

The Pitter Patter

Wesley Memorial's Through-the-Week School Newsletter

Volume 6 No. 4

May, 2011

Message from the Directors . . .

It's when children use their observation to imitate that we realize the great focus and depth they bring to their observations. My new grandbaby – like your own infants – stares at my face looking for clues about life & beginning to mimic the animations. Older children may use mommy's falsetto voice to talk to the baby dolls, or match daddy's walking pattern while pushing the toy lawn mower on the playground.

There is such responsibility in being really seen! It should make us want to be our very best adult self – for the children, for God, but for ourselves, too. Children study us with great intensity and thereby empower us to set a high bar for our behavior. When we look back, do we communicate the same level of respect in our follow-up? Could we imitate their voices, their words, their actions with as much detail? Do we let them know that they are understood . . . valued . . . loved?

The Susans love being Directors! Your boys & girls want to show us things, "I made this!" "I found a worm!" They invite us into their games, and beam with delight when we visit in their classroom and don a silly hat, or participate in the "Funky Chicken" dance, or place an order at their "restaurant," or listen to them read their original story.

Yes, we are ALL so very busy – parents, grandparents, teachers, directors. And these times to engage with the children are only moments – ordinary moments that won't even be remembered. Yet the sensory, physical, emotional impact can create the foundation for a childhood. All children should know – at home, church & school – that we adults really see them.

Yes, we love being Directors and building relationships with your children. So as this school year comes to a close, we pray that our adult message to them has been clear in their hearts. Our goal has been for each child to know . . .

"I see you. I really see you, and only you in this moment. You fill my heart and my head with your wonderfulness!"

Love,
Susan Sumpter and Susan Kelley

HOW DO I LEARN JUST WHO I AM?

I learn from YOU who I am.
Within your eyes I see
reflected me.

Within your voice I hear
how you see me.

You are the mirror that I look into
and mold the image of myself.

I sense the way you hold me,
and from your touch
I feel my form, my shape.

And if I like what I see in
your eyes,
your voice,
your touch

My heart responds and reaches out.
Then in its reaching, grows and grows,
until I see myself
as separate.

That separate self – in turn –
can love you back.

Because you taught me
who I am,
and I am loved.

from Listening to the Littlest
by Ruth Reardon



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Plans are well underway for **SonHarvest County Fair!**

July 11-15 (Mon thru Fri)

9 am-12 noon

The rooster's crowing and it's time to get crackin'! From pie baking and craft making to cow milking and hog calling, SonHarvest County Fair will have it all! Children will love the farming theme as they get hands-on experience in growing, making & presenting their best. Through Bible stories of Jesus and His parables, students will learn about the **Fruit of the Spirit** as they **grow a crop of LOVE, sprout JOY, plant PEACE, produce some PATIENCE & pick bushels of KINDNESS**. They'll learn that the best way to grow is to know Jesus as their Savior and to live as He wants them to live.

During their time in SonHarvest County, country kids & city slickers alike will work in our church community garden & try their hand at real-life farm activities like corn shucking, wheelbarrow racing, making berry preserves & sprouting seeds. Each day they'll look forward to creating their own blue-ribbon arts & crafts, eating farm-fresh snacks & singing great songs. They'll visit the Mission & Service Center, where children will help with care needs for our local community. At the close of VBS week, we'll invite our families & friends to our **Grandstand Revue**, show off our Fair entries, and enjoy a family picnic and hoe-down!

Children ages "completing Twos" through 5th grade will be placed in same age-level class groupings, and visit different stations throughout the morning with their Farmer (Parent Leader). Childcare available for infants & toddlers of volunteers. Registration forms available NOW in our Children's Office 884-4232. Parent Volunteers are needed to take part on the following teams. ***Please say YES, I want to help this VBS go HOG-WILD!!***

- Set-up of centers (Sunday afternoon, July 10)
- Music & Drama Assembly
- Recreation
- Mission & Service
- Crafts
- Snacks
- Farmhand Fun Exhibit
- Farmer Guides (age-level class leader – must be available all 5 days)
- Take-down centers (Friday afternoon, July 15)
- Artists to design sets for the centers

OPENING DAYS OF SCHOOL THIS FALL

To help you plan your vacation dates, our TTW opening schedule will be as follows:

KINDERGARTEN FIVES:

Parent Night Meeting – Monday, August 22, 7 pm
Orientation Time & Individual Assessment Screenings of Students – Tues or Weds morning, August 23 or 24 (*teacher will call to schedule*)
First Day – Thursday, August 25, 9 am-1:30

PRESCHOOL THREES and PRE-K FOURS

Parent Night Meeting – Monday, August 22, 7 pm
Orientation Classroom Visits of Children – Tues or Weds morning, August 23 or 24 (*teacher will call to schedule*)
First Day – Thursday, August 25, 9 am-12 noon (T-Th and 5-day groups); Friday, August 26, 9 am-12 noon (MWF groups)

NURSERY INFANT BEGINNERS, TODDLERS, TWOS

Parent Night Meeting – Tuesday, August 23, 7 pm
Orientation Classroom Visits of Children – Weds, Thurs, or Fri, August 24-26 (*teacher will call to schedule*)
First Day – Monday, August 29, 9 am-12 noon

EXTENDED DAY CHILDCARE

Before School, 8-9 am – begins on child's first school day
After School, 12 noon-1:30 pm – begins on child's first school day

Happy Summertime to TTW School Families!

We will miss all of the children who will be "moving on" to BIG SCHOOL, but we will always love you and care about how you are doing. Please stop by anytime to show us how much you have grown!

To our younger boys & girls, we are glad we do not have to let you go quite yet because we are just not ready! We look forward to lots more "HAPPY DAYS" in 2011-12!

The Through-The-Week School Teachers
Susan Sumpter and Susan Kelley

Let's Celebrate our Wonderful Year Together!

NURSERY PARENTS of Beginners, Toddlers, Twos and Threes . . .

"Nursery Day Parents Party!" Our staff wants to honor the moms, dads & grandparents!

Thursday, May 12, 7:00 pm in Dining Hall

Parents will enjoy a buffet of delicious treats shared by the teachers - then we'll highlight the school year with a video program of all Nursery groups shown on the big screen. Follow child's teacher upstairs to classroom for some closing parent surprises. (Sorry, no childcare)

KGT-FOURS – Tuesday, May 17, 7 pm

Each class is preparing a Children's Program of Songs & Drama to present to their families (held in individual rooms.) Children's Program will be followed by a "dessert social" in Dining Room. Families, we know you wouldn't want to miss your child's important night, so save the date! And remember your camera!

- Kgt-4, Sharon Owen & Shannon Whitehead's Class
- Kgt-4, Sandi Todd & Leni's Class
- Kgt-4, Michele Kinley & Laurie Sorrell's MWF & T-Th Classes
- Kgt-4, Kathryn Yarbrough & Stephanie Kiser's Class

KGT-FIVES – Tuesday, May 24, 6 pm, Dining Hall

We're having a Covered-Dish Supper! Families of each child will bring the dishes of food. Following supper, boys & girls will present a program of favorite PUPPET SHOWS and SONGS that are sure to delight! Special recognitions of children's growth. More details coming soon, but mark your calendar NOW and save this date!

- Kgt-5, Wendy Kitley & Hannah Dougherty's Class
- Kgt-5, Dawn Miller & Debbie York's Class

End-Of-Year ALREADY?

Wednesday, May 25 – Last day for MWF children

Thursday, May 26 – Last day for T-Th and 5-day children

Friday, May 27 – School's Out! Teacher's Workday

TTW SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM!

It's going to be 4 great weeks!

Days are Tues, Weds, Thursday 9 am-12 noon, for all ages Infants thru Fives

\$50/week per child – parents may select just one week, or register for all 4!

Register in the Children's Office, 884-4232

Week 1: June 21, 22, 23

"Once Upon A Time" (Fairy Tales)

Week 2: June 28, 29, 30

"Dinosaur Dig" (dinosaurs, archeologists, volcanoes)

Week of July 4-8:

TTW and The Way Station closed for staff vacations

Week of July 11-15:

Vacation Bible School – Mon thru Fri (you must register; no cost)

Week 3: July 19, 20, 21

"Deep Sea Dive" (bathing suits/sprinklers/sharks & whales)

Week 4: July 26, 27, 28

"A Touch of Class" (cultural arts: sculpting, watercolors, poetry, music)

The Way Station Afterschool Program

at Wesley Memorial...

...becomes all-day

**"FUN IN THE SON" SUMMER CAMP
beginning Tuesday, May 31**

Time to register! This all-day summer camp/childcare experience is for children completing Kgt Fours (entering Fives in the fall) thru completing 5th grade. Hours: 7:30 am -6:00 pm, or lesser hours within that range. Parents may enroll child for entire summer, or just week-by-week. \$35 registration fee + \$125 total summer activity fee; tuition is \$125 per week. Exciting activities include arts & crafts, educational fieldtrips, outreach projects, swimming day, movie theater day, biking day & outdoor games! What a terrific time! We love our Way Station staff: Pamela Hill, Director and Michele Kinley, Asst Director are teachers along with Merri Mabe, Wendy Steiss, Bethany Vernon & Jana Brotherton. Registration information can be picked up in our Children's Office from the Susans.

Cub Scout Sign-up Night!

Tuesday, May 10, 7:00 pm, Scout Room

Do you know a boy entering First Grade through Fifth in the fall? Perhaps they'd like to hear all about joining PACK #4 at Wesley Memorial, and opportunities for Summer Scout Camp. Parents & boys are invited to come together for "Cub Scout Sign-Up Night!" This will be an informational session for new families about Tiger, Wolf, Bear, and Webelo levels of Scouting. Refreshments, games & time to meet the leaders. Summer is a **great** time to get started! Questions? Contact James Mintz, 378-9166, or the Susans.

TTW SCHOOL & CHURCH FAMILY SPRING EVENT

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 7 pm

"Take Me Out To the Ball Park!"

DASH Professional Baseball Game!

Wesley Memorial families! Let's plan to meet at the BB & T Ballpark in Winston-Salem, then sit together as a group. Our Winston-Salem DASH are playing the Salem Red Sox. Tickets are \$15, with \$6 of this price going to the **Kisses4Kate** charity organization. This is the charity that was started in honor of Kate Thornton, after the 5-year old's death from cancer last September. **Kisses4Kate** provides assistance to families who have children with cancer or other life-threatening diseases. It is a wonderful legacy to Kate, and so needed by these families with sick children. Kate will always have a very special place in our hearts, as she was a TTW student here.

The \$15 price includes your ticket, a limited-edition DASH hat, a Kisses4Kate bracelet, and game program as long as the tickets are purchased from Kisses4Kate directly & not at the door. Let the Susans know if your family can attend by calling in reservations by Monday, May 16, 884-4232. We will get the tickets for you from Kisses4Kate & meet you at the ball park entrance! What fun to have a **BIG WESLEY MEMORIAL TURN-OUT & help this special cause!!**



Registration for 2011-12 school year

Just a few spaces remain for fall – so don't delay!

Tours may be scheduled with Susan Sumpter & Susan Kelley, 884-4232.

Daily schedule has changed for next school year!

NURSERY: Infants, Toddlers & Twos 9 am-12 noon

PRESCHOOL: Threes & Fours 9 am-12 noon

"Lunch Bunch" every Weds until 1 pm

KINDERGARTEN: Fives 9 am-1:30 pm

Extended Day Childcare Options:

Before School, 8-9 am

After School, 12 noon-1:30 pm

The Way Station Afterschool

For children in Fours and Fives 1:30-6 pm

Early Childhood Team

Many thanks to Katie Hutchens for her outstanding service as Team Leader of the Early Childhood Committee this year. Our entire team has worked diligently each month to assure the best quality Nursery, Preschool, and Kindergarten programs for Wesley Memorial. Please give a pat on the back when you see these persons who serve on "the team":

Katie Hutchens, Margot Pritchett, Jamie Collins, Allie Carter, Rebecca Nash, Tyler Covington, Denise Cochrane, Edi Redmond, Randy Niebauer, Susan Hedrick, April Bolick, Carolyn Steed (Church Liaison) and Debbie York (Teacher Rep).

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will....

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



"The Pitter Patter" is available for viewing on-line at www.wesleymemorial.org. Go to "TTW School", "Our Commmunication", then "Pitter Patter Newsletter and select the current one.