

# STEPPINGSTONE

## November 2017

### Thanksgiving Time

*BY, Author Unknown*

*When all the leaves are off the boughs,  
And nuts and apples gathered in,  
And cornstalks waiting for the cows,  
And pumpkins safe in barn and bin,  
The Mother says, "My children dear,  
The fields are brown, and autumn flies;  
Thanksgiving Day is very near,  
And we must make Thanksgiving pies!"*

*"And whatever you do, in word or deed,  
Do everything in the name of the Lord  
Jesus,*

*Giving thanks*

*To God the Father through him."*

**-- Colossians 3:17**



Tuition for November is due by 11-5-17

Dates to Remember

UNIT - We are Thankful

TIME CHANGE - This is a reminder to be aware that Daylight Savings Time changes on Sunday, Nov. 5th. 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 7th.

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

PAINT NIGHT - Saturday November 11<sup>th</sup> - 6:30PM - 9:30PM - Church Hall ALL WELCOME!

COOKING DAY - Thursday, November 16th - Miss Barbara & Miss Kelli's Classes  
Friday, November 17th - Miss JoAnn & Miss Marissa's Classes

THANKSGIVING CHURCH LESSONS & PARTIES -

Tuesday, November 21st - Miss Barbara & Miss Kelli's Students  
Wednesday, November 22nd - Miss JoAnn & Miss Marissa's Students

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY - School will be closed from Thursday, November 23rd through Sunday, November 26th.

LADIES NIGHT - Thursday November 30<sup>th</sup> - 6:30PM - 9:00PM in the Church Hall ALL ARE WELCOME!

COMMON GOOD SUPPER - Friday November 4<sup>th</sup> & Friday November 18<sup>th</sup> 5:30-7:30PM Church Hall ALL ARE WELCOME!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR - Book Fair will be held Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> through Dec. 3rd, 2017. 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 2nd, 2017 6PM-8PM. ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.

PRESCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT - Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup> - 10AM and 12PM

POLAR EXPRESS - This is event is held in the Church Hall on Friday December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 6:30PM - 8:30PM. More info to follow. ALL ARE WELCOME!

FAMILY GAME NIGHT - Friday December 29<sup>th</sup> - 7:00PM - 8:30PM in Church Hall ALL ARE WELCOME!

RAFFLE TICKETS - Buy a chance to win a handmade quilt! Please contact Heather in the church office 610-461-0490 to purchase a raffle ticket or tickets. Drawing will be at the Pre-Christmas Dinner held on Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup>. ALL ARE WELCOME!



## The Teachers Desks



Through out the month of November our Unit Study will be “We are Thankful”. We will have discussions in class about what the children are thankful for in their lives. In class we will talk about how important it is to help other people and what are some of the ways we can help others. The children will learn about why we celebrate the holiday called “Thanksgiving”. They will learn about what it was like at the first Thanksgiving feast, such as what kind of games the children played, what chores they had, and what kind of foods would have been eaten during that time period. The Tuesday before Thanksgiving we will have our Thanksgiving Feast and Celebration in school. We have already started practicing some of our songs for our Christmas Pageant that will be held on December 9<sup>th</sup>. After our Bible stories in the Church two weeks ago I gave the children an opportunity to practice two songs in the Church to help prepare them for where they will be standing for the Christmas Pageant. In the near future the children will pick their parts for the pageant and will try on their costumes. The school will provide the costumes for the children. You will receive a note telling you what time your pageant is and what part your child will have in the pageant. At the pageant one of the teachers will read the Christmas Story while the children will sing songs and perform a song in the Hand Bell Choir. We will continue to learn and practice our songs through out the month of November into December leading up to the Christmas Pageant. During the month we will continue our lessons on numbers and counting, alphabet letters and sounds, rhyming and opposites, reviewing colors and shapes along with other learning activities.

I would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Mrs. 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” BAGS. They were very creative and the children had fun guessing what their classmates wanted to be when they grow 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 60 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 17th**. Look for signup sheets for the Thanksgiving Party which will be held on **Wednesday November 22nd**.

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. I loved their projects of what they want to be when they grow up that went along with our unit theme "Community Helpers." Some community helpers that we learned about were Doctors, Nurses, Librarians, Teachers, Police Officers, Firefighters and Dentists. This has been a great unit and I am beyond proud of the children.

This past month we have reviewed numbers 1 through 5 as well as practicing writing them. We started on Rhyming as well. 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.

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 paper plate flying witch project 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. We will continue to talk about their shapes and 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.

The letters we will be learning are li, 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

Afternoon (Monday-Wednesday-Friday)



Parents / Guardians,

October has come and gone in which seems to be in a blink of an eye! Your children are doing great. They have their Routine down, they clean up without any issues, and everyone is friends! I couldn't be more proud or happier with my class!

October was a fun month here at St. Stephen's. We traveled to Tincum Firehouse and learned all about being a Firefighter. We learned about being Community Helpers and even met some in our class. We had Miss. Linda from the Tincum Library come visit and talk to the children about the Library. We also learned more letters, this month we covered Ee, Ff, Pp, Oo, Qq, Hh, and Bb. That seems like a lot of letters, but the children are very smart and picked them up rather quickly.

The month of November will also be busy, we will learn more about Fall, Thanksgiving, we will have a cooking day and our unit for November "We are Thankful". Many crafts will be done and sent home. Our food drive and Mitten tree will also begin as we get into the Holiday Season. As always, I adore your children and I am blessed to be a part of their lives.

Miss. Kelli



### Election Day Holiday

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7th is Election Day and school WILL BE CLOSED. Miss Barbara & Miss Kelli'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 6th through December 15th 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 five 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.



### 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 16th Miss Barbara & Miss Kelli's Classes

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17th Miss JoAnn & Miss Marissa's Class



## Thanksgiving Celebrations

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21st - for Miss Barbara and Miss Kelli's Classes  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd - for Miss JoAnn & 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.)



## Christmas Pageants

### Christmas Pageant

Our Christmas Pageants will be held Saturday, December 9th 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 26<sup>th</sup> through till December 3rd

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 15th, 2017. (Letters will not be accepted for answer after the 16<sup>th</sup>. 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.



## Congratulations

Miss JoAnn's son, Joshua Leake, has earned his Eagle Scout Rank. This is the highest honor bestowed to any Boy Scout. Joshua's Eagle Project consisted of painting the Preschool Red Classroom porch and painting the playground fence and the Blue Classroom door as well as painting the Church signs throughout the church property. Congratulations to Joshua and to his family!



## 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 9th

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 21st Miss Barbara & Miss Kelli's Classes

Friday, December 22nd Miss JoAnn & Miss Marissa's Classes

Look for sign-up sheets for party treats.

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY BREAK** - Saturday, December 23rd through Monday, January, 1<sup>st</sup>. School will be Closed.

Classes will resume Tuesday January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018.

**PRE-CHRISTMAS DINNER** - Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup> 6-8PM in the CHURCH HALL

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND!**

This is a Pot Luck dinner for all to attend. We hope to see you all there!