



ESTABLISHED 1962

Dunwoody

UNITED METHODIST
PRESCHOOL

Developing the Whole Child Through God's Love

News from Nancy

April 2010

As we approach the final weeks of school, we've got to maintain momentum. Some of the most exciting events of the year are just around the corner!

Conference Week

Conferences in all of our classes will be held the week of April 19 - 23. Teachers have been sending out schedules so please make every effort to attend your conference on the date indicated.

Scholastic BOGO Book Fair

The Spring Scholastic Book Fair is Buy One, Get One and is a great way to stock up on books for summer reading!! The fair will be held on Wednesday, April 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. as well as Thursday, April 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Teachers will have "wish lists" if you'd like to donate a book or two to your child's class. Proceeds from the Book Fair are used to provide educational resources for our classrooms, like listening centers, big books and special collections for our media resource room. We're also participating in "One for Books," a program which allows us to donate NEW children's books to the Atlanta Day Shelter for Women and Children.

Parking Note

On Friday, April 23 parking will be difficult due to a large meeting scheduled at the church from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Speech/Language Screenings Available Tuesday, April 27 and Wednesday, April 28

If you missed the opportunity to have your child's speech and language assessed last fall, please take advantage of this opportunity to determine if your child's language development is on track. Forms will be available during conferences or from the Preschool Office. If you have any questions, you may call the Preschool Office or Anna Drost at 770.396.5569.

Parent Education Program, Wednesday, April 28, 9:15 a.m. with Kelly Gfroerer, Ph.D., LPC, Preschool Counselor. Please join us for a discussion on parenting strategies specifically for preschoolers. We will discuss ways to plan for summer time fun that will help provide structure and routine for your family. Preschool-age children thrive when there is a schedule; however, this need should be balanced with children's need for spontaneous play!

Ice Cream Social, Sunday, May 2, 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Please join us for this family-favorite event! There will be lots of ice cream, music by Geof Johnson, a Clown Comedy Show, and wonderful crafts and items to bid on for our silent auction. Class baskets, class photo frames and many other donated items from the community will be featured. Please send in your registration form to the Preschool Office for advance reservations, or you are welcome to pay at the door. Friends, families and neighbors are welcome! If you have an item you would like to contribute from your family or business, please contact Katie Frame, katie.frame@mindspring.com, or 770.512.0480. This is our largest fundraiser of the year, and we're hoping to expand our technological capabilities for our teachers to use for their classroom activities and communications. We appreciate your support of this preschool fundraiser!

Mothers' Day Teas will be held Thursday, May 6 and Friday, May 7

Your child's teacher will let you know when this special event is scheduled for your class. Please plan to attend and enjoy fellowship with your child and other moms. Miss Suzanne is planning a special musical presentation for the mothers of two-year olds. **There will be no Lunch Bunch for two-year-old classes on the days of the teas.**

End-of-Year Programs will be held on Monday, May 17 for Threes and Tuesday, May 18 for Fours and Young Fives

Diane Campbell, music and chapel teacher for our Threes, Fours and Fives is creating a thematic musical presentation in the Sanctuary, with End-of-the-Year parties and "moving up" ceremonies to follow in classrooms. We encourage you to leave younger siblings who are not attending class that day in the care of others so that you and your preschooler can have uninterrupted time together.

Summer Camp

There are a handful of openings for children to enroll in DUMC Preschool Summer Camp. Session I, Monday - Thursday May 24 - 27 has spots for Toddlers. Session II, Tuesday - Friday June 1-4 has spots for Threes, Fours, and Fives. Children bring a lunch and beverage, an emergency change of clothes, and should wear sneakers and sunscreen each day. Music, Kindergym and special presenters are planned for each week.

Please let Angela Stoecker know of your interest by e-mail, angela.stoecker@dunwoodyumc.org or by phone, 770.394.2555 ext.142. Enrollment is limited to children who have turned two by May 1, 2010 up to students who have completed our Young Fives class.

Looking Ahead - 2010-2011

Back to School Reminders

1. Forms are due May 1, 2010. We are looking for DUMCP Health History forms with a physician's signature; Emergency Contact forms; Georgia Immunization 3231 forms from your pediatrician. Summer birthdays: please send in 3231 forms as soon as you receive them. Forms may be faxed to 770.394.6003.
2. May tuition is due May 1; September tuition is due June 1. A late fee of \$25 applies for payments received after June 1.
3. Traffic fee of \$75 per family is due with October tuition by September 1, 2010.
4. All preschool accounts for 2009-2010 school year must be current by the close of business on Tuesday, May 18, 2010.



5. Parent Open House and Orientation Night is Tuesday, August 31 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Details will be sent later in the summer, but please mark your calendars now! First day of school for T/Th MMO and Twos, T-F Threes, all Fours and Young Fives is Tuesday, September 7. First day of school for W/F MMO, MWF Twos and Threes is Wednesday, September 8.

Summer Reading

We're offering a special on-line Book Fair with Usborne Books to benefit our own media resources while providing you a wide selection of literature for children of all ages. Enjoy shopping the Book Fair from the comfort of your own home! Simply go to www.myubam.com/E3736, log in and shop. For more information, please contact Usborne representative, Audra Weiss, 770.220.3076, or audrahoodweiss@gmail.com, or the Preschool Office, 770.394.2555 ext. 140.

Yearbook - Orders due April 23

Orders are now being accepted for the annual DUMC Preschool Yearbook. Order forms have been e-mailed and sent home. The price for the yearbook is \$15, and checks should be made payable to DUMC Preschool. Orders are due in the Preschool Office by Friday, April 23. Photos and messages for "graduating" students may be submitted to Julie Erickson, julerickson@att.net.

Original Works

Thanks to our teachers for helping the children create great projects which translated into lots of orders from our families. We appreciate the generous support from our families. This will help support students in need. Thank you to Melanie Gracey, OW chairperson, for getting it all together!

Thank You!

Thank you to our Room Parents, Parents' Club Teacher Appreciation Committee (Lisa Beiger and Kristin Eith, chairpersons) and all the families who showed their gratitude for the teachers who devote themselves to the children in their care. Thank you to the Moms on the Grow United Methodist Women's Circle and Courtney Lamb of the Library Committee for the recent library work.

Focus On...Threes

Staff member **Maura O'Neill** is one of our Threes teaching veterans, with 11 years of service to the families of DUMC Preschool. She has a bachelors' degree in physical and elementary education but began her career as a recruiter for Standard & Poor's Corp. After moving to Atlanta and staying home to raise her two daughters, Maura started her preschool teaching career. Maura is also our age-level lead for Threes. She has been with her MWF assistant, **Carol Mason** for 13 years. Carol taught two and three year olds for 11 years before joining Maura here at DUMC 11 years ago. Carol, a mother of three adult children, really loves three year olds because "they love to give hugs."

Norma Atkins, the assistant to in Maura's T/TH class and Shannon Whiting's MWF class, has been a member of DUMC staff for the past 15 years. Norma has three grown daughters and is a grandmother, too. She enjoys teaching in a Christian environment, and her desire is to instill a love for school and learning with fun and exciting ideas.

Shannon Whiting, along with Norma, manages another class of MWF Threes. Shannon has been at DUMC for three years but has 13 years experience in the Pre-K and Kindergarten classrooms at Montgomery Elementary in DeKalb County, including being named "Teacher of the Year." Shannon, a DUMC member and mother of two, will lead the new four-day Threes starting in September.

Another one of our long-time teachers, **Laurel Sybilrud**, has been on staff for 16 years in a variety of capacities including Officer Manager and currently Twos Age-Level Lead. Laurel's class does a lot of cooking, harkening back to her days as a "home economics" or applied science major. One of Laurel's favorite roles now is as grandmother to both of her daughters' children. Laurel's MWF assistant is **Heather Echemendia**, who has been in Laurel's class for five years. A mother of three, Heather has a communications degree, and lots of experience as a PTA volunteer at Woodland Elementary and Sandy Springs Middle School, and as an all-sports team mom.

One of our other MWF Threes teams have been together for the past nine years here at DUMC. **Lauren Patton** and **Lisa Wright** are lead and assistant, respectively in the Threes MWF class, and the reverse on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the Twos. Lauren, a DUMC member, had a long career in the healthcare industry before becoming a mom and experienced preschool teacher. Lisa, an art major in college, also had a career in business before launching an in-home daycare as a stay-at-home mom. She loves using her art background everyday in Preschool. Both Lauren and Lisa have served as teacher representatives on the Preschool Board as well.

Kim Gies, relatively new to our DUMC Preschool staff, made the transition to preschool a few years ago and joined us in 2008. An experienced elementary school teacher, Kim is a member of DUMC. She is the mother of two elementary-aged boys and made the move from Twos to Threes this year. Her assistant, **Paula Daugherty**, previously had a business career of 25 years with the Marriott Corp. and has been on staff at DUMC Preschool for the past four years. Paula, mother of a middle school-aged daughter, is also a lead teacher in the Twos on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

We are so fortunate to have so much talent and dedication in our Threes program. For those of you who have "graduated" to the Fours and beyond, you know what an exceptional group of ladies this is. And for those of you approaching the three-year mark, you have much to look forward to in the years ahead!

Special Music Talents

We've been fortunate to have two performing arts opportunities in the past month. Camilia Heninger, daughter of our Twos and MMO Music teacher, Suzanne Heninger, shared her love of music with her violin and harp. Tommy Easton's great-grandfather Hayward Fountain, and great uncle, Chip Fountain, shared their banjo picking with an enthusiastic audience of four year olds. We welcome anyone who'd like to bring their musical talents to our young audience, to expand their knowledge and appreciation of music and musicians!



April 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	←		Spring Break	→	1 Class Pics & 2 No School/Good Friday	3
4 Easter Sunday	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13 NO EXD	14	15 Tuition Due	16	17
18	19 May EXD Calendars Due	20	21 Book Fair 9am-1pm & 4:30-7pm	22 Book Fair, 9am-1pm & Chick-Fil-A Night	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 May Tuition Due & 2010-11 Forms Due
2 Ice Cream Social	3 2010-11 Forms Due	4 NO EXD	5	6	7 Mother's Day Teas	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 Spring Programs, End of Year Parties and Last Days of school - NO EXD	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Camp I begins	25	26	27 Camp I ends	28	29
30	31	June 1 Camp II begins & Sept. Tuition Due	2	3	4 Camp II ends	5