



Here We Grow in Our Savior

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"What love the Father has lavished upon us that we should be called His children". 1 John 3:1a

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Staying in touch with you

Each month I send out this newsletter to keep parents informed of special events/activities and other fun stuff happening in preschool. This newsletter is also my way of keeping the congregation informed of our events. Feel free to always email, call, or come talk to me if you have questions. When we work together with the parents and kids, everyone succeeds, especially the families we minister to!

On the left side of the newsletter you will see curricular objectives that these activities help promote among the kids. Learning for kids happens all the time!

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION—Can you believe registration will be taking place soon for the new 2018-2019 school year??? Congregation members and current preschool families can enroll beginning January 8. All required forms and other information is available on our church's website at www.oursaviorlutheranchurch.org then click on "Our Savior Preschool". Enrollment packets can also be picked up at the children's ministry booth in the church lobby. A \$100 enrollment fee must be paid at the time of enrollment to secure a child's space. Registration for the community opens on February 12. Please spread the word to your friends, family, and neighbors that we have a wonderful preschool program and can't wait to share God's love with each child that walks through our doors!

Christmas Worship Service & Birthday Party for Jesus



On Sunday, December 10th, 2017, *Our Savior Pre-School* with *Our Savior Sunday School* will worship the birth of *Our Savior* at both the 8:15am and 11:00 am worship services in our church's sanctuary. This replaces our usual preschool week night service. You have a choice of joining us for one of the services; each service will be exactly the same. We are doing this to help accommodate the large attendance we always have.

The preschool children will sing their own songs during worship. Preschool children will also be the "extras" in the Christmas story: Giraffes will be sheep, Cardinals will be shepherds, Monkeys will be angels, and Lions will be townspeople.

Another exciting event will be the "Birthday Party for Jesus" from 9:30-10:30am in our church's gymnasium. We will celebrate Jesus' birth by

Coming to church and hearing Bible stories develops a child's sense of spirituality and knowledge of Jesus. It also develops a sense of self-control.

We learn to give thanks and how to use manners as well as learn about the birth of our Lord.

enjoying a birthday cupcake, playing some games, watching a video, etc.

There are many curricular objectives covered at lunch:

Using fine motor skills with purpose and control.

Personal Care Routines: Feeding

Participates in prayer

Participating in events helps us learn responsible conduct as a group member

We are building relationships of mutual trust and respect with others.

Cooking in the home helps us learn math skills of measurement, comparisons, using number to show quantity, and learning the passage of time.

Singing in church helps with worship development as we praise God with song and participate in prayer.

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Lunch Time!

Did you know we eat lunch upstairs in the gym at child-sized tables and chairs???? Did you know we also serve our lunch family style???? That means the children are learning how to use their manners to have food passed to them, how to scoop out their own food from the serving bowls, take their entrée using tongs, and how to pour their own milk. Yes, even our two-year-olds are quite successful, with assistance!! We use child-sized pitchers and cups and the kids are doing great. The children are learning to take a certain amount of portions, such as 3 apple slices or even cutting or pulling a food apart and getting two parts or one half. We also learn how to sit the correct way in a chair, how to talk to our friends during the meal and when we are done, waiting for our friends to finish, and how to put our cups, forks, and plates in the correct tubs for them to be washed. There are so many skills to be learned while eating family style! Here's one of the prayers we say before lunch and snack (sung to the tune of the Spiderman theme song):

God is great, God is good
Let us thank Him for our food
By His hands we are fed
Let us thank Him for our bread.

Chili/Soup/Dessert Cook-off!

That's right; our annual Chili Cook-Off is just around the corner!! On Sunday, January 14, immediately following the 11:00 am church service, our preschool will be hosting its annual Chili/Soup Cook-Off/Dessert Bake-Off. The event will be held in the gym and it is always a great time of fellowship! All the money raised will benefit our preschool. In the event of inclement weather, the cook-off will be held the following Sunday on January 21.

Here's how it works: Families enter their favorite chili, soup, and/or dessert in the contest. There is no fee to enter. During the event, everyone walks around the gym tasting as many entries as they want. People can buy tickets for a dollar and vote for their favorites by placing tickets into a cup that is placed in front of each entry. We will have fun prizes for the 3 top choices in the chili, soup, and dessert categories.

This event has been great fun in the past and we need your help to make it a success again this year. There will be a sign-up sheet in the lobby for you to enter your pot of chili or soup or your favorite dessert!

Preschool Children Sing

Our children sing during the 11:00 am service on Sunday, January 10 (before the Chili Cook-off. Please join us and enjoy hearing the children praising God with song.

Preschool Children Sing Again!

The children will sing again at the first Advent service on December 6. We hope you will join the preschool families for the Advent dinner from 5:00-6:15 and then worship starting at 6:30 pm.

Caroling and Cocoa

Help us spread some Christmas joy! The preschool families will be joining our congregation families for Christmas caroling on Monday, December 18 starting at 6:00pm. Some families will stay and carol on the church's front lawn while some families walk into the surrounding neighborhoods to carol door-to-door. At 7:00, we will all meet back at church for some hot cocoa! What a fun way to prepare for Christmas.

Jesus Time

During this special time each child is learning the same Bible story over the course of one week. On Monday, Ms. Cari goes into the classrooms and teaches the lesson. On Tuesday, the entire preschool goes into the church sanctuary and Pastor Mike leads us in chapel. On Wednesday, Mr. Mark, our Director of Christian Education, goes into the classrooms to teach the same lesson again. On Thursday, it's Mrs. Huning's turn to teach. Each classroom teacher finishes the week with one last review of the lesson. Each month there is a theme and different Bible stories. The theme for December is "Christmas" and the theme for January is "Joy".