

Children's Center Chronicle

Arroyo Grande United Methodist Children's Center www.worshipweekly.com AUGUST 2017

Message from Ms. Maddy:

The Summer Results for 2017 Family Survey are in. 100% of families surveyed felt that their child was well cared for and that their child was happy and enjoyed participating in our program. 75% of families were "Very Satisfied" and 25% were "Satisfied". According to the survey, the top reasons why families chose our program was for our "age-appropriate curriculum" and the "low child to teacher ratio". 90% also chose us for our location and hours of operation. A few comments provided by families included: "This is a very high quality program." "Love AGUMCC! A very dedicated staff. Positive energetic feeling throughout." "Cindy Bo is such a compassionate caregiver. I feel so comfortable with her caring for my child. She is amazing." "Very happy with communication and the positive nurturing environment. Happy with the level of structure." "Great Program."

The most popular events families participated in, this past year, were "Back to School Night" in August and the "Holiday Program" in December. Family involvement is key to our program's success. 50% of the families surveyed have helped with classroom activities such as making playdough, cooking, providing snack, or helping with laundry.

93% of the families, that turned in the survey, participated in Parent/Teacher Conferences. Of that group, 93% found the conferences to be informative and acknowledged that they learned more about their child's growth and development. *To read the complete survey, you can find a copy on our web site. A copy of the survey was also placed in your family folder in July.*

Our "Back to School Night and Ice Cream Social" is coming up on **Thursday, August 17, 6:30-7:30 PM**. Please bring your child to his/her classroom, before joining me in Criswell Hall at 6:30. I will be giving an overview of what you can expect in the coming year and how you will be able to participate. I will share how you can get involved in our **9th Annual "Family Fun Day", scheduled for Saturday, October 14, 11:00AM-1:30PM**. This event helps provide funds to purchase supplies and materials for our classrooms. **Family participation is key to our school's success!!** At 7:00 PM, the classrooms will be open. This is a good time to ask teachers questions and learn more about what your child will be doing at school in the coming year. Ice cream will also be served in the courtyard. Families are asked to bring a topping or additional treat to share. To help with this event, please see the "Ice Cream Social Sign-Up" sheet at the Sign In/Out Table.

AGUMCC WDSH LOST BOARD

The Wish List Board is above the rocking chair, in the entry way. If you see something that you can help us with, take the posted note off the board and return the item, with the note, to the office.

A Few Current Items Include:

- * Baby wipes
- * Clorox Wipes
- * An Outdoor Clock

THANK YOU for bringing your ink cartridges for the staff to recycle. Do you have a computer at work or home? Staff can earn \$1 for every used cartridge you bring in; up to \$20 per month. The money is used to buy various supplies for the office and classrooms. The container for the ink cartridges is located on the little table, to the left of the Sign-In/Out table.

"Family Photo Boards"

- Help us to get to know your family better, by completing your child's family collage. This is a wonderful activity, that bridges the relationship between school and home.
- Please let your child's teacher know if you have not yet received your collage poster board.



Important Dates to Remember

- **Friday, August 4- Staff Development.** School Spirit Day! Wear your AGUMCC T-Shirt. **SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 3:30 PM**
 - **Thursday, August 17 - Back to School Night & Ice Cream Social,** 6:30 PM
 - **Thursday, August 24 - Planning Meeting for Family Fun Day,** 6:30-7:30 PM
 - **Friday, September 1 - Staff Development.** School Spirit Day! Wear your AGUMCC T-Shirt. **SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 3:30 PM.**
 - **Monday, September 4- SCHOOL IS CLOSED for Labor Day.**
- You can always see the AGUMCC Year at a Glance Calendar by visiting: www.agumcc.org. It is also posted on the Parent Information Board.

Ms. Julie and Ms. Rebecca's Pre-K Class

Pre-K is having a sensational summer! The Pre-K graduates have welcomed their new classmates and our new Pre-K friends are exploring their new classroom. Dramatic play has been a favorite location, to host a variety of "summer parties". While we're outside, we've been having a wonderful time with water. The children are taking full advantage of the many different activities being offered. We are: drawing, dancing, reading, running, laughing, learning, and creating marvelous summer memories!! As you know, this is my last few weeks with the children, here at AGUMCC. I will miss them as well as you, their families, very much. I wish all of you well! Ms. Maddy will be filling in until a qualified new staff member is hired.



~ Ms. Julie

Ms. Jayna and Ms. Tresha's Preschool Class

I would like to take the opportunity to welcome all of our new class and their families. I am super excited to have each one of your children in our class this year. We have lots of fun art, music, and science experiences planned that will enhance your child's learning through creativity and imagination. For this month, we are mainly focused on getting to know each child and family on a more personal level, and helping each child to adjust to their new routine. If you would like to help our class during the year, we are always in need of playdough makers. It's an easy recipe to make and a great memory for your little one, when they make it and get to play with it with their friends. I hope you continue to have a wonderful and blessed summer.

~ Ms. Jayna

Ms. Shirley and Mrs. Swati's Toddlers

I would love to welcome all the children and families as part of our class and the school. In July, Ms. Shirley and I had a wonderful time getting to know our new children and families. The children got to explore their surroundings. We are still practicing our daily routine and learning about the activities available in the classroom. There are lots of mixed emotions, for both children and their families. For many of them, it is a time of transition and a new experience. Our primary focus is helping everyone feel safe and secure, in this new learning environment, and starting to learn more about each other. In August, we will be learning about how "I am Special". We will compare and recognize each other's individualities and uniqueness. We will also be learning each other's names. We could really use some

volunteers to help with making playdough and doing our class laundry. If you would like to volunteer, there is a sign-up sheet located in our classroom, on the Family Information Board. Your help will be greatly appreciated! Please continue to check you child's cubby and your family folder. We look forward to getting to know you a bit more during our "Back to School Night" and seeing pictures of all our families, as the Family Collages are brought in.

~ Ms. Swati

Cindy Bo's Young Toddlers

We had a wonderful start to the new school year! During the month of July, I had the opportunity to develop a special relationship and bond with each of the three toddlers in our Young Toddler group. We look forward to welcoming two more, to our group, this month. I already see a very special class group dynamic developing. They are all showing interest in and seeking opportunities to interact with one another and with children in the other class groups, as well. I am helping them learn how to engage with one another and how they can communicate their feelings, needs and desires, in safe, respectful and appropriate ways. The group really enjoyed swinging and making the sounds of the monkey's, hanging from our ceiling. They also enjoyed engaging in the monkey-alligator puppet finger play. This month, I am planning to introduce the Young Toddlers to a variety of wild animals, such as those you may find in a zoo. They will have the opportunity to use wild animal play figures, stuffed animals, look through a variety of wild animal books and, of course, pretend to be these animals (noisy sounds and all)! I will pay attention to and do my best to foster their natural desire to discover and learn. Once again, I am very thankful for the opportunity I have to spend time with your children and for the privilege of developing a relationship with you, their families. Hope to see you at "Back to School Night".

~ Cindy Bo



BIBLE STORY & GOODIE BEAR TIME

Ms. Maddy will read a story about Zacchaeus, **Luke 19: 1-10**, from the Beginning Bible. Goodie Bear and Ms. Shirley, will be sharing our moral teaching, "TRUSTWORTHY". This special time will be on Wednesday and Thursday, August 2 and 3, 9:05AM, in the church narthex.