

STEPPINGSTONE

November 2016

Thanksgiving Prayer

BY, Ralph Waldo Emerson

*For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night,
For health and food,
For love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends.*

*For flowers that bloom about our feet;
For tender grass, so fresh, so sweet;
For song of bird, and hum of bee;
For all things fair we hear or see,
Father in heaven, we thank Thee!*

Preschool Snack Prayer

**Thank you for the world so sweet!
Thank you for the food we eat!
Thank you for the birds that sing!
Thank you God for Everything!**

Tuition for November is due by 11-5-16

Dates to Remember

UNIT - We are Thankful

TIME CHANGE - This is a reminder to be aware that Daylight Savings Time changes on **Sunday, Nov. 6th**. This means for you to reset your household clocks as well as change the batteries in you smoke detectors.

ELECTION DAY - School will be **CLOSED** on **Tuesday, November 8th**.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE & MITTEN PROJECT- The Food Drive and Mitten Project are in effect starting now and going through Christmas Holidays.

VISION TEST - Tuesday, November 15th - Mrs. Moore's Students
Wednesday, November 16th - Mrs. Leake's Students & Miss Marissa's Students

COOKING DAY - Thursday, November 10th - Mrs. Moore's Class
Friday, November 18th - Mrs. Leake's & Miss Marissa's Classes

THANKSGIVING CHURCH LESSONS & PARTIES -
Tuesday, November 22nd - Mrs. Moore's Students
Wednesday, November 23rd - Mrs. Leake's & Miss Marissa's Students

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - School will be closed from Thursday, November 24th through Sunday, November 27th.

FAMILY FUN GAME NIGHT - This is being in the Church Hall Friday November 18th, 2016 7PM-9PM.
ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR - Book Fair will be held Nov. 27th through Dec. 2nd, 2016. This event will be open to the public. More information to follow.

PRE-CHRISTMAS DINNER - This event is held in the Church Hall on Saturday December 3rd, 2016 6PM-8PM. **ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.**

POLAR EXPRESS - This is event is held in the Church Hall on Friday December 16th, 2016 7PM - 9PM. More info to follow. **ALL ARE WELCOME!**



Thank You, LORD!



The Teachers Desks

In November, our Unit Study is “We are Thankful”, we will have activities and discussions in class about what the children are thankful for in their lives. The children will learn about the Native American Indians and Pilgrims. They will learn what it was like at the first Thanksgiving including what kind of foods would have been eaten during this time period.

On November 10th we will have our class cooking day. We will be making Pumpkin Bread; the bread will be frozen and stored for our Thanksgiving Feast and celebration on Tuesday November 22nd. On November 22nd we make homemade butter to go with our Pumpkin Bread. The children will experiment making sweet butter and salted butter. Throughout the month we will continue our learning lessons including numbers, alphabet letters, and sounds. We will also be reviewing colors and shapes.

Our Christmas Pageant will be held on December 10th at 10 AM. We will be practicing for the pageant all month long. Your child will pick a part (they pick a folded paper with pageant parts on it from a container) to see what he or she will be for the pageant. The Preschool will provide all of the costumes. The children do not need to learn any speaking lines. The pageant consists of the reading of “The Christmas Story” and performances and songs sung by the children.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Barbara Moore



Dear Parents!

It doesn't seem possible that October is almost over and November is approaching us. The school year is flying by so quickly. The children have accomplished so much already within the few weeks that school has been in session.

In the month of October, we continued our review of shapes and colors and numbers 0-10. We also learned the letters: *Ee, Ff, Pp, Oo, Qq and Hh*. We talked about our *Community Helpers (Police Men, and Firemen etc. etc.)*. Thank you for those that brought in their "What I want to be when I grow up" projects. They were very creative and the children had fun guessing what their classmates wanted to be when they grew up.

The children practiced dialing the number **911** for emergency calls. We also practiced our Fire Safety Rules The "**Stop! Drop! And Roll!**" method, the "**Get out and Stay out!**" rule. Many thanks go to the Firemen at the Tincum Firehouse for their lessons on Fire Safety. I know that the children had a wonderful time as well as the teachers. I do have to say how very proud I am of the children with the Fire Drills we have done in the classrooms. With our surprise drills, the children followed the plan and we were out of the building in under 30 seconds. We will continue to keep practicing these drills in all sorts of weather to make sure we are fully prepared in the event there is ever a fire in our school. As November begins, we will be learning the letters *Bb, Ii, Mm, Nn, Rr, Tt and Zz*. We will be learning about *Thanksgiving* and how it became a holiday. The children and I will talk about what we are thankful for. Our cooking day is on *Friday November 18th*. Look for sign up sheets for the Thanksgiving Party which will be held on *Wednesday November 23rd*.

We will have a lesson on the *FOOD PYRAMID* and I am looking forward to this lesson with the children especially about making good choices when it comes to eating *HEALTHY!*

Also, Parents, the *Christmas Pageant* is right around the corner. We will be practicing our songs and periodically go into the church for practices. I am looking forward to another great month with the children. Happy Thanksgiving to you all!

Mrs. JoAnn Leake



Hello Parents! October has been a blast! The children have adjusted so well. We had done so many adorable projects to go along with our unit theme "Community Helpers." Some community helpers that we learned about were Doctors, Nurses, Librarians, Teachers, Police Officers (They looked so adorable in their handmade uniforms!) Firefighters and Dentists. This has been a great unit and I am beyond proud of the children. This past month we have also reviewed numbers 1 through 5 as well as practicing writing them. Rhyming was also a huge hit. I had made up clip cards to give the children some hands on learning which made learning so much fun. I also made these cards for matching the beginning sounds and counting. I use these to go along with my daily lesson during circle time and they are always asking for more! We also have worked on letters Pp,Oo,Qq,Ee,Ff, Bb and Hh and began on patterns. Towards the end of October we had visited the fire station and the kids had so much fun. Their favorite parts were being able to see the trucks and taking turns sitting in them. We also had some Halloween fun! The kids were able to create their own trick-or-treat bags while we talked about what is Real and what is Pretend. (They are so smart!) For the month of November our unit will be "Being Thankful." I am looking forward to this unit along with prepping for the Holidays. I can not wait to hear about the things the kids are thankful for this year. We will be learning about the meaning

of Thanksgiving and how it all started. We also will be closing up on our numbers 1 through 5 and begin on working on writing the numbers 6 through 10. Since the children are so smart and already know their shapes, we will begin on learning how many sides each shape has. We also will be experimenting with colors by using various colors of paint and mixing them together to see what we get. Another thing we will be working on is eating healthy as well as the food pyramid. In October we learned about the Dentist and how good foods and brushing/flossing our teeth help keep us healthy. During November I will be expanding on this by teaching them the various ways to eat and keep healthy. Since rhyming went so well, we will be learning about opposites and more on patterns. The letters we will be learning are Ii, Tt, Zz, Mm, Nn and Rr. I am so excited and can't wait to see where November takes us. We will have so much fun!!
Miss Marissa Howard



Election Day Holiday

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8th is Election Day and school WILL BE CLOSED. Mrs. Moore's Tuesday students will NOT have regular class.



Holiday Food Drive

Each Thanksgiving & Christmas, St. Stephen's Preschool has a food drive involving the students. We have found it's never too early to teach children about sharing, giving and kindness for those less fortunate. From November 7th through December 16th we will be collecting donations of canned & boxed foods especially geared toward Thanksgiving & Christmas meals. Items such as: stuffing mix, cranberry sauce, gravy, instant potatoes, canned veggies and bread & cake mixes.

Items may be placed in the collection container by the fireplace. Hunger is not just a problem over the holidays but every day for some families that live close by.



The Mitten Tree

The children will be preparing something special for the holidays, a "Mitten Tree". It has been such a big hit the past four years that it's becoming an annual project. This tree will be made of mittens, gloves, socks, slipper socks, hats, scarves and other small items that you may think of to keep warm for the winter. These items should be all children sizes, and will be distributed to several shelters in Delaware County. Our mitten project will run from November to mid-December. In the spirit of the season, we are trying to teach the children about giving and not just receiving.



Vision Test

The children will be having their vision tested by the Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired. There is NO CHARGE to your for this screening. VISION SCREENING WILL BE CONDUCTED ONLY on the dates below. Your child should receive a permission slip for this test via their cubbies. Please fill out your child's permission form and return it by the day of their test. Testing will be done during regular class hours.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15th for Mrs. Moore's Students
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16th for Mrs. Leake's & Miss Marissa's Students



Cooking Day

The children will be making a treat for our Thanksgiving feast on the following dates, and then eating what they have prepared at their celebrations.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10th Mrs. Moore's Class
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18th Mrs. Leake's Class



Thanksgiving Church Lessons & Celebrations

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd - for Mrs. Moore's Class
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd - for Mrs. Leake's & Miss Marissa's Classes

The children will be at school during their normal assigned times.

Look for sign-up sheets for party treats. (Ask teachers for class count.)



Family Fun Game Night

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18th - 7PM-9PM ALL ARE WELCOME

Join the children of the church for an evening of fun and games. There will be a variety of board games to play and you are welcome to bring your favorite game as well.



Christmas Pageants

Christmas Pageant

Our Christmas Pageants will be held **Saturday, December 10th at 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM**. The plans are still in early stages. The students will soon be receiving a note assigning them to their pageant time (10:00 or 12:00), their part and costume in the pageant. Parts in our play are “picked out of a hat”, and no one child will be considered more important than the other.

Please remember this is a play about humility, it is not a “Broadway” production. Friends and relatives are most welcome to attend. The pageant will be presented in the church proper.



Scholastic Book Fair!

Starting Sunday November 27th through till December 2nd

The Preschool will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair for all ages. There will be a letter sent home listing sale times for this event. This event will be open to the public! Get your child's early Christmas shopping done!

ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN WHEN YOU OPEN A BOOK!



IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE NORTH POLE!!

If any student would like to write a letter to Santa, and have their letter answered, please help your child construct his/her letter and place it in the mailbox marked **“LETTERS TO NORTH POLE”** on top of the cubbies. We ask that your child's letter arrive between **NOW** and **NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 8th, 2015**. **(Letters will not be accepted for answer after the 9th. After all, Santa only has a few elves to help with his mail!)**



Director's Corner

We are asking that the students be dressed in casual, easy access clothing. Outfits with belts, flies, tights, etc. are just beautiful. However, impractical when potty time comes along.

Please try to dress your child in clothing that has elastic waistbands and outfits that are easy for the students to tend to bathroom emergencies. There is nothing worst than trying to aide a student for potty, with a possible 20 others waiting in line doing jigs, with clothing that takes forever to adjust.

Also, we would like to ask if names could be placed on the outside of the students' book bags for easy recognition. It can be almost impossible to determine which bag is who's when there are 2 or 3 the same.



Prayers

Please continue to pray for Brynlee. She is responding well to her Chemo treatments but still has a long road ahead of her.



Thank You

A special thank you to the Tincum Fire Department for sharing their day with us to show the fire station and equipment. These are the brave men who daily risk their lives to help ours be safer. God bless you.

We have celebrated a few birthdays since school started. Thank you to those children and their families for bringing in birthday treats and letting us share your special day.

Your support has been wonderful and we wish each one of you a wonderful Thanksgiving. We thank you for your kindness & generosity.



Upcoming Events

CHRISTMAS PAGEANTS - Saturday, December 10th

The students will be presenting an adaptaion of the Christmas story in the church proper. All family members are invited to attend. The pageant times are 10 AM & 12 PM (students will be assigned times).

CHRISTMAS PARTIES - Thursday, December 22nd Mrs. Moore's Class

Wednesday, December 21st Mrs. Leake's & Miss Marissa's Classes

Look for sign-up sheets for party treats.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY BREAK - Friday, December 23rd through Monday, Januay, 2nd School Closed

PRE-CHRISTMAS DINNER - Saturday December 3rd 6-8PM in the CHURCH HALL

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!

This is a Pot Luck dinner for all to attend. Come and join in a reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" by our Priest-in-Charge, Father Michael Knight.

**POLAR EXPRESS – Friday December 16th 7-9PM in the CHURCH HALL
ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

This event is open for everyone to attend! Join the children of the church for a movie night watching the infamous “POLAR EXPRESS” movie. There will be popcorn, hot chocolate for everyone!