



A Christian Based Preschool

Reading
Enrichment and
Active
Discoveries for
Young learners



January, 2010

Volume 2009—2010, issue 4

**We're on the web at
www.vanwertfirst.net**

Special points of interest:

- "A Snowy Day"
- How to get a month of free tuition
- Chapel
- Church Lending Library

Inside this issue:

Winter Fun	2
Chapel Bible verses Children's Library Wonder-Filled Weekdays From Mrs. Hotmire	3
Contact Information Church Staff Preschool Staff Board of Directors Ice Skating Photo	4

Wacky Week for Pre-Kindergarteners

The week of January 25th will be "Wacky Fun" week at Preschool. Monday will be Fizzy Foamy Day. The children will need to bring in something fizzy or foamy to share with the class. Tuesday we will wear sweats and enjoy races and exercises. Thursday, the children are to dress in black and/or white.



Read, Play, and Learn!® is an innovative, play-based curriculum for children 3–6 years of age (1-6 years developmental age).

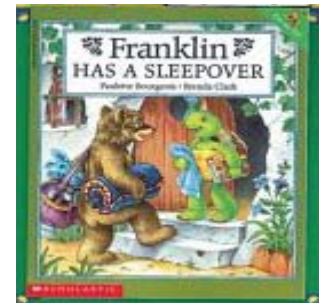
At the heart of the curriculum are its two collections of storybook modules. The modules creatively build from the concepts, ideas, actions, and events of the stories in order to make learning more relevant for children.

The FUM Preschool uses this curriculum as it emphasizes a developmental approach to learning.



A book the children are enjoying in the month of January is *The Snowy Day*, a 1963 Caldecott Medal winner, which is the simple tale of a boy waking up to discover that snow has fallen during the night. Keats's illustrations, using cut-outs, watercolors, and collage, are strikingly beautiful in their understated color and composition. The tranquil story mirrors the calm presence of the paintings, and both exude the silence of a freshly snow-covered landscape. The little boy celebrates the snow-draped city with a day of humble adventures--experimenting with footprints, knocking snow from a tree, creating snow angels, and try-

ing to save a snowball for the next day. Awakening to a winter wonderland is an ageless, ever-magical experience, and one made nearly visceral by Keats's gentle tribute.



"Franklin Has a Sleep Over" by Paulette Bourgeois is one of the books for January. Franklin can't wait for his best friend Bear to come over for their first sleepover. However, when it's time for bed, Bear begins to miss his own room -- until Franklin comes up with an idea to make Bear feel more comfortable.

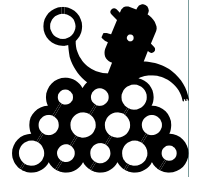
Winter Fun with your Preschooler

Winter is a special time for family moments. What do you remember from your childhood years? Playing outdoors probably was in the top three! Sometimes it is too cold or blustery to go outside, so here are some ideas for indoor fun. Enjoy the time with your child, exploring the winter season.

Indoor Fun

String Snowballs

These are very popular with young children. All you really need is a blown up balloon, string or pieces of yarn and paste. Paste can either be white glue or a mixture of flour and water. Have your child dip the string or yarn into the paste and put it onto and around the balloon. Let her place as many as she wants. When finished, hang it up to dry for a day or two. With a pin, pop the balloon and remove it from the inside. Make many small ones and hang them from the ceiling.



Winter Wonderland Creations



Have your child draw a picture on a sheet of construction paper. Spread a thin layer of glue on top of her drawing. Using rick-rack (the wavy pieces of trim you get from fabric stores -- it's cheap and comes in white, silver, gold), cotton balls, swabs, rice and glitter, let her winterize her drawing.

Making Frost

Start by explaining to your child how dew is made (it's the result from a quick change in temperature). Once dew freezes it becomes frost. To make your own frost you will need: a tin can with a lid, half a cup of rock salt and two cups of crushed ice (crushed in a blender). Let the child put the ingredients in and stir vigorously. Move on to something else for about 30 to 40 minutes and dew will form on the can. Leave it again and when you return, the dew will have turned into frost. Let your child discover the coldness on her little fingers. What happens when she touches the can? Warm fingers cause the frost to melt and the finger makes a print.



Ice Melt



This is a science experiment that only requires ice cubes, a plate, a towel and curiosity. Let your child discover, feel and describe the melting process. For an older child you can tell him about the process of warm air turning the ice into water. When the melting is over, don't forget to take your child a step further in the experiment: What will happen if you put the plate back into the freezer? What if you added a few drops of food coloring? Paint? You can also make Popsicles for this experiment and then let your child enjoy a frozen treat. Who said Popsicles were only for summertime?

Icicle Sun-catcher



Take a pie pan and fill it with water. Add some birdseed, leaves, twigs, pinecone, acorn, nuts and other nature items you have. Place the pie pan in the freezer and freeze until solid. Then hang in a tree and watch it twirl around and around and sparkle. Watch it melt on mild days. Children love activities that are constantly changing. When the sun-catcher melts, suggest making another.

<http://www.preschoolerstoday.com/resources/articles/winterfun.htm>

Weekly Chapel

The Bible is a special book

The children of the preschool learn Bible stories in a chapel setting. Mrs. Hotmire, Dillon Staas, senior pastor, Jon Exman, associate pastor, and Susan Mathew, director of Christian education, in this time with the children.

Stories for January are: Mary and Joseph flee to Egypt, Mary & Joseph go to the Temple, Jesus calls his disciples, Christian Characteristic.



Bible Verse for January

"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord."
Psalm 100:1



Church Library

Lending Library

First Church houses a lending library for children on the second floor in the room called St. Paul's Library.

There are books, videos, DVDs, puppets and stuffed animals which children may borrow for a period of 2 weeks.

The procedure is to sign and date the card inside the books or audio visuals and place the cards in the basket in the room.

Puppets can be listed on a card in the card box. Sign and date the card along with the puppet being borrowed.

For assistance, contact Susan Mathew in the education office.

Month of Free Tuition

First United Methodist Preschool Board offers a month free tuition to anyone who refers another family to our preschool and they attend FUMC Preschool.

Please tell your friends to mention the name of the referring family to receive the credit to your account.

"Tell your friends about First United Methodist Preschool and get a month of free tuition."

Curriculum for 3's



Wonder-filled Weekdays offers lessons for children in Christian preschool ministries. These lessons integrate developmentally appropriate activities with religious development and are designed to help teachers make faith connections. The lessons are organized around monthly seasonal themes. Each lesson contains: An outline of the lesson with goals, objectives, faith connections, Bible verse, teacher's

prayer, Center Time, including writing, math, art, worship, home living, and building centers, Wonder Time, Group Fun, Goodbye Circle, and Evaluation.

This month we will be having a pajama party. We are working on our shapes, colors, and numbers, manners, classroom rules, learning how to recognize and write letters in their names, cutting and gluing, making snowmen.

From Mrs. Hotmire—Administrator and Pre - Kindergarten teacher

Parents, The month of January will be a busy month will a lot of fun activities. We hope the weather co-operates with us. If you have any questions feel free to contact me.

February 22—24 will be Parent-Teacher Conferences. There will

be more information to come about these dates. I wish you and your family a Happy New Year!

Reminder about school delays...

2 hour public school delay means 1 hour delay for the

preschool. 3 hour public school delay, we are cancelled.

No school on January 18th. Martin Luther King Holiday.



Our mission is to grow in our understanding and relationship with God in a loving Christ-centered community that is committed to worship, service and hope as we make disciples.

Sunday Morning at First Church

8:00 a.m.—Blended Service

Nursery open

9:15 a.m.—Contemporary Service

Nursery open

9:30 a.m.—Sunday school

2 year olds—adults

Nursery open

10:45 a.m.—Traditional Service

Nursery open

Alternative Worship Experience for

Kindergarteners—Grade 4

Child Care for preschoolers

Phone number: 419-238-0631

Email address: firstchurch@wcoil.com

Office hrs: M-Th, 8:30—4:30

F-8:30—noon

To leave a written message for a staff member, please use the mailboxes in the Office Storage Room, across from the Office.

First Church Staff

Dillon Staas, minister	Ex 2
dstaas@wcoil.com	
Jon Exman, associate pastor	Ex. 306
jexman@wcoil.com	
Paul W. Miller, minister	Ex 6
Susan Mathew, director of education	Ex 4
smathew@wcoil.com	
Marilyn Bebout, office manager/secretary	Ex 0
firstchurch@wcoil.com	
Jana Thompson, Youth coordinator	Ex 5
jthompson@wcoil.com	
Gloria Wendel, worship coordinator/organist	
gwendel@wcoil.com	
Paul Hoverman, chancel choir director	
aphoverman@juno.com	
Juanita Hotmire, preschool administrator	Ex. 1
jhotmire@wcoil.com	
David Leiendoeker, superintendent of building	

First Church Preschool Staff

Susan Mathew, Director of Christian Education
 Juanita Hotmire, Administrator and Pre—K teacher
 jhotmire@wcoil.com 419-238-0631, Ex. 1
 Lisa Hawn, Pre-k aide
 Susan Carlson, 4/5 year old teacher
 Lesa Exman, 3 year old teacher
 Tonya Sroufe, M/W 3 year old aide,
 Georgia Adam, T/TH 3 year old aide

First Church Preschool Board

Shanann Jackson, chair
 Ruth Ann Covey, Vice chair
 Marcia Osenga, secretary
 Julie Burenga, treasurer
 Eric McCracken
 Jeff Tomlinson
 Mitch Gearhart
 Darla Dunlap
 Dillon Staas, senior pastor
 Susan Mathew, DCE, ex-officio

Children sang in the worship service for the congregation in December.



Publication Information

The Preschool Newsletter on the web, is published each month at First United Methodist Church in Van Wert, Ohio by Susan Mathew Editor smathew@wcoil.com