Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center

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February 2014

# Message from Maddy

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February is "Friends at School and in Our Community" month. We will have several special visitors throughout the month; the AG Fire Dept, AG Police Dept, SLO Ambulance Service, Vision Screening from Dr. Hile, and Pastor David, If you would like to share your occupation with the children, please contact your child's teacher.

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See the attached notice, to mark your calendar for all the special visitors. If your child does not regularly attend on the day of a visitor, you and your child are welcome to join us these special activities. Did you miss the fun at the Taco Bar Dinner Night? To see wonderful pictures from the event see our web sit at on our web site at http://worshipweekly.com/140131.html. Thank you to the families who volunteered their time to help make the event a success: Sarah Lawlor, Kristi Balzer, Christina Cuddy, Ryan Luis, Ernesto Sanchez, Steven Clark, and Amber Clark. We greatly appreciated your time and support!!! You can still join in on all the fun by coming to the Spaghetti Dinner Night on Friday, Feb. 28. Check your family folders for information on buying or selling "Spaghetti Dinner" tickets for this **BIG** event. The dinner tickets are \$5 per. person. What a deal!!! The event will start at 6:30 PM, with dinner. Regatta racing begins at 7:00 PM. All ages can race their individual boats. Be on the look out for the weekly up-dates of Regatta Bracket, located in the entrance hallway. *If you still need a boat, I have order* more. As of the Taco Bar dinner night we have already sold 44 boats. It is amazing how each year we sell more boats than the year before. We need many hands to make this event fun for everyone. The success of every event, here at AGUMCC, is made possible by the support of all our wonderful volunteers. Mark your calendar; "Positive Discipline" is coming in March. This six week course is for parents and caregivers. It provides positive guidance techniques that include connection before correction with kindness and firmness. The classes will be held at AGUMCC. It is open to the community. This course will be on Tuesday nights March 4 to April 8, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. The series will be led by Ms. Maddy and Ms. Rebecca, Certified Positive Discipline Educators. Registration is \$40 per person or \$70 per couple. Childcare is available for \$10 per child, per session. Registration includes the Positive Discipline book by Dr. Jane Nelsen and a workbook. Positive Discipline offers practical ways to change lives by reducing stress while raising responsible, respectful, and resourceful children. See the attached registration form to sign up.

### A TIME WITH PASTOR DAVID & GOODIE BEAR

Pastor David's "Fruit of the Spirit" message this month will be about "Love". Ms. Shirley and "Goodie Bear" will also have a special message to share with the children. Ask your child about this wonderful time we will be sharing together, on Wednesday February 5 and Thursday, February 6 at 9:30 AM, in the Church Narthex.

# Fruit of the Spirit Focus for the Month:

### Love

Love is something that we cannot touch but we express it and experience it in our interactions with God and others. At school, we are learning to grow friendships with one another through loving actions and words.

"A friend loves at all times" Proverbs 17:17

## **Dates to Remember**

- Friday, Feb. 7- STAFF DEVELOP-MENT and School Spirit Day. Wear your school T-shirt to show your school spirit. School will close at 3:30.
- <u>Selected days in February</u> "FRIENDSHIP DAY" Please check with your child's teacher for details.
- Monday, Feb. 17 SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED FOR PRESIDENT'S DAY
- <u>Friday, February 28</u> RAIN GUTTER REGATTA Dinner at 6:30 PM and Boat Regatta Races begin at 7:00 PM.

#### Ms. Rebecca and Ms. Tresha's Pre-K Class

Happy 2014, New Year! In January, the Pre-k class worked on the letters, 'Q', 'R' and 'S'. Our Pre-K children have been working extra hard on writing their first names on their Zoo Phonics curriculum. The children enjoy doing the Zoo Phonics, from the beginning, during our first group time. In January, we enjoyed our Regatta Painting Party and Taco Bar Dinner Night; it was a blast! Thank you to all who participated in this event. We also enjoyed having our Pizza Party, celebrating 100 days of school together! In February, our theme will be "Community Helpers." During this month, feel free to come to our classroom and share your profession with the children. Please talk to us about scheduling a time, ifyou would like. We will be vistited by some of our community helpers like

would like to join us for these special visits, feel free to do so on any of the scheduled visitor days. This month, we will also be having our Friendship Day Pot Luck Luncheon on Friday, February 14. Please sign up, on the sign- up sheet, in the classroom, closer to the time. The Spaghetti Dinner and Regatta Race event is on February 28. We are all super excited to see how our boats do in the races. Happy New Year! ~Ms. Tresha

the fire fighters and police officers, with

their truck and car, dentist, etc. If you

#### Ms. Kassie and Ms. Shirley's Preschool Class

During the month of January we discovered the world of the arctic, and winter weather. The children enjoyed learning about different animals that live in the arctic. We used the concept of "Weather" in our math lessons too. There was a wonderful turn out for the Taco Bar and Regatta Painting Party!! Thank you all who attended and a big round of applause for all that staid and helped clean up. This month, our local "Community Helpers" will be coming by to visit. It is such an exciting month for the children. They will get to meet with these "Helpers" and explore their different vehicles and/or the tools they use in their work.



All families are welcome to come in and talk about their job and profession, with the children. Just come and talk with me and we can set up a day and time. Thank you to all that can spare a couple hours in their day to inspire our students. Valentine's Day is around the corner. We will be having a Friendship

Day Pot Luck Luncheon on Valentine's Day, Friday, February 14. All family members are invited. Please sign up to bring something to the Pot Luck; every little bit helps. Get ready to race those wonderful boats that we painted in January. The main event is here! The Regatta Boat Race and Spaghetti Dinner is on Friday, February 28. I cannot wait to see everyone there. I think I might even race this year! Always, ~ Ms. Kassie

#### Ms. April and Ms. Jill's Toddlers

In January the children learned all about life in the arctic and the animals that live in that climate. The children enjoyed playing with different ice materials and also painted with ice paints. The children also had the opportunity to learn about the weather. Every day the they were able to take turns and check the weather. This then lead to a discussion about appropriate clothing to wear during different kinds of weather. Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the Taco Bar and Regatta Painting Night! In February, we will be following the theme of "Community Helpers." During this month, we will be having many different visitors come to the school. We will be visited by a fire truck, ambulance, police car, dentist, etc. There will be many more pictures occurring this month, so be on the lookout for separate photo emails that will be sent. If you would still like to sign up (or add emails) to receive the emails, please let me know. Feel free to come and visit the classroom, on any of the visitor days. We will also be having a Friendship Day Breakfast. We will be posting a sign-up sheet, for that day, on the family communication board. Every family is very welcome to attend! We can't wait to celebrate friendship with you! Don't forget, also this month, is the Spaghetti Dinner and Regatta Races on February 28. We can't wait to see how everyone's boats turned out! Good luck! ~Ms. April

### Cindy Bo's Young Toddlers

Welcome to Briella Cooper and her family, as they join our Young Toddler group, this month! It is time again for our month of celebrating love, friendship and "Community Helpers." This is always a very fun time for the children, as we

get to meet many "helpers" from our community, hear about the jobs they do, see their tools and equipment, as well as explore some special vehicles (fire truck, police car, etc.). Some of the Young Toddlers may have some fears regarding

these "strangers" so it will be helpful for you to talk with them, before being introduced to these scheduled visitors, so that they know what to expect. If your child is not scheduled on the day of a scheduled visitor, you are welcome to join your child and come during that scheduled visit time. Also, the Young Toddlers will be given the opportunity to dress-up as these special and meaningful people in our community and to act out their jobs, all month long. We will also be reading stories and singing songs about these various community helpers and their jobs. Please bring in a self addressed stamped envelope, so your child can mail a special something to you, as we explore the valuable job of our postal workers. Our class will be having a "Friendship Day Potluck Breakfast" where families are invited to join their children for a meal and activities. Look for sign-ups in the classroom, as well as more information, in your family folders, about this special day, planned for Wednesday, February 12, "We Love because He first Loved us" (1 John 4:19). Love to you all! ~Cindy Bo