

Children's Center Chronicle

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

Message from Maddy

Summer is here. "Trips and Travel" will be our theme throughout the summer. The classes will be rotating themes from *Going to the Beach*, *Going to the Zoo*, and *Going Camping*, so bring your hat, sunglasses, sun screen and a comfortable pair a shoes. (Keep in mind, though, that flip flops can cause children to slip and fall during active play.) In the days and months ahead there is sure to be many opportunities for water play, so **please check your child's cubby** and make sure an extra change of clothes is available. Chances are, if your child does not have a change of clothing, when needed, you will get a call to bring a new change of clothing for your child at that time.



This is a busy time for many families and the staff. Please let your child's teacher know if your child will not be coming to school because of vacation or illness. Teachers need to record absences related to illness on their individual classroom illness log. *The staff appreciates your support in helping to keep everyone healthy.* A well balanced diet, plenty of rest and regular hand washing are **KEY** to happy and healthy children, families, and staff.

A special "Thank you!" to Cherisse Sweeney for organizing the families to bless us with the "Garden Party-Staff Appreciation Luncheon". Thank you to those who helped with decorations, contributed the wonderful food and contributed toward the gifts. Also, thank you to Stephanie Purvis, Kristin Martin, and Amber Griffin who helped Cherisse at the event. We loved the cute succulent potted plants, the cheerful reusable cups with Jamba Juice gift cards and the special notes written in the cards, given to each individual staff person. The staff and I feel very blessed to have such wonderful families, in our program, willing to give of their time and talent to provide such a fun, enjoyable, and memorable event. Thanks again!

Don't forget to turn in your "Parent Surveys" by June 15. The surveys provide us information regarding what you, our families, think about our program and how we can improve it. I look forward to reviewing the surveys and sharing the information with you in the July newsletter.

Summer is a "Transition Time" for many children. All the children will be making "transition visits", to their new classrooms, the second week of June and will be moving to their new classes, for the new school year, the first week of July. We will also be welcoming several new families to our program. If you see a new face, take a moment and introduce yourself and welcome them as they join our AGUMCC family.

AGUMCC WISH LIST BOARD

If you see something on the Wish List Board (located in the entrance way above the rocking chair) that you can help us with, take the posted note off and return the item to the office. **Items like:**

- ◆ Clear Mailing/ Storage Tape
- ◆ Package of 'D' and/or 'C' batteries
- ◆ Extra Wipes
- ◆ Woven Baskets



DATES TO REMEMBER

- Friday, June 8 - **PRE-K PROMOTION & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT PROGRAM** at 7:00 PM in the church sanctuary, with reception to follow, in Criswell Hall
- Monday-Friday June 11-15 - **TRANSITION VISITS**
- Friday, June 15 - **PARENT SURVEYS DUE**
- SUNDAY, JUNE 24 WENDELL CURRY & SUSAN POTTS SCHOLARSHIP DRIVE — AGUMCC Host Coffee Hour & Children are invited to sign at the 10:30 Service
- Friday, June 29 - **CASSAROLLES ARE DUE**, to help feed the homeless.
- Friday, June 29 - **SCHOLASTIC BOOK ORDERS ARE DUE**

June is our Community Service Month

Each June, AGUMCC helps "People's Kitchen" feed the homeless. If you can help AGUMCC make a casserole or two, please sign up at the Sign In/Out Table. We need 14 casseroles by June 30. The First United Methodist Church will provide everything you need, except butter, to make the casseroles. You can pick up a "Casserole Kit" here, during the school week or at the church, any Sunday, from 9:30 - 12:00 noon.

Another community service project is the "Change For Life" fundraiser for SLO A.L.P.H.A.. You can help us fill up the giant baby bottle on the Sign In/Out Table. There will be a special notice going out, with a container to collect your spare change. ALPHA is a non-profit organization, proving support and practical assistance, to women during pregnancy, through a child's first year, as well as pregnancy and early parenting education. For more information about ALPHA see www.sloalpha.org.

Any questions, see Ms. Maddy

CONGRADULATIONS

Callie's brother, **Landon Meyers Barker** was born May 11 at 8lb. 11oz. and 21". Congratulations Callie, mom Natalie and dad Aaron!

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

Summer is here! With the warm weather here now, we are excited to begin our "Trip to the zoo" theme. We will be learning about the different animals at the zoo and where they come from. If you have any items to share that are zoo related, please feel free to bring them for the share basket or to add to our classroom environment! We are looking forward to the graduation and acknowledgment ceremony, coming up. We will really miss all the children who are moving on to new schools, and having this celebration, to reflect on our wonderful years together, is an amazing way to end our school year. We have so much to look forward to this summer; we will be doing the "Safety program" and reviewing the things we have learned for Kindergarten.

-Ms. Rebecca

Miss Kristel's Preschool Class

In May, our class explored the theme "Down at the Pond"! We looked at rocks, fossils and we looked at a wonderful poster called "The Life Cycle of a Bullfrog". The children seemed to be experts at telling me all about the Life Cycle poster! The children learned about Self-Control, in May, as well. Tim and Lucy had lots to say about that Fruit of the Spirit. Oh boy, every time Lucy tried talking to the children, Tim would blurt out a noise and he would have no self-control. The children were so good about problem solving with Tim and helping him learn new ways to have self-control when Lucy is talking! We also focused on reviewing our shapes and numbers!! Number '4' seems to be the favorite number these days! In June, we will be "Going to the Beach"! It will be a really fun theme for the class as we will be learning about sea life and having lots of fun sunbathing in Room 3!!!! Surfs up Miss Kristel's class!

-Miss Kristel

Cindy Bo's Young '3's

I appreciated having the chance to meet with my Young 3s families for parent-teacher conferences last month. Thank you for taking the time to meet with me so I could have the opportunity to visit with you about all that your children have been doing at school, reflect on

how much they have grown and developed, and share about those areas they are currently working on. Our class really enjoyed exploring and observing the life cycles of the butterfly and the frog, as well as learning about other creatures such as insects, turtles, lizards, snakes, fish, birds and beavers, as we spent time "Down at the Pond". We will now begin our summer theme of "Trips and Travels" by "Going Camping" in June. We'll set up a tent and get ready to have Song and Story Time gathered around the campfire. We may also be doing some hiking and exploring in the woods. It will be a great start to our summer! If you have any photos of family trips and travels or any camping related items to share, please bring them in. June is also a time of transition and change as we move toward the end of our school year. All the class groups will be making transition visits to their new classroom, during the second week of June, in order to make for a smoother July transition. I only have two weeks left as teacher of this group. I will be gone on a vacation to Alaska the last two weeks of the month, so Ms. Shirley will begin as their teacher, in our classroom, and then transition with them to their new classroom, as "Preschoolers" in July. It has been such a joy to be a part of your family's lives as this very special group of children's teacher. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of joining with you in helping to foster their growth and development over this time. For some it's been almost 2 years. Wow! I'm sure going to miss them!

-Cindy Bo

Ms. April and Ms. Wasinii's Toddlers

In May, Room 2 learned about animals that lived "down at the pond!" We learned about the life cycle of a frog through books. Unfortunately we couldn't find any tadpoles. We counted ducks on the flannel board, turtles and frogs too. Having concrete animals to look at, while counting, really helped the children see how many there were. Another way we practiced counting was by counting "1..2...3" while the children were going down the slide! We decorated our bulletin board as a pond and filled it with frogs, lily pads and turtles! We also talked a lot about emotions, including the sounds and faces that show from the different emotions. A favorite activity for the kids was to stand in front of the mirror and go through the different emotions. In June, we will be "Going to the Beach!" We will be focusing on the ocean and sea life. We will also be introducing our problem solving puppets (which are a new item in the classroom) to the children. We will be asking the children's help to name them. Get ready for some fun in the sun!!

-Ms. April