

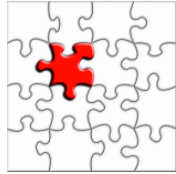
# LTUMC Preschool Parent Newsletter

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## Essential Piece

-1 Corinthians 12:12-26

*At the beginning of the school year we asked each child in our preschool to decorate a puzzle piece. Then each teacher showed her students that each piece was important because without each piece the puzzle would not come together; or be complete. The puzzle piece represented a visual message that each and every child within our school is an essential piece of what we do each day. The second part of our puzzle message is that God has a plan for each child; the puzzle comes together when all the pieces are placed where they were made (or planned) to fit. The children were really proud to see that their "piece" was necessary to complete their class puzzle.*

*Months later we displayed these class puzzles during our Art Show. Our students enjoyed seeing them again, and as each class looked at their puzzles, many of the children were able to point out which puzzle piece was theirs. I watched several proudly point to a piece of the puzzle and comment "Hey look, there's my piece."*

*Following the Art Show we brought the puzzles back to the preschool and as we looked at them we debated on what we should do with them. As we looked we felt happy, because each puzzle represented the special time each class had completing it. However, we were also sad to know that with the school year drawing to a close, the puzzles would not remain together.*

*It seems appropriate and perhaps symbolic that we should take the puzzles apart and return each piece to its rightful owner. So, prior to the end of the year, your child will be bringing his/her puzzle piece home in a small bag tied with a ribbon. The piece can become a necklace (if you punch a hole in it and thread a cord through it), or a decorative pin (if you glue a pin to the back of it) or a medal (if you glue a ribbon to the back) or it can simply be a special memento your child places somewhere he/she can see and touch it. Regardless of what is done with this puzzle piece, we hope your child will always remember it for what it represented when he/she created it..... it is a reminder that your child has been an essential part of what we have done this year at LTUMC preschool – and he/she is an Essential Part of God's Plan.*

*Blessings,  
Darlene Chermak*



## CALENDAR

### May 11th

Early Release 12 noon for Teacher Appreciation Luncheon

### May 9th-13th

Last week of Enrichment and Chapel

### May 16th & 17th

Special Year End Event

### May 18th & 19th

Last Day of School

### May 19th

Sending Forth Program

### August 29th

Back to School Night

### August 30th

Student Orientation Day

### August 31st, Sept 1st, Sept 2nd

First day of school

## SENDING FORTH



Each year we set aside a special evening to recognize our 4 year olds who will be heading off to Kindergarten next fall. This year our Sending Forth program will be May 19th at 6:30 in the church sanctuary.

Even if you do not have a child in our Pre-K 4 year old program, please feel free to come and enjoy the program.



**JUST IMAGINE.....May 16 & 17**

Just Imagine is of course the in-school enrichment program we offered this year to all of our 3 and 4 year old students. BUT – Just Imagine is also going to help all of us “IMAGINE” during our year end special event on May 16th and 17th from 12PM to 1PM in the MAC for all students and their parents.

**May 16th**

- 2's MW (both classes)
- 2's MF
- 3's MWF (both classes)
- 4's M-Th
- ESL

**May 17th**

- Tods TTh
- 2's TTh
- 3's TTh
- 3's TThF
- 4's TWTh
- 4's M-F

**Parents, join us as we all  
.....IMAGINE.....  
together.**



**2011/12 SCHOOL YEAR**

Enrollment paperwork has been sent out. Please complete this paperwork and return it with your first month's tuition payment by May 1<sup>st</sup>. Your second of 9 payments will not be due until September 1<sup>st</sup>. Even if you completed paperwork for this year, you will need to complete another set for the new school year.



**STONES, SINGING & A BLESSING**  
On May 15<sup>th</sup>

You are invited to be part of the 11am worship service in the Sanctuary on May 15<sup>th</sup> as our preschool students will enjoy the following activities:

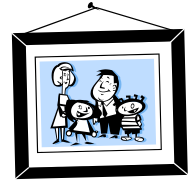
1. As a follow up to our May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapel time, each of our preschool students will decorate at least two Stones of Help (one for their family, and others for a person they don't even know). At the end of The Vine worship service (in the sanctuary on May 15<sup>th</sup>) our preschool students will stand by the church doors and help hand out the stones our students decorated.
2. During the worship service our preschool children will be called forward to sing one of our favorite songs for the congregation.
3. Our Pastor will bless our school and the students who are present at the service.

We hope our preschool families will come and take part in this special service. To help us plan for the number of students who will be singing with us, we would appreciate parents sign up in the preschool office.

**Thank You For Your Help!!!**



Thank you to the Parent Committee and all the Parent Volunteers that made the Art Show a true masterpiece!



**7 Habits of Highly Effective Families**

*Summer Bible Study for Moms*

Wednesday mornings 9:15 to 11:00am

Starting June 1 – (Come every Wednesday or as often as you can.)

Childcare provided.

To participate contact Cherrylynn Burris – 607-351-8932

Book cost - \$10.65

**HUGE**



Whether you want to clean out your closets or shop 'til you drop – this is the sale for you. It's been years since LTUMC has had a garage sale so get ready for a HUGE one!

Drop off donations at the MAC  
No electronics please.

- Sunday, May 1- Noon to 2PM
- Monday, May 2 – 9AM to 7PM
- Tuesday, May 3 – 9AM to 7PM
- Wednesday, May 4 - 9AM to 7PM
- Thursday, May 5 – Noon

Come and Shop at the MAC

- Friday, May 6 – 9AM to 9PM
- Saturday, May 7 – 9AM to Noon

**BULLETIN BOARD NEWS**



May is all four year old classes!  
Check out what the four year old classes have created for our school!

## SUMMER PLANS



Some families find it hard to plan for the summer until the end of the school year. If you now know your plans and would like to enroll in one of our summer Can Do Camps we want you to know that we are filled in some ages (in some of our camps). Please check in with Dina in the preschool office ASAP if you would like a spot.

Here are some updates on each of the camps....

### **The Great Big Dig – SOLD OUT**



#### **The Mighty Jungle** (June 14, 15, 16)

Join us as we are study jungle animals and their habitats. Our special visitor this camp will be a **Zookeeper** from the Austin Zoo. This camp is for campers born 3/1/10 thru Pre-K this year.



#### **Up, Up and Away** (June 28, 29, 30)

We'll blast off and explore the excitement of planes, kites, hot air balloons and even the space shuttle. Our special visitor this camp will be a real life **Pilot**. This camp is for campers born 3/1/10 thru Kinder this year.



#### **The Big Chill** (July 26, 27, 28)

We will think winter and snow as we make our own snow and even get to eat snow cones! Our **LTUMC Puppet Team** will help us get in the winter spirit. This camp is for campers born 3/1/10 thru Kinder this year.

## **Parent Committee**

On behalf of the Parent Committee, we would like to thank everyone who volunteered her time and energy to make this such a wonderful school year! We would like to extend a special thanks to our event chairpersons – your enthusiasm and dedication are genuinely appreciated by the preschool staff and teachers, parents, and most importantly, the children.

The Parent Committee had a great year. All of the children enjoyed the many fun events and our fundraisers contributed valuable donations to the school. Because of your hard work and generosity, we were able to purchase new equipment for our playgrounds this year.

We sincerely hope everyone will consider getting involved with the Parent Committee next year. Being involved in the Parent Committee is a lot of fun, a good way to get to know other parents, and a great way to give back to the preschool. Feel free to contact either of us for more information.

We hope everyone has a fantastic summer and look forward to seeing you in August!

Best wishes,  
Melissa Anderson and Megan Okruhlik  
Parent Committee Co-chairs

### **Parent Committee Meeting**

The final Parent Committee meeting of the year will be held on Wednesday, May 11th at 9:15 in Fellowship Hall. This will be a very important meeting. We will be looking for chairs for next year's events and making decisions regarding

possible changes to our fundraising programs. Light refreshments will be served and children are welcome.

### **Art Show**



Thank you to all of the volunteers who

helped make this year's art show a success. A very special thank you to JK Penwell and Julie Clarke for chairing this event. Without your hard work, it would not have been possible. We truly appreciate all of your help.

### **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon**



Our school is truly blessed to have such wonderful, dedicated teachers. To show our appreciation, the Parent Committee will be hosting a special luncheon for them on Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers will be needed to bring items for the luncheon, help make the meals (at the school), and serve the teachers. The school will be closing early at 12:00 to allow our teachers this much needed break. Childcare will be provided for those who stay to help serve the meal. If you would like to help with any aspect of this event, please contact Melissa Piercy ([piercy@austin.rr.com](mailto:piercy@austin.rr.com)) or Jennifer McCarty ([mccartys98@yahoo.com](mailto:mccartys98@yahoo.com)).



### **SURVEYS**

Our teachers and administrative staff strive to provide an environment each and every day where you can share your thoughts and concerns. Some parents take us up on this opportunity and others do not.

To allow each parent an alternate time and place to share his/her thoughts, in past years we have provided a written survey at the end of a school year that we hope helps us learn more about parent expectations, and their likes and dislikes. This year the survey will be handed out on April 27 and 28. We hope each parent will take the time to provide us with positive feedback and return the forms to the "box in the foyer" no later than May 3rd.

Thanks for sharing - we're listening!

