



First Presbyterian Weekday School

'Tis the Season!

Christmas is approaching, and our school family, under Ms. Amy's leadership, has been preparing songs for our Christmas Fellowship Program...another of our Weekday School rituals.

This year, we are pleased to have Pastor Dan and Pastor Maren join us in retelling the Christmas story! They will be reading portions of the story; our 4's and 5's classes will be leading the songs; and, everyone will be singing along. All of our children have been practicing these songs. Parents, we will help you by putting the words on the big screen!

The program begins at 12:00 on Thursday, December 17 and Friday, December 18 in the Fellowship Hall.

Attention Parents of Our Toddlers', Twos', and Threes' Classes:

We ask that you come a little earlier, sign your child out at the classroom, and bring him or her with you to the Fellowship Hall. Sit and enjoy a slide presentation of our children involved in music classes with Ms. Amy while you wait for the 4's and 5's classes to join us.

Following the program, our fives and five year-olds will join their family members (so please save them a seat!) and we will all participate in a family Christmas sing-a-long.

Afterwards, we hope you will join us for more fellowship and connections with our school family. We will be offering cookies and punch after the program, and will provide a nut free table for children with nut allergies.

We look forward to seeing each of you at this event!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask Ms. Lara or Ms. Tricia.

5-day classes will participate in the Fellowship on the following dates:

Thursday, December 17th: Ms. Carrie & Ms. Karen's Bears

Friday, December 18th: Ms. Stefanie & Ms. Elizabeth's Otters

December 2015

School Calendar

December

Weds, Dec 2nd - NOON
Dismissal

Thurs, Dec 3rd & Fri, Dec 4th
at 9:15 in Room 208: Room
Parent Meeting

Thurs, Dec 10th & Fri, Dec
11th - at 9:15 in Room 208
Parent Discussion: Going
Beyond "Good Job"

Thursday Dec 17th & Fri, Dec
18th - at 12:00 Christmas
Fellowship Program in
Fellowship Hall

Mon, Dec 21st - Fri, Jan 1st -
NO SCHOOL - Christmas
Break

January

Mon, Jan 4th - School Re-
Opens

Weds, Jan 6th - NOON
Dismissal

Thurs, Jan 14th & Fri, Jan
15th Parent Discussion at
9:15 in Room 208

Mon, Jan 18th - NO SCHOOL

Fri, Jan 22nd - Open House
for the 2016-2017 School
Year (Snow Date: Fri Jan
29th)

Grandparents' Days were Grand!

The hallways and classrooms of this year's Grandparents' Days were filled with the bustle of happy children, grandparents, and teachers. We thank each and every grandparent who attended this special event. This year we welcomed grandparents and special adults from the following locations:

Alexandria, Virginia	Winchester, Virginia
Arlington, Virginia	Woodstock, Virginia
Berryville, Virginia	Martinsburg, West Virginia
Centreville, Virginia	Morgantown, West Virginia
Charlottesville, Virginia	Sheperdstown, West Virginia
Clear Brook, Virginia	Boonsboro, Maryland
Front Royal, Virginia	Laytonsville, Maryland
Gainesville, Virginia	Poolesville, Maryland
Hampton, Virginia	Claridge, Pennsylvania
Harrisonburg, Virginia	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
Leesburg, Virginia	Lycoming, Pennsylvania
Millwood, Virginia	Slatington, Pennsylvania
Oak Hill, Virginia	Auburn, Nebraska
Richmond, Virginia	Babylon, New York

A special thank you to those families who donated food items and/or assisted with clean up. We appreciate your support as we carry on our school family traditions!

December Conscious Discipline Chat: Going Beyond "Good Job"

Please join us on Thursday, December 10th and Friday, December 11th at 9:15 in Room 208 with Ms. Lara as we discuss the skill of Encouragement and the power it has to foster strength, helpfulness, and critical thinking in our children. Why is saying, "good job" not really encouraging? Come find out!

Please feel free to bring a bagged breakfast and any questions you may have. We look forward to seeing you there!

We Need Your Details!

It is so important that our families sign children in and out every day. In addition to signing your child in, it is also equally important to leave a number where you, or the person picking up your child, can be reached in the event of an emergency or question.

Although the space on the Sign In sheet is small, there is a section designated for your phone number each day. Doing so will help us to keep everyone safe!

Best CHRISTmas Ever!

An event for families with children to put Jesus in the center of the Advent Season



Monday, December 7th

5:00-7:00PM

**A meal will be provided for a
free will donation**

**RSVP for your family to
todd@fpcwinc.org**



Child-Centered During December

The month of December brings a wealth of opportunities for the exploration of Christmas-related items, songs, and art supplies. While this time of year can lend itself to Christmas themes, the staff of the Weekday School will continue to follow our children's lead. This simply means that we will plan experiences that reflect our children's current interests.

This approach does not mean that our classrooms will not contain any Christmas decorations, or that we won't be singing Christmas songs. There will be opportunities for children to engage in activities that utilize Christmas related activities; however, this will not be the sole focus of our time together during the month of December.

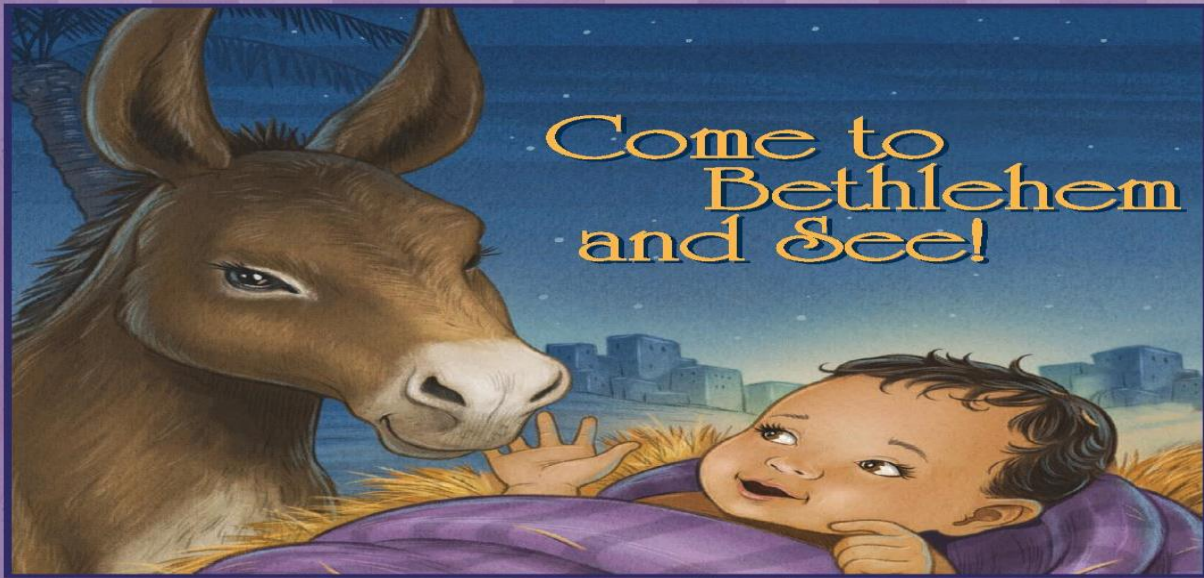
If you have any questions about developmentally appropriate curriculum during Christmas, please contact the Weekday School office.

Looking Ahead - Mark Your Calendar!

School portraits have been scheduled for March 31st and April 1 . We are pleased to welcome Lifetouch Photography back again, and they will be offering individual and group portraits.

You will receive more information about picture day as we get closer to these events.





Event: First Presbyterian Church's Family Christmas Eve Service

Place: First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall

Date: December 24, 2015

Time: 4:00 - 4:45PM

For more information:

Contact Todd Bowman (540) 662-3824 or todd@fpcwinc.org
Our Family Christmas Eve Service is a short, participatory, child-led, service that will be meaningful for all ages, but especially intended for children.

Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about. Luke 2:15

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Family Friendly Community Events

- Monday, November 30th: Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting Ceremony at 7:00 in downtown Winchester. For more information, please visit: <http://www.visitwinchesterva.com/day/event/1123>
- Saturday, December 5th and Sunday, December 6th: Follow the Star: A Live Nativity at Kernstown Battlefield, from 6:00 - 9:00 pm. For more information, please visit: <http://www.visitwinchesterva.com/events/event/2074-follow-the-star-living-nativity>
- Saturday, December 12th: Holly, Jolly Old Town Celebration in downtown Winchester. For more information, please visit: <http://www.visitwinchesterva.com/events/event/2182-holly-jolly-old-town-celebration>
 - o Handley Library will also be hosting family friendly events during the Holly, Jolly Old Town Celebration. For more information, please visit: <http://www2.youseemore.com/handley/calendar.asp?cal=35>
- Thursday, December 31st: First Night Winchester on Loudoun Street in downtown Winchester. For more information, please visit: <http://www.visitwinchesterva.com/events/event/1733-first-night-winchester>