

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center www.worshipweekly.com December

Message from Ms. Maddy

The Giving Celebration was a hit! Thank you to everyone who gave to and participated at the event. It was a success with **78 people** in attendance. Many hands made light work with set up, serving, and clean up. Also, at the celebration, were the ladies from Five Cities Christian Women's' Food Pantry. We presented them with the money that was collected during the month of November which came to **\$200.33**. Every dollar we gave them, was worth \$10 at the Food Pantry. They were very appreciative of the money we collected and will use it to buy 60 turkeys for this year's Christmas baskets. These baskets will be given to families in need, *in our community*.

Our theme this month is "**Celebration of Traditions**". Each family will receive a "Celebrating Family Heritage" project sheet, in their family folder. To help us learn more about your family and traditions your family may celebrate, please fill out and return this information sheet. This is another way we can work together to build the relationship between home and school. Please talk to your child's Teacher if your family has a tradition that you would like to share with your child's classmates. We hope everyone feels welcomed and connected here, as we invite you to share your own traditions with us. I look forward to the New Year, fostering relationships with the children and families, supporting a dedicated staff, and providing the best care we can to the children in our program.

We invite everyone to celebrate the season by coming to our **Children's Christmas Program** on Thursday, December 11, at 6:30 pm. Children will sing songs that reflect celebrated traditions of the children, families, and staff. The Holiday Program will be held in the sanctuary and will last about 25 minutes. The program will be followed by a time of sharing in friendship, and enjoying goodies, brought by the families, in Criswell Hall. **Admission to the Holiday Program is a non-perishable unopened food item.** See the attached list of foods needed, by the Five Cities Christian Women's group, to add to the Christmas baskets (*More details on the back.*)

We are selling **See's Candy for the Holidays**. The money raised by this fundraiser will assist teachers in attending the annual "California Association for the Education of Young Children" (CAEYC) conference, March 5-7 this coming year. Order forms went out with the November newsletter. If you would like to purchase "See's Candy" or know others who love this delicious treat and would like to support our staff by placing an order. "See's Candy" orders are due to your child's teacher by Wednesday, December 3. The candy will arrive by Friday December 12 for you to pick up.

We will be having a "**Pajama and Pizza Party**", on Friday Dec 12, to *celebrate* the turning in of the **Fall Surveys**. Please turn in your surveys to your child's teacher by Dec 12. Thanks!

Dates To Remember

- **Friday, December 5** - School Closes at 3:30 for Staff Development. It's **SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY!** Show your school spirit and wear your AGUMCC T-shirt.
- **Thursday, December 11** - **Children's Holiday Program & Social** at 6:30 PM, in the Church Sanctuary (Children arrive in classrooms at 6:15). Social to follow in Criswell Hall.
- **Friday, December 12** - **Pajama Day and Pizza Party** - Children get to wear their favorite pajamas to school.
- **Monday through Friday, December 22-26** - **School is closed for Christmas Break.**
- **Thursday, January 1** - **School is closed for New Years Day.**

Theme for The Month

"Celebration of Traditions"



Fruit of The Spirit: Peace

How can we be peacemakers in our homes and at school? We are going to be learning about using our words and being role models for others. We will be sharing stories like, "You are Special" and, a classic, "The Mitten", to help illustrate how we all can be peacemakers.

Ms. Rebecca and Ms. Tresha's Pre-K Class

Thank you to all our families and friends for participating in the Giving Celebration! We enjoyed spending time with the families and children. In November we celebrated the theme "Being Thankful and Sharing with Others." The children made handprint turkeys placemats and told us what they are thankful for. The Pre-Ker's love to choose a "daily job" and are very helpful within the classroom. The children also enjoy participating in both of our group times. We have been practicing letters and numbers. During our "share time," the children especially like linking their share item to the letter of the week. In December, we will focus on the letters, 'M' & 'N' and the numbers 14, 15 & 16. The theme for the month of December will be "Celebration of Traditions." If your family would like to share a special tradition, such as a book, food, songs, etc., please feel free to share these traditions with us. December's "Fruit of the Spirit" will be "Peace." We will be practicing songs for our special Holiday Program, coming up on December 11th, at 6:30 p.m. We will be closed for the week of Christmas, December 22-26. Hope everyone has a wonderful holiday and a happy new year!

~Ms. Tresha



**Congratulation to (Ms. Kassie)
Kassandra & Rynn Myers**
'They got married on July 12, 2014.

Best wishes to the happy couple .

Ms. Kassie and Ms. Shirley's Preschool Class

There are many "Thank you"s to go out. First, thank you everyone who donated to Pennies For Turkeys. You helped with a wonderful learning experience of counting, sorting, and caring for people in our community. Secondly, thank you everyone who participated in our See's Candy Fundraiser. This fundraiser helps the staff go to conference where we learn new things to use in our work with children. Thirdly, thank you everyone that participated in the Giving Celebration. It was wonderful spending time with all of you, while sharing a meal together. The theme for the month of December will be "Celebration of Traditions." We are encouraging you to have your child bring something to share, that is part of your own family traditions. During the month of December we are focusing on the moral teaching of peace; the color green; the star shape; the letters 'Mm' & 'Nn', and the numbers 7 & 8. We will be practicing our two songs, for our special Holiday Program, coming up on December 11th, at 6:30 p.m. We will be closed for the week of Christmas, December 22-26. Hope everyone has a wonderful holiday and a happy new year!

~ Ms. Kassie

AGUMCC is collecting **non-perishable unopened food items** to continue in the spirit of giving and sharing with others. We are asking each family to please bring a non-perishable unopened food item, to donate, as



"Admission" to the Holiday Program. The Five Cities Christian Women will be making "Christmas Baskets" for families in need in our community. Also, there is a basket for your donations located next to the "Sign In /Out Table" if you would like to donate early or more than once.

We are collecting "Labels for Education". You can find these labels on packages, cans, beverages, magazines, and cereals boxes. Cut the labels out and put them in the Labels for Education Box, located next to the Sign In/ Out table. For more information go to www.labelsforeducation.com



Cindy Bo's Young Toddlers

TIME WITH PASTOR DAVID & GOODIE BEAR

Pastor David is going to read "the Good News" from Luke 2 : 8-20 in the Beginning Bible.

Goodie Bear will share our "Fruit of the Spirit" teaching: **Peace**. This special time will be on **Wednesday December 3 and Thursday, December 4 at 9:15 AM, in the Church Narthex.**

Ms. Claudia and Ms. Maddy's Toddlers

We would like to thank all the families that helped donate Pennies For Turkeys. Your help is greatly appreciated! I would also like to thank all the families who volunteered, this month, with laundry and playdough for the class. If you would like to help, please feel free to speak with Maddy or myself or you can sign up on the sign-up sheet, in the classroom. I would like to thank all those who helped with the See's Candy Fundraiser. The funds will help the staff go to conference to learn new methods for improving our work with children. In November, we celebrated the theme Being Thankful and Sharing With Others. In class, we enjoyed talking about Thanksgiving dinner and how family and friends often bring a dish to share on Thanksgiving day. Our class had lots of fun making placemats, turkeys, turkey sun catchers and muffins, this month, as well. For the month of December we will focus on the theme "Celebration of Traditions." We encourage our families to share their holiday traditions with the class. This month we will be practicing our song, for the Holiday Program, scheduled on December 11th at 6:30 p.m. I would also like to remind our families that we will be closed for the week of Christmas, December 22-26. We hope all our families have a wonderful holiday and a happy new year.

~ Ms. Claudia

I hope those of you who were able to attend, enjoyed our Giving Celebration this year. It was so nice to share that time with you and your children. During the month of November, the Young Toddlers continued to demonstrate how much they have learned about our class routines and about each other. Families shared with me, that their children were mentioning the names of their friends at home and on the way to school, eager to see them. Many of them are able to identify others in the group, by name, and are even able to get something or put something away, in the appropriate cubby, for each other. They spend a lot of time observing, interacting and engaging with each other throughout the day. It is so sweet to hear their simple communications and to observe them holding hands, hugging or offering something to another. Thank you to all those who donated spare change for our "Pennies for Turkeys" jar. The children got excited about taking turns to put coins, they brought from home, in our jar, to help buy turkeys for others. What a great way to make helping others fun! This month we will explore different family traditions and holidays. I would like to invite you to share your special holiday traditions (pictures, foods, stories, etc.) with our class, if you'd like. We will also be practicing "Jingle Bells", to share with you at our Holiday Program. I hope you all can make it. It is always a special time of getting together and rejoicing over each one of the precious children God has placed in our lives. Merry Christmas! ~ *Cindy Bo*

Thank you to everyone who purchased or helped the staff sell "**See's Candy**".



*The deadline to order is **Wednesday, Dec. 3**. The candy is scheduled to arrive by Friday, Dec 12. The money we raise will help the staff attend our annual professional development conference, March 5-7, in Sacramento.*