



## THE WEEKDAY MESSENGER



Weekday Ministries  
Child Care Center

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Director

# December 2019

## Merry Christmas

Let's face facts. Christmas is not a Hallmark movie. Even when you shop early, travel safely, bake something special or cuddle with your favorite kids, the high expectations about Christmas in our culture can easily disappoint us.

Real Christmas joy does not come in a gift box. It comes through God's Word and a relationship with Jesus Christ. God promises that joy and peace will come, even when times are tough.

Take some time to read and meditate on God's Word this season of Advent as we prepare for Christmas. A good Bible app makes it easy. I like the YouVersion. You can choose from many different versions and read offline, if you like.



*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. John 3:16-17*

*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14*

*She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus because he will save his people from their sins. All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel {God with us}. Matthew 1:21-23*

*But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. Micah 5:2*

*"I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." John 16:33*

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13*

## December Notes

Congratulations to the Jr. Pre-K class for taking third prize in the downtown gingerbread house contest! You can see both of our entries among dozens of creations at the City-County Building until January.

Parents will be receiving their children's semi-annual **evaluations** this month. Please take time to sign up for a conference, if you would like to speak to the teacher. Our evaluations are based upon the Pennsylvania Early Learning Standards. We work hard to fulfill our obligation to align our center with these important benchmarks.

**Children's Christmas Lunch** will be served on Thursday, December 19th. A wholesome combination of pasta and home-cooked chicken in broth will comprise the main dish. There will be sides of fruit and "Happy Birthday Jesus" cake for dessert. There is no cost to you. If you prefer, you may send in your child's lunch.

Years ago, parents requested a way to include all the **teachers** in one **gift**. If you would like to do this, simply make out a **check to Kate Vitek** or slip some cash into the envelopes on the classroom doors. The money will be divided among the teaching staff and given to them before the Christmas holiday. Deadline is Wednesday, 12/11.

We will be open on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are closed the 24<sup>th</sup> through New Year's Day - Jan. 1, 2020.

We are entering flu season. Flu shots are required. Please send written confirmation that your child has had a flu shot.

Carol Mills will be retiring at the end of the year. Happily, she will be filling in for us as a substitute teacher. Miss Carol began in 2011. She has worked in every room serving the children cheerfully and lovingly. Carol has been reliable, kind and helpful to everyone. I am glad she is able to retire, but sad she will not be here every day. To say she will be missed is an understatement. Thank you, Carol Mills. May the Lord bless you and keep you, make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance to you and give you peace. MZ

## Classroom Highlights

There are no openings for a new infant in 2020. The first available is February, 2021. Please do not wait to tell us if you become pregnant and need a spot.

Infants can make art, too. They have a special gift for their moms and dads in the works. There is a holiday onesie/T-shirt contest planned for the 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Super Tots are making gifts, too. They're into all things Christmas, even making reindeer food. They are participating in two pajama days. Wear pajamas on the 9<sup>th</sup> with Tiny Tots and on the 20<sup>th</sup> with the whole center.

Tiny Tots are getting ready for Santa, celebrating baby Jesus' birthday and learning about the Christmas star. Special pajama days are planned with Super Tots on the 9<sup>th</sup> and center-wide on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

Older Toddlers are investigating the smells of Christmas like pine. They're learning about the nativity of Jesus, giving and family.

Jr. Pre-K is using Christmas themed symbols to measure, weigh and sort. Their letters are S, R & J. They are caroling on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Optional parent-teacher conferences will be scheduled for the 18<sup>th</sup>.

Sr. Pre-K will be learning letter I, J & K. They will be dressing up and enacting the nativity. Conferences are planned for the 18<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget lunch is provided on the 19<sup>th</sup> and conferences will be scheduled for the 18<sup>th</sup>.

## Important Reminders

1. Child Health Reports are mandatory, as are flu shots. Please send them in when your child sees the doctor.
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 1st 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.

## Special Dates

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

### December

19<sup>th</sup> Children's Luncheon  
20<sup>th</sup> Center-wide Pajama Day  
24<sup>th</sup> Closed through Jan. 1, 2020.

Please note we are open Monday 12/23. See you on January 2<sup>nd</sup>!



#### Children:

12/8	Evelyn M.	5 years
12/12	Charlie G.	2 years
12/15	Piper M.	3 years
12/19	Ella S.	1 year

#### Teachers:

12/5	Susan	Tiny Tots
12/7	Bernice	Music
12/8	Kim	Sr. Pre-K
12/25	Jesus	Heaven



**MLUMC Corner**

Reverend Tom Strandburg, Pastor

Do not miss the real joy of Christmas!

**Christmas Eve Candlelit Worship**  
5:00\* children and families  
8:00\* & 10:00 PM Traditional with choir  
And special music

\*Nursery provided