

Parent Connection

First United Methodist Church's
School for Little People

January 2012



Director's Notes: *The teachers and I so enjoyed working with the children as we retold the Christmas story. Thanks to all of you who came and shared this event with us. I hope it was as enjoyable for you as it was for us. If you missed your classes "production" I am sure you could get a copy of another family's video. There were many cameras at each performance. (check the facebook page for pictures)*

The weather this time of year is always interesting (as is most of our North Texas weather.) Just in case we need to use it, let me review SLP's inclement weather policy.

School for Little People's entire program will be closed if the Wichita Falls Public Schools are closed.

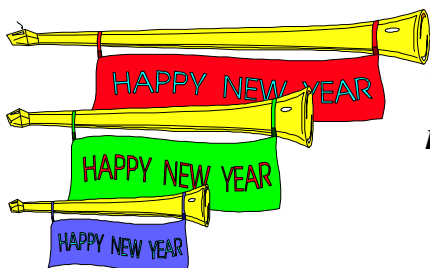
If WFISD schools opens late, watch the television reports on KAUZ or KFDX for information about School For Little People; if in doubt use your own discretion.

For early closings, watch the television reports on KAUZ or KFDX for information about SLP.

We look forward to Father's Night, Jan. 30 and 31. Please make plans to come. (Check the calendar in this newsletter for your class' day and time.) It's only for an hour in the evening, from 6:00-7:00 or 7:00-8:00 depending on your class. Your children will be so excited about it and I promise you will have a wonderful time if you join us. Over the years this night has been a favorite with the children, teachers, and parents. So don't miss out!!

Our traditional plate making extravaganza will begin this month. Look for the display outside the office door for an "up close" look at the plates the children will be making. These make great gifts and are wonderful keepsakes of your children's early years.

As we move into the New Year, may your lives be filled with that special blessing only a young child can bring! Speaking as the mother of two grown-up boys, enjoy your children as they grow, this is a wonderful time in their lives and yours. It doesn't last very long!!



We hope your New Year is filled with great joy and many blessings!!



🍎 *Teacher Feature Karen Connel* 🍎

Karen Connel has been part of our school for 16 years. She has taught two's, three's and four's, with three's being her favorite.

Karen grew up in the surrounding areas of Wichita Falls and graduated from Holiday High School. She is married to Don, who is a retired construction superintendent for a commercial builder in town. They have two daughters, Vickie, age 40 and Kerri, age 38. Vickie is a High School teacher in Ft. Worth. She has two children. Kerri is an RN and lives in Olympia, WA. Kerri has four children.

Karen enjoys three year olds because they are still at an age where everything is new to them. It's fun and rewarding to see them get excited about the holidays, new concepts, making new friends and all that goes along with making this time at SLP a wonderful experience.

One of her fondest memories happened while doing Dr. Suess' Green Eggs and Ham with the children. They were actually cooking the green eggs and ham. One of her students dropped their eggs on the floor and loving said to her, "Mrs. Connell, I dropped my Sam I am."

Casseroles and Faye's salads are her favorite foods, her favorite color is dark red.



🍎 *Teacher Feature Joann Erskine* 🍎

Joann Erskine is in her 9th year at School for Little People. She works as an aide with Mrs. Connel's three year old classes and continues on in the afternoons as a part of the extended care program.

Joann has been married to her wonderful husband, Herman, for 61 years this year. She and Herman have five children, Gary, Debra, Ronnie and Daryl. Their fifth child was killed in an oil field accident. They have been blessed with 10 grandchildren, 17 great-grand children. In her former life, (before SLP) Joann worked as a registered nurse for more than 30 years.

One of the many things Joann enjoys about her job at SLP is the many hugs she receives as the children arrive in the morning. She enjoys listening to the children's daily stories, helping with art projects and reading a favorite book together.

Joann loves Mexican food. Her favorite color is blue and she has an extensive collection of home videos.

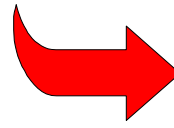


Congratulations!!!
Our friend, Ms. Jenny, is engaged to be married!!!



January Calendar

- Jan. 2 Teacher work day.
SLP closed
- Jan. 3 Back to school. All programs resume regular schedule.
- Jan. 4 Yoga for 4's
- Jan. 5
- Jan. 6
- Jan. 9 Music
- Jan. 10 Chapel
- Jan. 11 Chapel
- Jan. 12 Music
- Jan. 13 **Book Orders Due**
- Jan. 16 **Entire Program Closed for Martin Luther King Day**
- Jan. 17 **Plate orders** going home, look for yours in your child's backpack!
- Jan. 18 Music
Yoga for 4's
Plate orders going home, MWF classes
Pre-K Staff Planning Meeting 12:30-1:30
- Jan. 19 Music
- Jan. 20
- Jan. 23 Music
Musikgarten classes resume
- Jan. 24 Chapel
- Jan. 25 Chapel
- Jan. 26 Music
Safety Drill
- Jan. 27 **Plate orders due.**
- Jan. 30 **Father's Night!!**
6:00 Mrs. Moran's, & Mrs. Rumpfelt's M-W-F class.
7:00 Mrs. Maxwell's M-W-F, Mrs. Connel's, and Mrs. Grace's classes.
- Jan 31 **Father's Night!!**
6:00 Mrs. Rumpfelt's T-TH class
7:00 Mrs. Kajs', Ms. Erica's, and Mrs. Maxwell's T-TH class



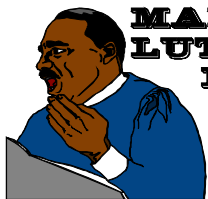
Remember!!!

Tuition is due Jan 1st and late after Jan. 10th!



January Snacks

	Mornings	Afternoons
Jan. 2	SLP closed Staff Work Day,	
Jan. 3	Crackers and Cheese Sticks	Applesauce
Jan. 4	Cereal Bars	Pretzels
Jan. 5	Graham Crackers	Granola Bars
Jan. 6	Popcorn	Ice Cream
Jan. 9	Pretzels	Fruit Snacks
Jan. 10	Blueberry Muffins	Cereal bars
Jan. 11	Yogurt	Animal Cookies
Jan. 12	Pop Tarts	Pudding
Jan. 13	Popcorn	Ice Cream
Jan. 16	SLP Closed Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	
Jan. 17	Goldfish	Granola Bars
Jan. 18	Peanut Butter crackers	Fruit Snacks
Jan. 19	Pudding	Cheese Crackers
Jan. 20	Popcorn	Ice Cream
Jan. 23	Graham crackers	Applesauce
Jan. 24	Yogurt	Goldfish
Jan. 25	Fruit Snacks	Pretzels
Jan. 26	Granola Bars	Pudding
Jan. 27	Popcorn	Ice Cream
Jan 30	Fruit Snacks	Cheese Crackers
Jan 31	Chex Mix	Crackers and Cheese Sticks



MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY

January 16, 2011

School for Little People will be closed in honor of the Dr. Martin Luther King Holiday....School will resume normal schedule on January 17th.

Thank you!!!

Mrs. Canafax and Mrs. Kim say many thanks for all the holiday presents and goodies that magically appeared in the office. (some without names on them)

They were all delicious!!!



Kid's Say the Funniest Things!!

Jackson Harris and his Mom had the following conversation about the Christmas Story...

Mom, "Jackson what are you going to be this year in the Christmas Story?"

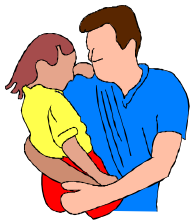
Jackson, "What do you mean?"

Mom, "You know, are you going to be a shepherd or an angel, or what?"

Jackson, "This year I am going to be GOD!!"

Caden Culey was having a hard day with allergies, sneezing again and again. After one particularly bad sneeze he exclaimed, "I just blew a cold cloud out of my mouth!!"

Does your child say adorable things? 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 or send us an email at slp@fumcwf.org with a brief retelling of the cute thing your child did or said. We will do the rest!



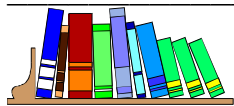
Father's Night is coming this month!!!

January 30 and 31 School for Little People will host one of our favorite events of the year. Father's Night is a special evening for Daddies and their children.

Come spend some time with your child and find out just what it is we do up here all morning.

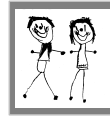
Father's Night offers a "bird's eye" view of your child's school day!

Check the calendar in this newsletter for your class' day and time.



Book Club Orders!

If you are ordering from Scholastic book clubs, all orders are due by Fri. Jan. 13th so we can have them back by the end of the month.



It's time for our annual School for Little People Plate Spectacular!!!

This is a long standing tradition here at SLP. Each year we offer an opportunity to preserve your child's art work in a wonderfully useful and attractive way.

Your child will draw a picture with markers on a special transfer paper. The drawing will then be shipped to Dallas to be permanently transferred to a plastic plate. The plates are dishwasher safe and can be eaten on. (Just FYI, I did melt one of my boy's plates in the microwave though.)

They make wonderful gifts!! They will be back plenty in time for Mother's Day giving or, if you really want to get ahead of the game, they would make a great surprise for a special person (Grandma and Grandpa maybe?) for next Christmas.

You may order as many as you want, however due to time constraints, **we will only be able to complete up to 3 pieces of artwork at school. If you order more than 3, or would like to have siblings at home or friends make a plate, we have take home kits available!** (The plates are very simple to make. Just follow the directions in each kit.)

Order forms will be coming home Jan. 17 and 18 and are due back Jan. 27. Look for them in your child's backpack and be sure to ask your teacher if you don't receive one!!

See our display by the office for an up close and personal look and gift ideas!!



Parents, please remember when parking under the awning, there is a ramp for handicap accessibility.

We have some church members coming to volunteer during the week and families in our school that require the use of this ramp. Please **be considerate**; do not park in front of the ramp. We have ample parking on the street and in the parking lot.

Also, when parking under the awning or in our front area, **be cautious of families, especially children crossing the street**. Due to the positioning of cars, there are significant "blind spots". Safety is becoming an issue.



FUMC Church Happenings!

SLP children and families are always welcome at any FUMC event!

Casual Service in Perkins Chapel

Sundays, 8:30am

Worship Service in the Sanctuary

Sundays, 10:30am.

Watch us live on MYTV-35 (Cable 7).

ONGOING ACTIVITIES at FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH for 2012

Children: www.fumcwf.org/children

Pre-School Sunday School (Ages 3-5)

Sundays, 9:15-10:15am – Meet in Rm 206.

K-5th Grade Sunday School

Sundays, 9:15-10:15am – Children learn Bible stories and skills in a variety of ways using music, games, computers, videos, storytelling, cooking, and art.

• Grades K-1 meet in **Room 203**

• Grades 2-3 meet in **Room 215**

• Grades 4-5 meet in **Room 216**

Music 'n' More (Choir 'n' Fellowship) Wednesdays

3:45-4:00pm – Snack Time

4:00-4:45pm

Cherub Choir (Age 4-K) Rehearsal

Trinity Choir (Grades 1-2) Rehearsal

Wesley Choir (Grades 3-6) in MORE

4:45-5:30pm

Cherub Choir (Age 4-K) in MORE

Trinity Choir (Grades 1-2) in MORE

Wesley Choir (Grades 3-6) Rehearsal

Youth: www.fumcwf.org/therock

Sunday School at The First Rock

Sundays, 9:15-10:15am

- Jr. High (Grades 6-8)

- Sr. High Boys (Grades 9-12)

- Sr. High Girls (Grades 9-12).

Chapel Ringers Handbell Choir

Sundays, 3:15-4:00pm – Meet in the Bell Rm.

Chapel Choir

Sundays, 4:00-5:00pm – Meet in the Choir Rm.

Youth Praise Band

Sundays, 5:00-6:00pm – Meet at The First Rock.

UMYF (United Methodist Youth Fellowship)

Sundays, 6:00-8:00pm – Meet at The First Rock.

Snack supper, games, and learning about faith.

Jr. High (Grades 6-8) Tuesdays

3:30pm – Study Hall at The First Rock

4:45pm – Bible Study at The First Rock

Sr. High (Grades 9-12) Wednesdays

3:30pm – Study Hall at The First Rock

6:30pm – Bible Study at The First Rock

Adults: www.fumcwf.org/adults

Sunday School

Sundays, 9:15-10:15am – Choose from 11 Adult

Classes of various ages and different studies.

- fumcwf.org/adult-sunday-school

Asbury Ringers Handbell Choir

Sundays, 4:30-6:00pm – For info: Kiyo Watanabe -

940-766-4231 or kwatanabe@fumcwf.org.

Sunday PM Study - fumcwf.org/sunday-pm

Sundays, 4:30-6:00pm – Dig deep in the Bible, theology, and yourself!

Young Adult Singles Fellowship

Sundays, 6:30pm – Contact Rev. Sims for info: 940-766-4231, x229 or tsims@fumcwf.org.

Men's Breakfast & Bible Study - fumcwf.org/men

Wednesdays, 7:00am – Meet at *Pioneer Restaurant* on 4545 Maplewood.

Chancel Choir (sings at 10:30am Worship)

Wednesdays, 7:00-9:00pm – Meet in Choir Rm.

Thursday AM Study - fumcwf.org/thursday-am

Thursdays, 10:30-12:00pm – Dig deep in the Bible, theology, and yourself!

3rd Saturday Ramp Build

8am – Provide mobility for someone by building a ramp! Contact Rev. Sims for info!

PowerPaks 4 Kids

Days & times vary. Contact Bonnie Davis to help: 940-767-0648 or chatteau@aol.com.

FUMC Orchestra

Dates & times vary. Contact Kristen Gossett:

940-766-4231, x225 or kkgossett@aol.com.

Women's Ministries - fumcwf.org/women

We have 4 Fellowships that meet monthly at different times and places, each with a different focus, such as study, crafts, and prayer shawls. For more details, contact the President, Pam Rushing: 940-704-1887 or rushing_pam@yahoo.com.

Senior Adults: www.fumcwf.org/yes

Young Energetic Seniors (YES) Committee

This group provides education, spiritual activities, entertainment, and special events for senior adults to keep them active in their church and personal lives; yet, people of all ages can take part. Ongoing activities include:

Q *Chat 'n' Chew Breakfast Fellowship*

2nd Tuesday of the Month at *McDonald's* at Southwest Parkway and McNeil.

Q *ICU (Intentional Caring Unit)* is a way for people of all ages to reach out in love and kindness to shut-ins from our church.

For more information about these activities and other events that happen throughout the year, visit www.fumcwf.org