether that be physical presents or gift cards. The Christmas Tree with the ornaments is located at the entrance to the church. Please join us in supporting those in our community by selecting a tag from the tree with a suggested gift to purchase. All gifts need to be returned to preschool and placed under the tree by Friday, December

10th. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR GIFTS ARE UNWRAPPED AND HAVE THE ORNAMENT TAPED TO THE BOX/BAG!

The second project is a food donation drive. We will be collecting food donations for the Howard County Food Bank. There will be a collection bin located just outside the preschool door for our families to participate. By donating food, we can ensure that our brothers and sisters receive adequate nutrition, especially the children who may struggle to get a full meal. The Food Drive will conclude on December 18th at the annual Luminary Walk at CMPC. Final food donations and monetary donations can be made at that time.

Both of these projects create a great opportunity to help your preschool child understand the importance of giving to others just has God has given so much to us. If you have any questions, please ask Mrs. Gallagher.



Christmas Celebrations

All classes will be participating in Christmas Celebrations during the month of December. The details of each event are listed below:

December 21st at 11:30 am - Our 3-Year Old Classes will have a short Christmas Program and Birthday Celebration for Jesus. Children should arrive at school at 9 am. Parents and guests please arrive no later than 11:20 am and go directly to your child's class assigned space listed below.

Nienhuis/Wheelock's 2 Day Class - The Church Sanctuary (2nd Floor via front steps and to the Right - Directly above the preschool)

Rosti/Benzing's 2 Day Class - Fellowship Hall (2nd Floor via front steps and to the left)

December 22nd at 11:00 am - Our 4-Year Old Classes will have a Christmas Program and Birthday Celebration for Jesus. Children should arrive at school at 9 am. Parents and Guest please arrive no later than 10:50 am and go directly to your child's class assigned space listed below.

Nienhuis/Wheelock's 3 Day Class - The Church Sanctuary (2nd Floor via front

steps and to the Right - Directly above the preschool)

Rosti/Benzing's 3 Day Class - Fellowship Hall (2nd Floor via front steps and to the left)

Smith/Scheid's 3/5 Day Class - Trinity Classroom (1st floor of church)

PLEASE TELL YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF YOU WILL BE ABSENT FROM SCHOOL ON THE DAY OF THE CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!



Reminder: Reporting Absences

When you know your child will be absent either due to illness, vacation or other reason please be sure to email both the preschool office (preschool@cmpcusa.org) and your child's teacher. A reminder of the teacher email addresses is below.

Thank you all for working so hard to keep our preschool a healthy environment this year by keeping your child home if they are not feeling well. I know it has been challenging. I greatly appreciate everyone's willingness to meet the Howard County Health Department standards.

IMPORTANT: Please remember if your preschool child has a sibling that has been asked to quarantine by HCPSS per our policy your preschool child cannot attend preschool. Please review our <u>COVID PROCEDURES</u> for details.

Preschool Teacher Contact Information:

Mrs. Nienhuis - julie.nienhuis@cmpcusa.org Mrs. Rosti - stefanie.rosti@cmpcusa.org Mrs. Smith - k.smith@cmpcusa.org



Christmas Events at Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church

If you are looking for a church to celebrate this special time of the year we would love to have you at Christ Memorial Presbyterian Church. Our special events this month to celebrate Christmas are listed below.

Saturday, December 18th -Christmas Advent Luminary Walk -- 6-8 pm

Join us for an outside walk around the church focusing on the meaning of Christmas. You will travel to individual stations as a family group to read and experience Christmas.

Friday, December 24th -Christmas Eve Services

 In-Person and Online via the church

website: www.cmpcusa.org

5:00 pm - Family Service 8:30 pm - Traditional Service

What Brings You JOY?:

During the holiday season we will have an interactive bulletin board display in our Big Room. Please take a moment to add to the board during the month of December as we reflect on all that God has done for us and think about what brings us JOY this time of year.

Basic Concepts for December

<u>2 Day Classes:</u> Numbers: 1-10 Colors: Red, Green & White Shape: Star Vocabulary: Christmas Words

<u>3 & 5 Day Classes:</u> Numbers: 1-20 Colors: Gold & Silver Letters: N, M, & H Vocabulary: Christmas Words <u>Christmas Break</u> - Just a reminder that Christ Memorial Christian Preschool will be closed from December 23rd - January 2nd. We will reopen on Monday, January 3rd.



We wish all our preschool families a Merry Christmas! We feel blessed to know all of you and have the opportunity to spend the mornings with your children! Enjoy your time with family. We will see you all in the New Year!

- The Teachers of Christ Memorial Christian Preschool