### Weekday Ministries

Child Care Center

Mettelise Ziegler, M.S.

Director

The Weekday

 Messenger

September 2016

**Eventful Days Ahead**

**Building Blocks**

**New Teacher:** We are delighted to welcome Miss Laurie to our center! She will be a regular teacher in the Infant Room. She holds a M.A. in Education. She has worked with the blind and mentally ill, has taught both in the Catholic and public schools, has volunteered for the Carnegie Museum of Natural History and Children’s Hospital, to mention a few. Miss Laurie recently came to us from another child care center where she and her teaching partner handled eight babies daily. Laurie is a mother to two grown children, a grandmother and wife who lives in Whitehall Borough. We are blessed to have Miss Laurie join our staff and encourage you to join us in welcoming her!

**Picture Day** is scheduled for Tuesday, 9/20. Lifetouch will be taking individual photos of our children. The Pre-K 3 class will be taking a group photo. When photo packets are delivered, you will have about two weeks to decide whether you want to buy one sheet, several sheets or nothing at all. Payment can be returned to us, or you can pay online. Un-purchased portraits must be returned when requested. There will be another Picture Day in the spring

with individual and group photos of all classes including Pre-K 4 and T (but not Pre-K 3).

**Pre-K begins** with orientations for children and parents. Pre-K 3 will be the first, on 9/8 from 9:30 to 10:30 am. “T” class orientation is also 9/8. It is 12:30 to 1:30 PM. Pre-K 4 will have theirs on 9/9 from 9:30 to 10:30 am.

**Holidays/closures** for the remainder of 2016:

 9/5 Labor Day

 11/24-25 Thanksgiving Break

 12/26 - 1/2/17 Christmas and New Year’s.

 Note: The legal holiday for New Year’s Day is 1/2/17. We will be closed.

Some of you may know that I bake specialty cakes. It is fun to do and quite a lot of work. But it is nerve-wracking when transporting tall, tiered creations!

I watched an episode of “Cake Wars” last evening. I could not believe one of the finalists decided to focus upon creating an Eiffel Tower of cake, supported by a pipe down the middle. It turned out terribly! I thought it odd that a professional would do something so unwise.

When building anything, it is important to have a really strong, firm, level foundation. Once, I made a cake for one of our teachers that slid apart during transport because the top tier was too heavy for the bottom. I somehow managed to keep it together until cutting time, but I had to disguise the leaning structure by displaying it in a corner!

While watching “Cake Wars” and thinking about my own baking disasters, I considered how important a strong foundation is for children. God has made it abundantly clear that when child rearing is done His way, parents are doing His will for them.

Children watch and learn by example. Let them help you around the house. Give them jobs to do. You will be building capable, independent children who have developed life skills.

Children need to learn to respect their elders and other authorities. You are the parents. You are older, wiser and more experienced than they. Often, they may be permitted choices, but other times, you need to give them firm direction.

Children deserve time and opportunity to explore in their own way. Gravitating towards certain hobbies, sports or academics is natural. You cannot make every child an athlete, just because you were once a high school star. Learn to recognize your children’s God-given gifts and encourage those.

 Finally, children need to hear from you that God created them in His Image. He provided a connection to Himself through Jesus Christ. His goal is for everyone to know His goodness, mercy and love. This sacred relationship is what builds a strong, firm, level person!

**God Says**

Everyone then who hears these words of mine {Jesus} and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.

 (Matthew 7:24-25)

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Is Christianity about suffocating us in rules and regulation? Not at all says St. Paul.

***It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.***Galatians 5:1-2

# Special Dates

# Classroom Highlights

The local baby boom continues! First spot in the infant room is October – 2017. Reserve now!

Many of the preschool age children are also in Pre-K. But, they are still receiving instruction in the Preschool Room! We are using apples to learn about God, harvest, baking, history and transportation.

Our Miss Cathy from Preschool will be away for several weeks starting at the end of the month. She will be better than okay, but we will be scheduling teachers a little differently in her absence. We hope to have her back by Thanksgiving. Pray for her complete and painless recovery!

Older Toddlers are using our center’s Christian theme, “God made me” to learn about their five senses and many miraculous body parts like their adorable fingers and toes.

Tiny Tots and Supertots are also looking at “God Made Me” by learning about feelings and senses. Supertots add “back to school” and Steelers football to the mix as they get into fall activities. Tiny Tots are learning ABC’s.

Please accept and read the *Parent Handbook* going home early in the month. It contains information about many procedures, and includes a complete list of holiday closures through Memorial Day - 2017.

Please see our website. The Health Form and Parent Handbook are posted there. [www.mlumc.org](http://www.mlumc.org).

September

5th Labor Day CLOSED

8th Pre-K 3 orientation 9:30-10:30 am

 T Class orientation 12:30-1:30 PM

9th Pre-K 4 orientation 9:30-10:30 am

20th Picture Day



Children: Eva S. 9/4 2 years old

 Sophia C. 9/10 5 years old

 Sophia L. 9/26 2 years old

Teachers: Miss Laurie 9/2

 Miss Shana 9/8

 Miss Ronna 9/11

 Miss Katie 9/29



## Important Reminders

**1**. Everything must be labeled!

**2.** We must send children home with fever, diarrhea, unexplained rashes or vomiting.

**3.** Tuition checks must be made out to MLUMC and are **due by the 15th of the month**. Automatic withdrawals are available from checking, savings or credit card accounts. See the director for an authorization form.

**4.** We close at 6:00 PM and will charge you late fees after that.

**5.** **DO NOT open the door for strangers**. Even friendly strangers have the potential to be dangerous. Call upstairs and let us check it out!

**MLUMC Corner**

Reverend Tom Strandburg, Pastor

*You are invited to come for any or all of the following events.*

9/18 Sunday School: 9:30 am each Sunday

9/20 Terrific Tuesdays: 6 – 7:30 PM. Dinner and activities each week

9/25 Blessing of the backpacks at each service

10/1 Fall Festival: Family fun from 4:00 – 7:00 PM