

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center www.worshipweekly.com December 2023

Message from Ms. Maddy

Thank you to everyone who participated in our "AGUMCC's Community Service Project" and gave their spare change for the Pennies for Turkeys Drive. This is a simple way to help the children understand the needs of others. The **Five Cities Christian Women's Food Pantry** also greatly appreciates your contributions. They will use the money to purchase turkeys for the Christmas Baskets, which will be given to families in our community. This year, we collected **\$904. Yipee !!**



Each family will receive a "Family Heritage Information Sheet" this month. We can also work together to build home and school relationships. Please complete and return it to your child's teacher. This project will help us learn more about your family and the traditions you may celebrate. If your family has a tradition you want to share with your child's classmates, please tell your child's teacher or message them through the Child Pilot App. We hope everyone feels connected as we invite you to share your family traditions.

The children will practice for our **Christmas Program from Monday, December 12, to Thursday, December 14th, from 9:00 am to 9:45 am in the church narthex. Our Christmas Program will be on Thursday, Dec. 14, at 6:00.** Children must be in their classrooms by 5:45 pm to prepare for the evening. After the Christmas Program, there will be a Social in Criswell Hall following the children's performance. Please sign up to bring an item to share. We will also need help with set up and clean up.

On Friday, Dec. 22, we will have a school-wide "Pajama Day." This is also a Minimum Day. School closes at noon. In addition, the school will be closed for **Christmas Break from December 25 to January 1, 2023, to observe New Year's Day.**

The results are in from our **Fall 2023 Family Survey.** Of all participants, 81.3% were very satisfied with the overall quality of this program. 94% of the families surveyed felt their child was well cared for, happy, and enjoyed participating in the program. Also, 100% felt the program promotes their child's learning and development and that the staff meets their child's individual needs. According to the survey, families choose our program for the age-appropriate curriculum, socialization, and because of work. Through parent involvement, we build a strong community, which is vital to our school's success. Over 43.7% said they helped with laundry, 50% donated supplies to the school, and 43.7% participated in fundraisers. The most popular way families like to receive information is through Child Pilot. The second-best way was in person. *See the attached survey with more and personal comments. Thank you to all families who participated in the survey. Your feedback is constructive in our efforts to improve our program.*

Dates To Remember

- **Friday, December 1- School Closes at 3:30, for Staff Development. It's SCHOOL SPIRIT DAY!** Show your school spirit and wear your AGUMCC t-shirt.
- **Thursday, December 14 AGUMCC Christmas Program 6:00 in the Sanctuary.** A Social will follow in Criswell Hall.
- **Friday, December 22 - Pajama Party Day and a Minimum Day.** Children get to wear their favorite pajamas to school. School will close at 12:00 noon. (No lunch that day.)
- **December 25, 23 — January 2, 24 School is closed for Christmas Break.**

Friends of the Children's Center CAMPAIGN.

Make a difference in a child's life with a "Year End Gift" or Monthly Pledge
Your tax deductible contribution is safe and easy.

Three ways to GIVE:

1. Visit: <https://www.agumcc.org> and use the GIVE NOW button.
2. Mail: AGUMCC 275 N Halcyon Rd. Arroyo Grand, CA 93420
3. Use this QR code with your smartphone's camera.



Ms. Liz & Ms. Swati's Preschool Class

BIBLE STORY AND GOODIE BEAR TIME

IN THE NARTHEX WED. DEC. 6 AND THUR. DEC. 7, 2023

Bible Story: "The Good News", from the Beginning Bible, Luke 2:8-20.

"Fruit of the Spirit": Peace.

Verse: Isaiah 26:3

You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, all whose thoughts are fixed on you.



Ms. Elvia TK Class

In November, the children were interested in building with the trains and tracks, as they got so creative building bridges and had awesome conversations about the different places they were going to. Children worked cooperatively when building and sharing the trains with their peers. Moreover, children are having fun with the number of turkeys as they practice one-to-one correspondence and number recognition as they pinch the clothespins on the turkey to represent the feathers. On the other hand, children have also enjoyed the farm play in our block center, in which children have created a farm by building a fence to make a home for the different farm animals and sorting the animals into different groups. Moreover, the children had lots of fun and creatively built a hideout home for the turkey so he wouldn't be eaten on Thanksgiving Day. The children used wooden blocks and popsicle sticks to hide the turkey so it wouldn't be seen. During art, children created jellyfish and decorated them with dabber dots and tissue paper for the tentacles, and we also learned about jellyfish. We also talked about what we're thankful for and what the children were thankful for. The children then made turkeys by coloring a coffee filter and spraying it. They were amazed by how the colors blended. In addition, our Pennies for Turkeys jar was a hit. We sorted and counted the coins. The children also notice it got heavier as they put more coins in it. Lastly, the children made a special turkey handprint placemat and decorated it with fall stickers, which you can share with your family on Thanksgiving Day. I hope everyone has a safe and wonderful Thanksgiving Day with all your loved ones. Thank you for all your support. You are all truly appreciated! Gobble, Gobble!

For December, we will transition into pine cones and a Christmas theme. We will focus on the letters M and N. Please keep sending your child with wonderful pictures, as they really enjoy coming up to the front and talking about their pictures. We will introduce the star shape and discuss its many sides and corners. We will be practicing writing numbers during our table work and writing our names and letter formation. Lastly, the bible focuses on "Peace" after hearing the story of the "Birth of Jesus." We wish you and everyone a warm and safe Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. ~ Ms. Elvia

Can you believe that it is almost Christmas? With this busy time of year, remember to check Childpilot and your family folders for upcoming events and your child's artwork. Also, check your child's cubby to ensure he/she has a complete change of clothes and that they fit. As the weather is getting colder, please have an extra jacket or sweater in case they may need it. Dressing your child in layers is always a good idea with the changing temperature.

This month, the preschool will transforming the dramatic area into a Cocoa Shop where children can make a pretend warm drink to enjoy. The children love area time. This month children will be creating a few special gifts for their families.

We look forward to celebrating the Holiday Season with you. If you have a special tradition that you would like to share with the class, please let us know.

~ Ms. Liz

Ms. Shirley & Ms. Cindy Bo's Toddler Class

We are coming to the end of another year, and it is a perfect time to reflect on the blessings of family, friends, and our school community. We look forward to celebrating these blessings with you during this special season.



The toddlers enjoyed many of our November activities. They continued to explore with flashlights and showed curiosity in the pumpkins and gourds that remained in the classroom from October. They had lots of fun singing songs about turkeys and pumpkin pies, collecting leaves, and giggling as they allowed us to paint their hands for their Thanksgiving placemats. The toddlers were so excited to share the "Pennies for Turkeys" they had collected from home and took turns adding them all to our classroom collection jar. Thanks to all who contributed to that! We also worked together to make a couple of pumpkin pies from scratch. Most of the children thought it was very tasty. We hope you also enjoyed some of the little slices sent home with them. Yum! We also talked about our families and how much we had to be thankful for as we prepared to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday.

We will be busy preparing for our annual Christmas Program and Social this month and look forward to that celebration with you. We will celebrate Christmas in our classroom with a little nativity set for the children to play with. We will also introduce them to the gift of Jesus as we share the story of His birth. Please let us know if you have any special family traditions you would like us to share or include in our time with the children.

May you have a blessed Christmas surrounded by those you love, ~ Cindy Bo

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
Thursday, Dec. 14, 2023 at 6:00 pm.
Children must arrive in their classroom by 5:45 pm to prepare for the evening.
Each class will sing their favorite Christmas Songs.