

WARD'S CHAPEL PRESCHOOL



CHATTERBOX



VOLUME 45, No. 4

Ward's Chapel Preschool

DECEMBER 2025

DECEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

3	FIELD TRIP – BSO – AM 4s – 8:45
	Arrival
16	MT 2s Sing-a-long at 11:00 am
17	Christmas Program - MTW 3s at 9:00 am
17	NO LUNCH BUNCH for 3s
19	Christmas Program – AM 4s at 9:00 am
22-	NO SCHOOL - Christmas Holiday

Jan.

2

JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER

Jan.	5	School Reopens
	5	Sub Sale Begins
	13	2026-2027 Registration
	19	NO SCHOOL - Martin Luther King Holiday
	22	Sub Orders Due
	23	NO SCHOOL – Staff Planning Day
	27	Irvine Nature Ctr. Visits MT 2s, MTW 3s
	29	Irvine Nature Ctr. Visits AM 4s

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

6	Dillon L.	5
10	Melissa Q.	4
24	Lily T.	5
29	Azariah K.	3
29	Mason R.	3

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.

FROM THE STAFF

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

STANDING INVITATION to WCUMC

If you do not have a church family, we invite you to attend Sunday Services and/or Sunday School. There is a worship service at 10:00 a.m., with Nursery available (if needed). From 8:45–9:45, there are Sunday School classes. All are welcome.

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

Sunday, Dec. 21

10:00 am

Wednesday, Dec. 24

7:00 pm Candlelight Service

Singing With Santa Christmas Party

AT WARD'S CHAPEL UMC

Saturday, December 6

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

Free Food Caroling Visit with Santa
Santa Arrives on a Fire Truck!

"KIDS TO KIDS" OCTOBER

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

NOVEMBER

Your generosity in November helped us feed 45 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 19. A flier will be sent home.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



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) 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 5. Registration Day for the 2026-2027 school year will be Tuesday, January 13, 2026. 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.



REAL ART FOR REAL CHILDREN

We grown-ups provide the time, the space, the materials, and the atmosphere needed to create the wonderful works of art that only children can create. In valuing a child's first artistic attempts, however, we should appreciate the beauty of the color and design rather than worry about the finished product.

Real art for real children is personal. Art can be as simple as colors representing a pretty day or as complex as a series of lives which express a sad feeling. It is important that each idea be developed by the child without adult preconceptions.

Spontaneous: Always be ready for the creative moment!

Inventive: Children need to have access to a variety of materials. Some art masters paint with egg yolks, mash berries for color, and use sticks for brushes. Experiment!

Imaginative: Cows can be purple, tears gray with glitter. The moon really can smile, and mommies can have six arms.

Unique: An original idea, combined with imaginative expression and materials of the child's choice, encourages ownership and a positive sense of self-esteem. No two works of art look the same when young children are the artists.

Therapeutic: Art provides children with the means to gain control over their feelings. A completed creative work establishes feelings of self-satisfaction and self-confidence.

Fun: Whether kids concentrate alone or work in a shared creative group, a positive, enthusiastic atmosphere of enjoyment is essential!

...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.