

WARD'S CHAPEL PRESCHOOL



CHATTERBOX



VOLUME 43, No. 4

Ward's Chapel Preschool

DECEMBER 2023

DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

	6	FIELD TRIP – BSO – AM 4s – 8:45 Arrival
	12	MT 2s Sing-a-long at 10:45 am
	13	Christmas Program - MTW 3s at 10:30 am
	13	NO LUNCH BUNCH
	15	Christmas Program – AM 4s at 9 am
	15	Christmas Program – ThF 3s at 10:30 am
	18-	NO SCHOOL - Christmas Holiday
Jan.	2	

JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan.	3	School Reopens
	8	Sub Sale Begins
	9	2024-2025 Registration Day – 12:00 pm
	15	NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Holiday
	23	Irvine Nature Ctr. Visits MT 2s, MTW 3s
	25	Irvine Nature Ctr. Visits ThF 3's
	25	Sub Orders Due
	26	NO SCHOOL – Staff Planning Day

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

6	Dillon L.	3
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DECEMBER PRAYER

Thank you for this time of year, to celebrate a birth so dear. You sent your Son from up above that all who know might learn to love. Amen

CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

Please check the calendar and the separate letter you will receive for details about your child's program.

THANK YOU...

- To all who donated abundantly to the food pantry.
- To the Grandparents that visited the 3s classes.

CONGRATULATIONS...

To the Heller family on the birth of Ruby, November 10. Daisy in the AM 4s is the big sister.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



STANDING INVITATION to WCUMC

If you do not have a church family, we invite you to attend Sunday Services and/or Sunday School. There are 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. worship services with a Nursery for preschool and children through 5 years of age during the 11:00 service.

From 9:45–10:45, there are Sunday School classes for all ages from preschool through the oldest senior adult. All are welcome.

We also invite you to join us in Christmas activities and services:

Sunday, Dec. 3

9:45 am Family Advent Activity

Sunday, Dec. 24

7:00 pm Candlelight Service

Singing With Santa

AT WARD'S CHAPEL UMC

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Free Food Cars

Live Music

"KIDS TO KIDS"

OCTOBER

In October, we took a collection of new and gently used coats, plus new socks and underwear to Hernwood Elementary.

NOVEMBER

Your generosity in November helped us feed 43 families at the Wards Chapel Food Pantry for Thanksgiving. The food pantry here at church is open the third Saturday of each month if you know anyone in need.

DECEMBER

For the holiday season, we will be donating *Golden Books* to Carroll County Hospital Center Pediatrics Unit and Emergency Department. Please bring them to school by Friday, December 15. A flier will be sent home.

FROM THE STAFF

We wish you and your family a Blessed Christmas season and a New Year filled with love, happiness, and good health.

FROM THE OFFICE...

- **INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY** - We will follow the Baltimore County or Carroll County Public School closings. If either or both Baltimore or Carroll Counties are closed, we will be closed. If they go one or two hours late, we will implement our alternative schedule. The 2's will meet 10:00–11:45. The other morning classes will meet 10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon. LUNCH BUNCH (T/W/Th) will meet 12 noon – 1:30 pm. Please check the school or local TV station websites for the Baltimore and Carroll Counties information. You can expect a text message from Remind.com. Please alert sitters or grandparents to this policy, especially if they have your children in the mornings.
- **RE-ENROLLMENT** - Re-enrollment papers for all classes will be sent home the week of January 3. Registration Day for the 2024-2025 school year will be Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 12 noon, in the Fellowship Hall. A more detailed letter will follow.
- **UPDATES** - Please let us know if you have had a recent change of address, phone number, or emergency information.

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE HOLIDAY

- ❖ Don't get caught up in the holiday hype. The holidays are meant to spend time with family and create memories.
- ❖ Make sure that you find individual time for each child, especially when you know there will be many people celebrating the holiday with you.
- ❖ No matter what your religion, you can explain the real meaning of Christmas to your child, that for Christians it is the celebration of Jesus' birthday.
- ❖ Remember not to get your family bogged down with gifts, dinners, visiting and other holiday activities. Let your kids have fun, too!
- ❖ A good tip to remember is to involve your children in both the festivities as well as the tasks, like helping out with the dishes, wrapping and decorating.
- ❖ There are many meaningful things to do during the holidays, like donating to a food drive or serving dinner at a shelter.

THE FINE ART OF DAYDREAMING

Many adults think a child's mind and body should be continually busy. They believe that only when kids are doing something are they learning.

But a tendency to over-schedule can actually be counterproductive to the learning process. It doesn't allow a child time to be inventive or reflective. Just as young children need periods of time for creative play, they also need time to daydream.

Daydreaming is a magical experience-anything can happen and all things are possible. The relaxed state that occurs during a daydream allows the brain to filter out distractions of the moment and to go into a creative surge of imagination and reality. Like the blending of paints, the hows, whys, and what-ifs of the daydream swirl together, forming a palette of colorful ideas.

Many a great idea begins as a daydream. Orville Wright dreamed of flying. Alexander Graham Bell dreamed of an invention to communicate over long distances. Harriet Tubman and Martin Luther King Jr. dreamed of freedom. Each held onto a dream, continued to question, and worked to make it come true.

We can help children find ways to explore their daydreams by giving them the tools to help bring the ideas into the real world. Give them time to ponder. Help them collect facts and gather materials for building and inventing. Let them choose their own methods. Help them evaluate their results. Provide opportunities to try again. Above all, we must value the questions and believe in the possibilities.

...From – Family-Friendly Communication for Early Childhood Programs, Deborah Diffily and Kathy Morrison, ed., NAEYC

COMPASSION

The value for December is Compassion. Children learn about compassion as they grow to appreciate other's feelings, sorrows or hardships. This leads to feelings of helpfulness, sympathy, empathy and understanding. When a child understands that other people have the same feelings, he has, this leads to feelings of compassion for that person. We can foster this compassion in many ways. One way is when a child gets hurt, we can show the other children that the child is okay and help him or her to feel better. There are also children's books on compassion: *Rose Meets Mr. Wintergarden* by Bob Graham, *Lucy's Picture* by Nicola Moon, *I Walk with Vanessa* by Kerascoët.

