

Children's Center Chronicle

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

Message from Ms. Maddy

The Giving Celebration was a wonderful event. Thank you to everyone who gave and participated in this special event. 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. They will use this money to purchase turkeys for the Christmas Baskets which will be given to families in need in our community this season. Watch the fundraising board to find out how much money we collected. Every \$1 we contributed, was equivalent to \$10, at the Food Pantry. They were very thankful for the money we collected.

This month, each family will receive a **"Family Heritage Information Sheet"**. This is another way we can work together to build the relationship between home and school. Please complete and return it to your child's teacher. This project will help us to learn more about your family and the traditions you may celebrate. If your family has a tradition, that you would like to share with your child's classmates, please make sure to speak to your child's teacher. We hope everyone feels welcomed and connected here, as we invite you to share your traditions with us.

We invite everyone to celebrate the season, by coming to our **"Children's Christmas Program"** on **Thursday, December 13, at 6:30 pm**. The Christmas Program will be held in the sanctuary and will last about 30 minutes. The program will be followed by a **"Treats and Goodies Pot-Luck Social"** in Criswell Hall. The Sign-Up for the Social will be on the Sign-In/Out table.

We are selling *See's Candy for the Holidays*. Don't stand in the long line at the store;

Dates To Remember

- **Friday, December 7** - 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 13** - **Children's Christmas 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 21** - **Pajama Day, Pizza Party, and Minimum Day**- Children get to wear their favorite pajamas to school. **School will close at 12:00 noon.**
- **Monday through Friday, December 24-28** - **School is closed for Christmas Break.**
- **Tuesday, January 1** - **School is closed for New Years Day.**

Pennies for Turkeys



Thank you to all who gave their spare change to help others in need in our community in November. This AGUMCC Community Service Project has been helping others since 2007. This year we raised \$ 565.50. The total amount that we have raised for the Five Cities Christian Women's Food Pantry is \$3,129.36.

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 ★ "When the angels went
 ★ away from them into
 ★ heaven, the shep-
 ★ herds said to one an-
 ★ other, "Let us go over
 ★ to Bethlehem and see
 ★ this thing that has happened, which
 ★ the Lord has made known to us." And
 ★ they went with haste and found Mary
 ★ and Joseph, and the baby lying in a
 ★ manger. And when they saw it, they
 ★ made known the saying that had been
 ★ told them concerning this child. And
 ★ all who heard it wondered at what the
 ★ shepherds told them. But Mary treas-
 ★ ured up all these things, pondering
 ★ them in her heart. And the shepherds
 ★ returned, glorifying and praising God
 ★ for all they had heard and seen, as it
 ★ had been told to them." (Luke2:15-20)
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



families a Merry Christmas!

~Ms. Rebecca

Ms. Daphne and Ms. Maddy's

Preschool Class

In the month of November we explored the fall season, through art and literature. We have gone on a few walks to notice the beautiful changing colors of the season. The children spent time collecting various leaves, sticks, and pine cones, on our walks, too. In class, the children have been developing their fine motor skills by scooping and pinching small objects as well as transferring the objects from one container to another. They have been interested in mixing colors, puzzles, and learning about their bodies. We have had lots of conversations about friends and family, as they are a big part of these holiday months, as well. Our Giving Celebration was a fun event. It was especially nice to sit with our families and share such a wonderful meal. December will be very busy for us. We will be practicing for our Christmas Program. We have chosen the songs, "Happy Birthday Jesus" and "How on Earth?", by the Donut Man, to perform. The words to the songs have been sent home. Please don't hesitate to ask us if you need another copy, so you can practice the songs with your child at home. You can also find these songs on U Tube. The Christmas Program is Dec 14 at 6:30 pm. *Please have your children in our classroom by 6:15 pm*, so that we can prepare for our presentation. Thanks, in advance, and we hope your families have the most blessed of holidays.

~ Ms. Daphne and Ms. Maddy

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

And just like that, November is over!! I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, enjoying time with family and friends. Thank you to all the families who were able to attend our Giving Celebration. We enjoyed talking with you and enjoying the yummy soup together. In November the children became interested in things that fly. We read books to them about different types of flight. We also created an international airport in our dramatic play area so they could use their imaginations and fly all over the world. For the month of December we will be getting ready for our Christmas Program and learning songs for this event. We will also be working on the letters 'J' and 'K'. Last but not least we want to wish all our

BIBLE STORY & GOODIE BEAR TIME

We will read "The Good News", from the Beginning Bible, Luke 2:8-20. Goodie Bear and Ms. Shirley will share our "Fruit of the Spirit" teaching on Peace. This wonderful time together will be shared on **Wednesday & Thursday, Dec. 5 & 6, at 9:05 AM**, in the Church Narthex.



Merry Christmas

Ms. Shirley and Mrs. Swati's Toddlers

The holiday season is upon us and our class is so busy. In November we talked about families and being thankful. The children made placemats and pumpkin turkey center pieces for our "Giving Celebration". Thank you to everyone who attended, it was a huge success. The children really enjoyed putting coins in the "Pennies for Turkeys" jar. It was so helpful in explaining how we can raise money to buy turkeys for those who are less fortunate. This month is an extra special month as we talk about the true meaning of Christmas. Our focus will be on the birth of Jesus and the meaning of giving. The children will also be practicing songs for our annual Christmas program. As you can see, our classroom is getting ready for this wonderful time of year. Let's remember the reason for the season. Have a blessed holiday and Merry Christmas to all!

~ Ms. Shirley

Cindy Bo's Young Toddlers

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. Thank you,

also, to all those who donated spare change for our "Pennies for Turkeys" jar. During the month of November, the Young Toddlers continued to demonstrate how much they have learned about our class routines and about each other. They have been demonstrating empathy as they check on a friend who is hurt or offer something they think another child is interested in. It is very sweet! I have heard that children have been mentioning the names of their friends, at home and on the way to school, eager to see them, as well. It is so special to hear their simple communications and to observe them holding hands or hugging one another. I have also heard that some of the children are saying parts of our meal time prayer, at home. I am glad that they are, in this way, letting us know that prayer is meaningful to them. The Young Toddlers have all been enjoying our "Music and Movement" times, playing instruments, swinging scarves and imitating song lyrics. They have especially enjoyed learning how to put their bean bags on their heads, shoulders, ears, etc. while dancing to "The Bean Bag Boogie". They are also showing a lot more interest in books during "Song & Story Time", as well as on their own. We also had great fun making

Thank you to everyone who has purchased "See's Candy". The deadline to order is Wed. Dec. 5.



The candy will be ready for pick up on Friday, Dec 14. This fundraiser will