



Rancho Bernardo Community Presbyterian Church

# Preschool News

*RBCPC Early Childhood Ministries is committed to sharing God's love through developmentally appropriate programs that encourage active relationships and celebrate the uniqueness of the individual child while strengthening and supporting families in our community.*

RBCPC Early Childhood Education Programs \* Patti Hunter, Director - phunter@rbpc.org \* website: www.rbpcpreschool.com

November 2008

## Director's Message

As we express our gratitude,  
we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words,  
but to live by them.

~ John Fitzgerald Kennedy

We want to thank you all for your support of our 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Craft Fair and Children's Carnival. The event was a huge success! Hopefully, as you worked your volunteer shift, you met new friends and had a good time. We are currently lining up the leadership team for next year's Craft Fair, if you are interested in helping please contact Jennifer Barry @ jenniferjbarry@cox.net. The proceeds from this event will be used to benefit the children in our classes. Our Early Childhood Education committee is exploring needs and possibilities

at this time.

November brings Parent Conferences for our three to five year old preschool classes. Our Parent Conferences are a time for you and your child's teacher to share about your child, looking at their growth and development, their preschool experience, and goals you may have for them. Sign up sheets are posted on your teacher's bulletin board.

Our first Chapel times are December 1 and 2. We hope you will plan on joining your child for this special time. Parents can meet their child's class in the Sanctuary at 11:00 (morning classes) or 12:30 (afternoon classes). Parents and children from our Funtastic classes are welcome to attend any of the Chapel times!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

-Patti

### *School Pictures*

**North Light Studios will be taking our school pictures for PRE-SCHOOL classes (ONLY) on Dec 4 & Dec 5.**

**Class pictures will be taken and families will be given the opportunity to have individual pictures of their child taken as well. Several different photo packages can be ordered. Picture Information and Envelopes will be sent home in your child's bucket.**

17010 Pomerado Road, San Diego, CA 92128

# Early Years are Learning Years

By: Patti Hunter, Preschool Director

We all work to provide young children with opportunities to "count." You may hear a child say, "I can count to 20," or a parent talk about their two year old counting to 10. While counting is an accomplishment, it is a very small part of truly knowing numbers and understanding number concepts.

Counting to 10, 20 or even 100 is called "rote counting" and requires memorization of number order. A child may or may not have any real understanding of amount or quantity.

Number vocabulary and concepts, that young children can learn and begin to use in meaningful ways to begin to build the blocks to understanding, are: some, more, less, bigger, smaller, pairs, groups, parts, and wholes. Talking and thinking

about numbers and quantity as a part of doing activities is a natural way for children to develop mathematical concepts.

Parents and teachers can point out math related aspects of everyday life. Use number words, "Let's put two shirts here" or "I need three more spoons on the table." Estimate how long it will take to get to grandma's house, or how much a pumpkin weighs. Divide up a dozen cookies among family members.

A simple math vocabulary grows from experiencing cooking and measuring, understanding that numbers have names and written symbols, guessing and estimating, and talking about days and weeks. Looking for shapes, talking about colors, practicing making and recognizing patterns. These experiences

lay the groundwork for beginning math.

Counting books can be read aloud during your family's reading ritual times. Fun books include:

1,2,3 to the Zoo by Eric Carle

Animal Babies 1-2-3 by Eve Spencer

Each Orange Has Eight Slices by Paul Giganti Jr

How Many Snails? By Paul Giganti Jr

*Look for information about a Math and Science Workshop that will be offered this Spring through our Family Education Program.*



## Craft Fair



Thank you to all the parents, grandparents and other family members and friends who so generously gave their time, baking talents and shopping budgets to help make this year's Craft Fair a huge success.

This event could not have happened without your support!  
See you next year!

- The 2007 Craft Fair Team

Thank you to the following businesses who donated items for the Opportunity Drawing:

- ♥ Dream Dinners (Poway)
- ♥ Ultra Star Cinemas
- ♥ Baskin Robbins (Poway)
- ♥ Chipotle Grill
- ♥ Haven Salon
- ♥ RBCPC Resale Shops
- ♥ Trader Joe's
- ♥ The Crafters

Please frequent these establishments to show our support and appreciation!



# Childlike Faith

October 2008

Matthew 19:13 "Then little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them."

Getting my children to bed is sometimes no easy chore. It seems as if every night one or two are getting up for this or that. One time it is to potty, another time it is because they want a band aide, and another night it's the wrong combination of stuffed animals and/or dollies on the bed. I try my best to stay patient and calm, gently urging them to sleep. But at times I also get angry with the repeated requests and stalling of the inevitable sleep that they need.

"Can I have some more water?" "Will mommy sing us a song?" (They never ask me!) "Will you leave the door open big?" To these questions and others I sometimes find the strength to tell my sweet children, "No." But there is one bed time question to which I have yet to say "No."

"Daddy, prayer?"

When I hear either of my children ask for that, I always say, "Yes." I take their hands in mine, close my eyes, take a few deep breaths, and then I speak out loud like God was right there next to us. I thank God for them, and I tell God how much I love being the daddy of these children. I thank God for the wonderful things we were able to experience and learn that day. I tell God I think it's pretty cool that He has given us good friends and good health for this day.

Often, I will say to God the dreams I have for them as they grow up, and I am happy my children hear I have dreams for them. But always, I say the prayer from the most sincere part of my heart. I want them to know and learn how and why I pray. It's easy, honest, and simple. Ultimately, I am speaking to God, not to my kids. I do make sure to use words my children will understand, but I never want to try to communicate something to my children that I should just say directly to them. When they hear me pray, it is my voice spoken out loud to a God we believe is listening.

Sometimes I ask if there is anything they would like to pray for. When there is, I take that very seriously. Then I usually end the prayer with a request for deep sleep, and express hope that we all wake up with new energy, restored bodies, and joyful hearts. I say Amen and give them a kiss goodnight.

These night time prayers have started when each child was about two years old, the first few times with my offer and showing them what I meant by it. After a few months, they continue each night by request. It is not every night they ask for a prayer. I never force it on them. I am always so thankful when they do ask.

And a big perk ... they usually sleep soon after the "Amen."

-Pastor Joe



## **CHAPEL TIME!!!**

***We will have our first chapel in December. Please mark your calendars and join your children for this special time.***

***December 1: MWF & M-TH***

***December 2: T-Th***

***Times to join us in the chapel: 11:00 for the morning classes and 12:30 for the afternoon classes!***

RBCPC Preschool's Family Education Presents

# Learning Language Through Every Day Activities and Interactions

Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>

8:45 - 9:30

Room 21 (upstairs in the preschool building)

Come hear about how you can foster your  
child's language development in the every day routines of  
life with your young child.

Amy Solomon, a Language, Speech, and Hearing Consultant with the HOPE Infant Program will share ideas, insights, and strategies which will enhance your child's language development while also helping you understand what research tells us about how children acquire language.

Child care is provided. Please make child care reservations in the Preschool Office no later than  
Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>.

## Operation Christmas Child

RBCPC is once again joining up with the Samaritan's Purse organization for *Operation Christmas Child*.

*Operation Christmas Child* is one way you can make a difference in a young person's life. Since 1993, this Samaritan's Purse project has shared the Good News of God's love with hurting children through the simplest of gifts - shoe boxes! Filled with school supplies, toys, and personal items that are packed by caring people, these boxes help introduce children to Jesus Christ. Local believers follow up with evangelistic programs, and many precious boys and girls later receive Jesus as their Savior."

Franklin Graham

President, Samaritan's Purse

If you would like to join the church in supporting this program you can either donate a shoebox full of toys, or individual toy items to be included in boxes created by the RBCPC Kids Life program. Collection dates will be from November 3 through Noon on Sunday, November 21st. There will be tables in the courtyard each weekend during church services, and a collection bin in the church office for weekday drop-offs.

See the preschool office for brochures with complete instructions regarding the types of donations requested.

Thank you!

### ***Got Packing Supplies?***

The Silent Auction Assembly Team is in need of:

- Clean packing peanuts, or air packs
- Baskets of all sizes and shapes
- Shredded colored filler paper

If you have any items that you would like to donate please drop them off to the preschool office prior to November 21.



*RBCPC Preschool Presents the 16th Annual  
Women's Dessert Night*



*December 9th, 10th, 11th, 2008*

## **What is Dessert Night?**

An evening of warmth, entertainment, and fellowship that is in its 16th year and has become a favorite holiday tradition for many women. The Silent Auction is a major fundraiser for the Preschool's Sharing Lives ministry.

You (or your class or group) may host a table. There are eight seats to a table, so a large group will require more than one table. You will receive the guidelines for table décor, set up and take down. You may invite guests to join you or you may leave seats available to be filled by individuals attending.

## **What is the Silent Auction All About?**

The funds raised at the silent auction go directly to the preschool's Sharing Lives Ministry. The purpose of the Sharing Lives Ministry is two fold. First is our fully inclusive preschool where children with special needs such as

autism, cerebral palsy, and Down's syndrome are together side-by-side with typically developing children. The monies help to cover extra staffing as well as training and equipment. The second side to Sharing Lives is tuition assistance for families in need. We are all aware of the financial challenges facing our community and the

## **What Can I Do?**

We need your help in securing auction items for each night. There are many businesses in our community that are more than willing to make a donation, *all we have to do is ask*. From the individual with a part time home based business to the corporate sponsorship, they are eager to donate because they believe in Early Childhood

Education and they will gain exposure for their business within the community. Also, gift cards are great auction items. You can ask the businesses you use or maybe you have some laying around the house that you can donate. All items should be dropped off at the preschool office before December 1.

## **How Can I Help?**

There are several areas where volunteers are needed. *And as always, childcare will be provided.*

*Dec. 1 - 5:* The assembly team will be meeting both day and night to assemble baskets for the auction. No experience is necessary and training will be provided. This is a fun and easy way to help out and make new friends.

*For more information please contact Kathie Moehlig at [kmoehlig@rbcpc.org](mailto:kmoehlig@rbcpc.org) or 858-451-9225*

*Thank you for your generous support of this event. We couldn't do it without you!*

# November 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Veteran's Day - No School	12	13	14	15
			<i>Parent/Teacher Conferences</i>			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			<i>Parent/Teacher Conferences</i>			
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			<i>Thanksgiving Break - No School</i>			
30						

# December 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Christmas Chapel MWF & M-Th 11:00 & 12:30	2 Christmas Chapel T-Th 11:00 & 12:30	3 Lunch Bunch Sign-ups	4 School Picture Day	5 School Picture Day	6
7	8	9 <b>Dessert Night &amp; Silent Auction</b> 6-9 p.m.	10 <b>Dessert Night &amp; Silent Auction</b> 6-9 p.m.	11 <b>Dessert Night &amp; Silent Auction</b> 6-9 p.m.	12	13
14	15	16	17 Christmas Fellowship 11:00 a.m. & 2:45 p.m.	18 Christmas Fellowship 11:00 a.m. & 2:45 p.m.	19 Christmas Fellowship 11:00 a.m. & 2:45 p.m.	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<i>Christmas Break - No School</i>						
28	29	30	31			
<i>Christmas Break - No School</i>						
<b>Children Return to School on January 5th.</b>						