

# Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center [www.worshipweekly.com](http://www.worshipweekly.com) April

## Message from Maddy

Spring is here and it is "The Month of the Young Child". Our school will host our annual "Open House", Thursday, April 14 at 6:30 PM. This is a community event, invite your families and friends. This is a time for the staff to share the importance of the play, exploration, and learning, that occurs each day, at our center. In addition, you will have an opportunity to see the many learning activities and areas of interest both in and outside the classroom.

The deadline for our current families to re-enroll, for the next "Year Round" session, is Tuesday, April 5. Families on our "Waiting List" can enroll starting April 15. "Open Registration" will start on May 1. The Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center opened it's doors in September 2005, with 3 children. We currently have 50 children enrolled. Toddlers account for most of our new enrollment, as our current toddlers transition into the preschool room. There are several spaces left, to enroll new families in our preschool, as well. After the preschool children transition into the Pre-K class, there may only be one or two openings for new Pre-K families. Our Pre-K program follows the Pre-K Guidelines, set by the Department of Education, which is designed to help children successfully enter Kindergarten. **It is always good to plan ahead when looking for a quality program.** We pride ourselves on having an educated staff that have a love for and commitment to young children. Also, we work hard on creating an environment that stands for quality, by following the standards set by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. **Thank you to the staff, the families, the church and the board members, for all their time and dedication, in making this a great program.**

April 24 is our annual AGUMCC Children's Center Sunday Celebration. Families are invited to come and hear the children sing, at the 10:30AM church service. Following the service, AGUMCC will be hosting an Art Show and a Ice Cream Social, with homemade treats. This event will be fun for the whole family. We need volunteers to help make homemade treats to share at this event. The sign up sheet will be on the Sign In/Out table.

Staff Appreciation Luncheon is May 6 at 1:00 PM in the McMillen Room. If you can help with this special time for our staff please let me know.

## Theme for The Month:

### New Life & Springtime Discovery

Things that slither, fly, crawl,  
and hop, oh my!



### TIME WITH PASTOR MARY & GOODIE BEAR

Pastor Mary read "Jesus is Risen". from Mathew 28:5-10 in the Beginning Bible. "Goodie Bear" will share a "Fruit of the Spirit" teaching on "Goodness". Ask your child about this wonderful time we will be sharing together, on **Wednesday April 6 & Thursday April 7, at 9:15 AM, in the Church Narthex.**

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### APRIL

- **MONTH OF APRIL**- ENROLLMENT/REGISTRATION FOR AGUMCC'S 2016/2017 SCHOOL YEAR.
- **April 1** - SCHOOL CLOSED for Staff Development.
- **Thursday, April 14** - OPEN HOUSE, 6:30 -7:30 PM
- **Sunday, April 24** - CHILDREN'S CENTER SUNDAY. Children sing at the 10:30 Service, followed by an Art Show and Ice Cream Social 11:30 -12:30.

### MAY

- **MAY IS PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCE MONTH**
- **Friday, May 6** - STAFF APPRECIATION LUNCHEON, 1:00 PM, in the McMillen room.

**APRIL IS THE TIME TO REGISTER YOUR CHILD FOR THE NEXT SCHOOL YEAR, JULY 5, 2016-JUNE 23, 2017.**

**The deadline for current families to register is Tuesday, April 5.**

Families on our "Waiting List" can register, starting Wednesday, April 15 and "Open Enrollment" begins Friday, May 1.

**Ms. Kassie and Ms. Rebecca's Pre-K Class**

March was a month of learning and knowledge building of art and artists that shaped art today. We learned about: Picasso, Matisse, Claude Monet, E. Carl, and more. We also had many different animals, "from the farm", come to visit us this month and the children were delighted to see them all up close. A big thank you to Cody's family for bringing the tractor to school. The children loved it! This month, we will be focusing on the letters, 'Tt', 'Uu', and 'Vv'. The shapes of the month are a Cube and a Sphere. The math theme that we are focusing on is addition. The theme in the classroom is "New Life." We will be learning about bugs, plants and flowers. We just got back from the CAEYC Conference and I am so excited to share what I have learned through the different lessons and class activities I plan. We will be practicing, all month, for our "Children's Center Sunday" performance, scheduled for April 24, from 10:30 -12:00, here at the church. I cannot wait to see you all there.

~Ms. Kassie

**Ms. Shirley and Ms. Tresha's Preschool Class**

March was an exciting month for our preschool class, with many different visits from a police officer, a farmer with his tractor, and animals such as a piglet, horse and chickens. Because they actually came to visit our school, we had a great time learning about these farm animals. A big thank you to all the families who came to share animals "from the farm" and for the tractor visit too. Also, a big thank you to Marco's family, for talking to us about healthy teeth. During the month of March, we talked about various farm animals and what they do to help on the farm. For the month of April, we will learn about life cycles and insects. The preschoolers will focus on the letters, 'U', 'V', and 'W'. Open House will be on Thursday, April 14. We also will be having "Children's Center Sunday", where the children will be singing during the church service at 10:30 and we will have an art show and ice cream social, following until 12:00. This is how you can bid on your child's art or other art from the school. The bidding will raise funds to support staff development. Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming in May, so the month of April will also include assessments of the children, in preparation for conferences. Lastly, please feel free to come in and read a story to our children at any time; just let us know when this will work for you. Thank you and Happy Spring!

~Ms. Tresha

**Ms. Claudia and Mrs. Swati's Toddlers**

We seem to finally be enjoying some warmer weather. "April Showers bring May Flowers!" We have spent so much time indoors and will be excited to spend time out-

side. Our children strengthen growing muscles when they are climbing, running, playing ball and jumping. This month we will be taking time to discuss all the changes around us. The children will be learning about flowers growing, babies, animals and the colors around us. Spring is officially here!! In March we talked about how different fruits and vegetables grow. Children had lots of fun pretending to sell and purchase groceries, in our dramatic play area. We also talked about farm animals. We learned about the life-cycle of a chicken/birds and plants. The children really enjoyed the process of making scrambled eggs and hash browns. They also were very excited about our visitors : the horse, piglet, chickens and tractor. Everyone voted to name the piglet "Scott". Our CAYEC conference was great. We enjoyed learning about various approaches to working with young children, that we can implement with our little ones, for their future success. In April, we will be learning about bugs and new life. We will be using books, songs and outdoor experiences to learn about different insects and their life cycles. We will also be learning about fine art. Our class is doing a collaborative piece of art, inspired by Andy Whorhal, which will be displayed at the "Children's Center Sunday" Art Show. We will be preparing for our Open House and getting ready for parent-teacher conferences. We thank all the families for continued support of our many ongoing projects, such as making playdough, doing class laundry and taking time to share your profession. Please be on lookout for conference sign-ups in May. Congratulations and blessings to the McLean family to have new baby girl Charlotte.

~Ms. Swati

**Cindy Bo's Young Toddlers**

The Young Toddlers enjoyed their time exploring farm animals, how plants grow and a variety of vegetables and fruits. We looked, touched and tasted vegetables and fruits in different forms: raw, cooked, squeezed, etc. We also read stories about and did our best at gardening, planting plants and our wheat berries. They worked on their fine motor skills and eye hand coordination, as they watered the plants and wheat grass, with spray bottles and sprinkler cans. We look forward to watching them grow, as we continue to care for them. Now we move into our celebration of new life, as flowers bloom and fruits emerge. Hopefully we will see and be able to taste tomatoes, from our tomato plants, in the months ahead. This is also an enjoyable time to explore the smallest of God's creatures : lizards, bugs and insects. We will learn about a variety of critters. The children have been thrilled to discover many of these in our yards already. They get so excited and can learn so much from their discoveries. We will also explore the process of metamorphosis: caterpillar to a butterfly. Make sure to note the various dates of special events that will be taking place this month. There are many. Happy Spring!

~Cindy Bo