

Parent Connection

First United Methodist Church's
School for Little People

April 2010

School for Little People Celebrates It's 44th Anniversary

This April School for Little People will celebrate its 44th anniversary. Forty four years ago, School for Little People began with 1 teacher and 11 children of various ages. A school for young children was an unheard of innovation at the time. Classes met 2 days a week and the charge was \$2.00 a month. This amount was used for supplies and also paid the teacher!

Today the school is licensed to serve 160 children, 5 days a week, and employs a staff of 40 people. It was one of only 7500 pre-schools nationwide able to hold a NAEYC certification and the only private pre-school within 30 counties locally to hold this certification. Throughout our 44 years of sharing with children, the commitment to providing for their needs physically, emotionally, spiritually, mentally, and socially has not changed. That commitment has only grown stronger as the school has grown. We never forget that your children are our hope for the future. We challenge ourselves each day to be the best we can be so that your children can become the best they can be.

This year we celebrate our anniversary with a dinner and performance starring your children!!!!

It will be Tuesday, April 20th. The children need to be in their classrooms by 5:45 where they will be eating (pizza and dessert) and preparing for the program. This will free parents and guests to enjoy a meal, catered by Olive Garden, and relax to enjoy the show.

Your invitation should have arrived in your child's backpack, but extra dinner reservation forms are located on each classroom cubby, just in case you loose yours or it is turned into a work of art, chewed on, or buried in the sand in the park or if you would just like another for grandparents, etc.

Olive Garden has requested that we let them know how many will be coming by Fri. April 16th so please get your reservations in before then.

Your tickets for dinner will be waiting for you that evening at the door.



🍎 **Teacher Feature Michelle Rumfelt** 🍎

This is Mrs. Rumfelt's second year to work at School for Little People. This year she teaches the T-Th and MWF 2's class and extended care.

She is married to James Rumfelt and they have 4 children, Aidan-6, Brennin-5, Cael-2 and Decker-newborn. Aidan is in 1st grade, Brennin in Pre-k, Cael in our Explorer's class and Decker in our Infant I room.

Mrs. Rumfelt has her Associates in Early Care and Education, but plans to study for the Bachelors.

Mrs. Rumfelt says one of her favorite classroom memory is having one of her little friend singing "Taco Bell" to the Jingle Bells song. She also enjoys watching the children interact with each other and make new friends.

Ms. Rumfelt's favorite color is purple or green. She likes to eat hamburgers and collects frogs.



🍎 **Teacher Feature Malorie Blair** 🍎

This is Mrs. Malorie's first year to work as a teacher at School for Little People. She worked here previously as an aide, while finishing at MSU. This year she is back in the classroom with our Infant II's.

She is married to Brian Blair who works at

Charles Prothro Financial as a certified Financial planner. They have don't have children yet, but they do have an adorable Lab named Gunner.

Mrs. Malorie has a B.S. in Psychology. She grew up in Garland, TX but moved to Wichita Falls to attend MSU.

Mrs. Malorie loves working at SLP. She says being able to watch a child take their first step, and then see the brightness on their face when everyone around them claps with excitement is such a joy.

Mrs. Malorie's favorite color is blue. Her favorite food is her mother's chicken enchiladas and she collects movies.



🍎 **Teacher Feature Zena Esparza** 🍎

Zena, as the children affectionately call her, has been at SLP for six years. She previously worked in the Explorer classroom, but this year she has moved to the Infant II class.

Zena has been married to Manuel Esparza for almost 50 years and has 3 children. Diane, her oldest is 48 and a Respiratory Therapist. Dana is 46 and teaches 2nd grade. Darla is 43 and teaches 1st grade.

She has many memories of the children in her care from over the years. She has taken pleasure in watching them grow and move up within the school.

Zena's favorite color is Blue and she loves hamburgers, French fires and a Coke. She collects the Willow Tree people and ceramic roasters.



Kid's Say the Funniest Things!!

"Kids Say the Funniest Things" is a regular feature in our SLP Newsletter. The stories come from Teachers and parents, for instance;

Dawson in Mrs. Connel's class was singing his version of "Santa Claus is coming to Town." He sang, "You better be good I'm telling you why". In the background listening to the song, Mrs. Connel asked "Why?" Not missing a beat, Dawson stopped replied to Mrs. Connel, "I don't know" and continued with his song.

During snack time in Mrs. Maxwell's MWF class, Grayson Thomas and his friends were eating cherry pop-tarts. Grayson had gotten a little bit of the cherry filling on his napkin, so he was trying to throw it away and get a new one. Mrs. Maxwell said, "Grayson, that's what your napkin is for, so you can keep it until you're done." He sat back down, but gave Mrs. Maxwell a scowling look and replied, "OK, but I'm not happy!"

During the last snow weekend, Brett Michael was so excited to come back to school to talk with Mrs. Janet. He came through the door saying, "Mrs. Janet, it was snow flaking really hard out there!"

Does your child say adorable things? Please share them with us and we will share with everyone who reads this newsletter.

Just leave a note in the green mailbox in the SLP office with a brief retelling of the cute thing your child did or said. We will do the rest!



SLP Enrollment 2010-2011!

We are pleased to report that enrollment at School for Little People is almost full for next year. We only have openings in our T-TH 3's and M-F 3's, MWF 4's and M-F 4's. Our Summer and Extended Care programs are full.

If you know of people who are still interested in enrolling we will be happy to add them to the waiting list if we cannot accommodate them. There is always a possibility

of an opening over the summer and people on our waiting list have first choice!!



The Great Flower Pot Auction!!!!


SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR OUR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!!

The children and teachers have been working hard for the last few weeks to complete 56 beautiful, hand painted flower pots. Each pre-k class made 4 pots, Infant I have made 2 pots, and Infant II and Explorers have each made 3 pots. They will be filled with flowering plants and used as centerpieces for our Anniversary Celebration on April 21st.

There will be a silent auction during the dinner portion of our celebration for the Explorer's and Pre-K classes during which you may bid on these really special flower pots. Bids will begin at \$20.00 per pot. They highest 4 bidders from each class will have their choice of the pots made by the children. Highest bid will get first choice, second highest second choice, etc. Winning bids will be announced shortly after your children have been on stage.

For the Infant I, and Infant II's classes, bidding will begin on April 14 and 15th only. Bidding sheets will be posted inside the classrooms.

Pots can be viewed outside the classrooms for a few days before the celebration!!

 Our heart-felt thanks to all our parent volunteers!
You are making a difference in our library and
our school!

 **Remember!!!**

**Tuition is due on April 1st
and late after April 10th.**

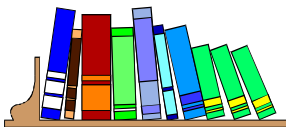
If you have paid September and May tuition at the first of the year, April will be your **last** Pre-K tuition payment for 2009-2010 school year! However, Weekly charges for Extended Care remain due each week.



*April is Child Abuse
Prevention Month!!*

**April 11-April 17 is The
Week of the Young
Child!!**

The Week of the Young Child is an annual celebration to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.



Book Club Orders!

If you are ordering from Scholastic book clubs, the orders are due by **FRIDAY April 9th** so we can have them back by the end of the month.

Thanks to all of you who participated in this program. This will be our last book order for the year.



April Snacks

Morning

Afternoon

April 1	Popcorn	Ice Cream
April 2	ALL PROGRAMS CLOSED	
April 5	Fruit Snacks	Cheese Crackers
April 6	String Cheese & Crackers	Pop Tarts
April 7	Graham Crackers	Applesauce
April 8	Poptarts	Granola Bars
April 9	Popcorn	Ice Cream

April 12	Pop Tarts	Gold Fish
April 13	Yogurt	Raisins
April 14	Cereal Bars	Peanut Butter Cracker
April 15	Pudding	Animal Crackers
April 16	Popcorn	Ice Cream

April 19	Goldfish	Applesauce
April 20	Muffins	Pretzels
April 21	Peanut Butter Crackers	Poptarts
April 22	Cheese & Crackers	Fruit Snacks
April 23	Popcorn	Ice Cream Bars

April 26	Chex Mix	Cereal Bars
April 27	Bananas	Granola Bar
April 28	Apple Sauce	Muffins
April 29	Pretzels	Pudding
April 30	Popcorn	Ice Cream



**Security System
Update!!**

As a reminder, SLP key cards allow you access to the church within school hours (7:15 AM-5:15 PM). If you do not have your card, contact the school at 766-0575 and someone from the school office, will let you in. The doorbell rings into the church office, not the schools. Replacement keys will cost \$5.00 and will be billed to your account.

Thank you to all parents for screening those at the door without cards. Please continue **not** to let anyone without

a card into the building. This is *vital* to keeping everyone inside the building, including your child, safe.....

Reminder



As the weather changes and warms, our classes will be going outside to the playground. Be sure to send jackets with your child for those cooler mornings.

Also, our kids love to run, jump and climb. Flip flops, clogs and open toe shoes are cute. However, they are not safe for playground activities. Please have your child wear gym shoes or closed toe shoes to school.

Lastly, our children love the sand and dirt. Please remember to put an extra pair of weather appropriate clothes in your child's back pack. Our school supply is running low and we do not have enough clothing for every incident.



April Calendar

- April 1 Newsletters out to T-TH families!
Look for your Anniversary Celebration invitation!!!
- April 2 **Good Friday. All Programs Closed**
- April 4 **Happy Easter**
- April 5 Newsletters out to 5day and MWF parents
Individual pictures begin
Look for your Anniversary Celebration invitation!!!
Shopping Day
- April 6 Picture Day
- April 7 Picture Day
- April 8 Picture Day
- April 9 Book orders Due
Picture Day
- April 12 Shopping Day
- April 13
- April 14 Chapel
SLP Pre-K Staff Planning meeting 12:30-3:00
- April 15 Chapel

Anniversary Reservations Due

April 16 Anniversary Reservations Due

April 18 Set up for Anniversary Celebration

April 20 Anniversary Celebration!! You can pick up your tickets at the door and begin going through the serving line at 6:00. All SLP children will need to be in their classrooms by 5:45.

April 21 Chapel
Safety Drill, 10:30

April 22 Music

April 23 Music

April 26 Shopping Day

April 27 Chapel

April 28 Chapel

April 29 Fire Drill

May 1 **Spring Work Day in the Park!!! 8:30-3:00**



Spring Workday in the Park!!

Sat. May 1st, 8:30 AM-3:00 PM

Twice a year we ask parents to join together for a work day in the park..

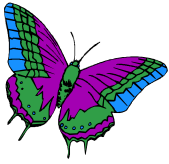
There is, as always a great deal to be done in the park this spring. Gardening, cleaning, a few small repairs, but the big things we will be tackling is repairing the edging around the Toddler climbing equipment and replacing tires in the tire area of our park. This will involve a few wheel barrows, shovels and shovelers, drills, and lots of help!!

You are needed!!!

I know that all of us are involved so many things on any given Sat. Soccer games and family activities abound this time of year. I ask that you give just a little of your time to help us maintain the wonderful park we have here at SLP. Even if you can only stop by for an hour or two your time will be much appreciated.

A lunch of hot-dogs, chips, and drinks will be served around 12:00.

A great time will be had by all!

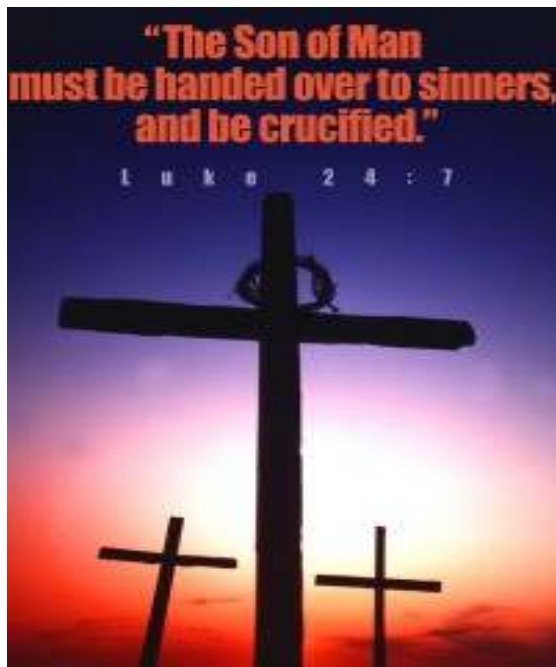


School for Little People's annual Caterpillar to butterfly experience will begin this month.

Caterpillars are expected to arrive the week of April 19th !!



FUMC Church Happenings!



Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen! *Remember how He spoke to you* when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered



into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again."

Luke 24: 5-7 (NKJV)

Come Share Holy Week With Us

Maundy Thursday Communion Worship

• 7:00 p.m., April 1st

Experience The Last Supper with Jesus & His Disciples

Good Friday Prayer ~ Perkins Chapel •

9:00 - 12:00 noon, April 10

Easter Sunday

Join us for the beautiful and festive Easter Celebrations on April 4:

- 8:30am Worship in the Sanctuary
- 10:30am Worship in the Sanctuary

Both services will feature the Easter Lily Procession, a tradition at First United Methodist Church since the 1940s.

Also, in lieu of Sunday School, we are inviting all adults and youth to share in the Fellowship Hour (9:15-10:15am). Bring breakfast goodies to share in the Atrium and let our Youth Group inspire you in Fellowship Hall, beginning about 9:35am.

HAPPY EASTER!

Can't come in person? Watch our Sunday telecasts: 9:00 on Fox-18 (Cable 9) & 10:30 on MyTV-35 (Cable 7)