

# Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center [www.worshipweekly.com](http://www.worshipweekly.com) APRIL 2011

## Message from Maddy

Spring is here and it is "The Month of the Young Child". Our school has planned our annual "Open House" for Thursday, April 7. Families, friends, and the community are invited to attend this event. This is a time for the staff to share the importance of 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 different areas of interest both inside and outside the classroom.

Our "Summer Session" and "Traditional Session" registration takes place in April. The Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center opened its doors in September 2005 with 3 children. Now, we are pleased to say, we currently have 48 children enrolled. The deadline for our current families to register/re-enroll this year will be Tuesday, April 5. Enrollment for families on our "Waiting List" will start on April 15 and "Open Registration" If there are still openings, will start on May 1. Toddlers account for most of our new enrollment. These spaces occur when our current toddlers move to our preschool class. After the transition of toddlers, there are only a few spaces left for new families to enroll in our preschool. Next, the Pre-K class may only have one or two openings because of its popularity. Our Pre-K program follows the Pre-K Guidelines set by the Department of Education which is designed to help children to successfully transition in to 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. *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.*

May is time for the AGUMCC Annual BBQ and Book Fair. Families are invited to come and hear their children sing at the 10:30AM church service. The BBQ and Book Fair will follow, from 11:30 - 2:30. The money raised from this event will help make needed improvements to our program. **There will be a planning meeting to kick off the event on Thursday, April 14, 6:30 -7:30 PM, in the McMillen Room.** *Child Care will be available in the Preschool Room 3. Many volunteers are needed to make this day a success.* For example: We are looking for people to pick up donated items, go shopping, help with preparation for the event on Saturday and help with the actual event on Sunday. **There is something for Everyone. Come to the meeting and see what you can do.**

## Theme for The Month:

**New Life &  
Springtime Discovery**

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



## Fruit of the Spirit Focus for the Month: **Goodness**

"If you are wise and understand  
God's ways, live a life of steady  
**goodness** so that only good deeds  
will pour forth" James 3:3



## Dates to Remember

### APRIL

- **MONTH OF APRIL - ENROLLMENT/REGISTRATION FOR SUMMER AND TRADITIONAL SESSIONS**
- Thursday, April 7 - OPEN HOUSE 6:30 -7:30 PM
- Thursday, April 14 - AGUMCC BBQ Planning Meeting, 6:30 -7:30 PM
- Wednesday, April 20 - Minimum Day and Spring Pot-Luck. School is closed at 12:00 noon.
- Thursday & Friday, April 21 & 22 - School is Closed for Holy Thursday and Good Friday.

### MAY

- Thursday, May 5 - AGUMCC BBQ Planning Meeting, 6:30 -7:30 PM
- Thursday, May 12 - Staff Appreciation Luncheon, in the McMillen room, 1:00 PM.
- Sunday, May 22 - AGUMCC Spring BBQ and Book Fair

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

March was fun!! Learning about the different kinds of farms there are and learning about plants and the responsibility of caring for a living thing. We would like to let all the parents know that we appreciate all the hard work and contributions made to the fundraisers so that we could go to our conference. We learned new ideas and tools to bring to our classroom and your children. April is upon us now and we will be finishing our focus on the letters of the alphabet with our last two letters , 'Y' and 'Z'. Our theme for this month is going to be bugs/ insects and life cycles. We will also be working on spring assessments for conferences in May. Finally, Open House is coming up soon. Come and let your child give you the tour of their classroom and see all their great work.

REMINDER: Kindergarten registration is coming up. Have you thought about it?

*-Ms.Rebecca and Ms. Lisa*

**Ms. Prue and Ms. Wasinii's Preschool Class**

In March, we talked about farms, how produce grows on the farm, and we sorted animals that live on the farm. We have been working on cut and paste match worksheets, letter tracing, checking the weather, and calendar patterns. The children also enjoyed planting in the garden, watering, and watching their plants grow. As I continue on maternity leave, please make sure to welcome Prue, our new teacher in the three-year-old classroom, who is covering for me while I am gone. I also would like to thank all the families for the wonderful Baby Shower Brunch. I feel so blessed to have so many wonderful families and staff members that helped put together this great event. April is upon us and it is a science-filled month. We will be discussing various forms of new life including bugs, insects, and the transformation some of these creepy crawlers experience known as metamor-

phosis. It will be quite an exciting month, as they are already known to go on many butterfly, caterpillar, and snail hunts in the backyard.

*-Ms. Nichole*

**Cindy Bo and Ms.Kristel's Toddlers**

Ms. Tierra is someone the children have grown attached to and she will surely be missed. We are looking forward to her visiting us with her new baby girl. I am excited to have the opportunity to work with Kristel, as my new Co-Toddler Teacher and can see the bonding developing, already, between her and the children. She's a bright addition to our staff. I hope you've all had a chance to meet and welcome her. The toddlers were excited to discover the farm animals as they explored the classroom, finding representations of them in puzzles, puppets, books and play figures last month. We talked about how vegetables and fruits grow and sampled a variety of both, in different forms (raw, cooked, squeezed etc.) We also read stories about how plants grow and did our best at gardening, planting seeds and plants. We really enjoyed planting them, they loved watering them, both with spray bottles and sprinkler cans, and they are sure to enjoy watching them as they grow. This will be a natural transition into our celebration of new life this month. We will be exploring a variety of critters , some with six legs or some with eight or more. Some will have antennas and some will have wings. We will explore the process of metamorphosis (The caterpillar to a butterfly). The toddlers have been thrilled to discover many of these bugs and insects in our yards already. They get so excited and can learn so much from these littlest of God's creatures. Happy Spring!

*-Cindy Bo*