

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center www.worshipweekly.com AUGUST 2019

Message from Ms. Maddy:

The Spring Family Survey Results for 2019 are in. 100% of families surveyed felt that their child was well cared for and that their child was happy and enjoyed participating in our program. 91% of families were "Very Satisfied" and 8% were "Satisfied". According to the survey, the top reason families chose our program was: our Low Child to Teacher Ratio. A few comments provided by families included: "I am so very happy in my child's first pre-school years. He loves going."; "Great Program. We love it."; "We love AGUMCC. Our daughter has grown so much and we are thankful for such a wonderful school."

The most popular event that families participated in this past year was the Holiday Program, in December. Family involvement is key to our program's success. 63% of the families surveyed helped with classroom activities such as making playdough, cooking, providing snack, or doing laundry. 81% participated in fund-raising events, and 55% participated in school socials.

100% of the families that turned in the survey, participated in Parent/Teacher Conferences. They found the conferences to be informative and learned how their child had grown and developed. To read the complete survey, you will find it posted on our web site. It was also distributed in the family folders in July.

Our "**Back to School Night/Family Orientation** is coming up on **Thursday August 8, 6:30-7:30 PM**. This will be for adult family members only. The evening will begin in Criswell Hall, at 6:30, where I will give a brief overview of the program and how you play a vital part in helping us continue to provide a quality program. Then, at 7:00, you will go to your child's classroom to learn more about what you can expect from your child's school experience in the coming year. This is a good time to connect with your child's teacher, ask questions and orient yourself to your child's classroom.

We have a new staff member, Andrea Mobley. She will be teaching with me in the Preschool Classroom. Her philosophy as an early childhood educator is to provide a safe and nurturing setting where children can explore, develop, and learn about the world, themselves, and their faith. She considers her strengths to be an excellent listener, observer, and communicator. She is excited to return to the field of early childhood where she has had experience working with children 3 to 5 year olds. She is looking forward to following her passion once again to teach young children here at AGUMCC.

AGUMCC WDSH WISH LIST BOARD

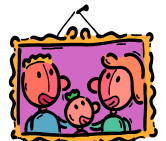
The Wish List Board is above the rocking chair, in the entry way. If you see something that you can help us with, take the post-it note off the board and return the item, with the note, to the office.

A FEW CURRENT ITEMS INCLUDE:

Please bring in your ink cartridges for the staff to recycle. Do you have a computer at work or home? **Staff can earn \$1 for every used cartridge** you bring in. The money is used to buy various supplies for the office and classrooms. The container for the ink cartridges is located on the little table, to the left of the Sign-In/Out Table.

"Family Photo Boards"

- Help us to get to know your family better by completing your child's family collage. This is a wonderful activity, that bridges the relationship between school and home. Please let your child's teacher know if you have not yet received your collage poster board.



Important Dates to Remember

- Friday, August 2- Staff Development. School Spirit Day! Wear your AGUMCC T-Shirt. **SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 3:30 PM**
- Thursday, August 8 - Back to School Night/Family Orientation 6:30-7:30 PM. This will be for adult family members only.
- Thursday, August 22- Planning Meeting for a "Fall Fundraiser" What do we want to do?
- Monday, September 2- **SCHOOL IS CLOSED** for Labor Day.
- Friday, September 6 - Staff Development. School Spirit Day! Wear your AGUMCC T-Shirt. **SCHOOL CLOSSES at 3:30 PM.**

A **School Calendar listing Days Closed and Minimum Days** can be found in your Family Handbook and is available on-line at www.agumcc.org.

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

Hello! Hello! It has been an absolute pleasure getting to know your children as this new school year has begun. They are all unique, wonderful individuals and we cannot wait to continue to get to know them! So far, in our class, the children have explored their new classroom and have started to become familiar with each other. In our classroom, they have begun to explore our literacy, mathematics, science, manipulatives, and art areas. We have also introduced our most important classroom rules of being safe, kind, responsible, and respectful to one another. The children have both talked about and demonstrated ways in which they can exemplify our rules in Pre-K. Students have also shared with us and their classmates about the vacations they have taken with their families, during the summer. We have also discussed the importance of the Fourth of July holiday and have begun learning/practicing the pledge of allegiance! As Back to School Night approaches, we have encouraged children to share about their families and we cannot wait to share our classroom with you!

~ Ms. Ashley

Ms. Andrea and Ms. Maddy's Preschool Class

We now exit July and continue forward with the new school year, learning about our new children in our class. The children enjoyed talking about where they have traveled to and what transportation they used. We learned about and celebrated the birthday of our country with books and art work. We will continue to build new friendships and learn more about our classroom and our daily routine. During the month of August we will continue to celebrate each child as they bring in their family collage. August brings us patterns in nature and the color yellow. The class will be working on learning about the number 1, the shape of a square and about how to be trustworthy. Ms. Maddy teach our new friends how to take a quiet moment to calm our bodies with deep breathing. This how everyone maintain a more peaceful class. It's with a heavy heart that Friday, July 19 was my last day at AGUMCC. I've taken a position closer to home. I will dearly miss all the families but most of all the wonderful children I've grown to love over the past year.

~Love Ms. Daphne

Welcome to Ms. Andrea who will be joining Ms. Maddy in teaching the preschool group!

Ms. Shirley and Mrs. Swati's Toddlers

We want to thank everyone that helped make transitioning into the older toddler classroom a success! The children have been enjoying playing in dramatic play, with our camping theme. They have been learning to share space with others.

In July we introduced new songs and learned the rules of the classroom. We are getting to know each other and learning how special we are. Play dough making was a hit, as the children poured and stirred different ingredients, and then played with the warm dough after it cooled a bit. Their faces said it all as they kneaded the warm playdough. As we move forward into August we will be looking more and more into the interests of the children. We have noticed they get excited when we open the sensory table with water in it so they can help wash our classroom toys, etc. The days are getting warmer, so water play will be available more. A lot of you have been taking vacations and going to the beach. The children have been talking about it so, if you have pictures to share, that would be fun and appreciated. We are so excited for our new school year and are looking forward to getting to know the children and their families. If you have questions or concerns, you may talk to either of us. Blessings to all!

~Ms. Shirley

Cindy Bo's Young Toddlers

We had a wonderful start to the new school year! During the month of July, I had the opportunity to develop a special relationship and bond with Malcom and Maverick, who started, with me, in our Young Toddler group in July. We are excited to welcome Jax to our group this month. The children have learned so much about our school routines already and are developing many of their self help skills as they are participating in these routines. They have shown a lot of interest in the cause and effect of their actions as they have explored sensory materials such as: water, sand, and grass seeds as well as various manipulatives in our classroom and in the yards. They have also enjoyed Music and Movement activities, maintaining attention to lyrics and actions, with lots of smiles and laughter. I will continue to pay attention to the things that interest my group of toddlers and do my best to foster their natural desire to discover and learn through play. Once again, I am very thankful for the opportunity I have to spend time with your children and for the privilege of developing a relationship with you, their families. Hope to see you at "Back to School Night".

~ Cindy Bo

BIBLE STORY & GOODIE BEAR TIME



We will read **Luke 19: 1-10** from the Children's Beginning Bible. It's a story about **Zacchaeus**. Goodie Bear will share our moral teaching: **TRUSTWORTHY**.

We will be sharing this special time will be on Wednesday and Thursday, August 7 and 8 at 9:05 AM, in the church narthex.