

The Mission of Faith Child Care, Inc.: "to provide quality Christian child care for families of the Fox Valley community in a nurturing environment that fosters developmentally appropriate growth."

Notes from the Director ...

I hope that all of you had a wonderful Christmas filled with laughter and love and an abundance of family time. Now as the new year begins, we look forward to new opportunities and challenges. How wonderful it is to know that God has a plan for each of our lives and that He will be with us no matter what lies ahead for us in the coming year.

The new year brings new families and children to our Center. We welcome them all and add a special welcome back to "Miss" Mandy in the Eagle room. Thank you to "Miss" Brianna and "Miss" Sarah who helped "Miss" Karen with the Eagles while Mandy was on maternity leave.

Our year at Faith will continue work with the ELLI / RTG and Wellness grants that we received in 2011. Please watch for opportunities to attend parent workshops on nutrition and physical activity that are part of our focus on wellness. As a staff we will look ahead and focus on the things we hope to accomplish. We will be encouraged by your support and the smiles and hugs of the children who are a part of our daily lives. Our primary focus will continue to be providing quality care and teaching the children about God's love for them.

I wish each of your families God's love and peace in 2012.

Miss Sandy



JANUARY
2012



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 "Miss" Dawn's birthday	12	13 Green and Gold Day Go Pack Go!	14 "Miss" Sally's 15th anniversary
15	16	17 Favorite Transportation Toy Day	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	Travel Week					
29	30 Mr. Shane visits Willows & Grhppers	31				

Greetings from the PAC, We would like to thank everyone for their generous contributions to the family sponsored Christmas gift. We certainly exceeded our goal again this year! We collected \$1,480 that was split among all of the teachers and staff. They are always extremely grateful for the gift and have written a thoughtful thank you that is on the bulletin board in the front entrance.

The PAC is busy planning events for 2012. We are finalizing the date for our annual sledding party at Erb Park (snow permitting) and working on plans for another family event that will take place this winter. Please watch your parent pocket for information on these upcoming events!

Many Blessings in the new year,
The PAC Members: Jen Chan, Brenda Dvorak, Barb Dvoracek, Heidi Funk, Cassie Guilbeault, Becky Heller, Patty Lindemann, Leah Olson and Jana Schreiber

Printouts for child care fees paid in 2011 are available for each family in the office. If you need a copy for tax purposes, please see Miss Sandy or "Miss" Lori. ~Thank you

In January: We will be continuing our tradition of “traveling” to other countries. The children will be learning about different countries such as Italy, Colombia and England. During the week of January 23rd, each classroom (Caterpillars and older) will give us a “taste” of their culture through music, foods, language and art activities. If you are interested in learning more about “travel week,” please talk to your child’s teachers.

Hopefully, the weather will cooperate and provide us with some snow for playing in and doing activities with.

During Jesus time, the children will look at stories in the Bible that teach us about growing up.

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SUNBEAMS

“Help us, O Lord, for now we enter another year today. In you our hopes and thoughts now center; Renew our courage for the way. New life, new strength, new happiness, we ask of you- oh, hear and bless.” Christian Worship #70 New Year blessings from the Sunbeam room. We hope everyone had a great “first” Christmas. We say “goodbye” to our friends Patrick and Elsa Mae. They are now Moonbeams. We will miss them, but are looking forward to meeting our new friends Patrick, Lilamae and Amalie who will be joining us in January.

Please check your child’s cubby to make sure that their clothes are size and weather appropriate.

Since the children do spend most of their time on the floor, during the cold winter months ahead you might consider dressing your Sunbeam in a sleeper. They are both cozy and comfortable.

Just a reminder to parents and staff to remove your shoes or put on the blue “footies” provided over your shoes before you enter the room. This is to protect the children from putting salt or dirt that was brought in from the outside into their mouth.

Happy 2012!

“Miss” Pat, “Miss” Linda and “Miss” Carol

BUMBLEBEES

“The angel said, You will give birth to a son. Give him the name Jesus.” Luke 1:31 The Bumblebees have been busy with the season of Christmas. We made beautiful Christmas plaques for our moms and dads. I hope everybody enjoyed them. We played with scented pinecones, played with playdough and smelled peppermint, cinnamon and other scents in film containers. The Bumblebees enjoyed listening to Christmas music and shaking instruments. We also found a picture of baby Jesus in each of our Christmas books. We played “Ring Around the Christmas Tree” and also had fun playing with the Little People Nativity set. The Bumblebees also enjoyed Q-tip painting on cut out paper Christmas trees and sponge painting on stockings. We counted gingerbread people and put them in our dump and fill buckets.

I hope everyone had a safe and blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Until next month,

The Bumblebees and “Miss” Dawn

MOONBEAMS

“O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.”

Verse 1 from Hymn “O God, our help in ages past”

Happy New Year! We had a wonderful fall and Christmas in the Moonbeam room and we have lots planned for January! We are going to paint snow, skate on “ice” and roll “snowballs.” Of course all of our daily activities are fun too! It’s going to be a great year!

We sadly say goodbye to Chloe, Ethan, Molly and Noah and their families as they move on to the Bumblebee room. God’s blessings and we know you will have fun!

We warmly welcome Elsa, Matthew, Patrick and their families! We are so excited to help you learn and grow!

God’s blessings in the brand new year!

“Miss” Rachel and Miss Mary Hull

OUR FAITH FAMILY GROWS AGAIN!!

We welcome the Olson family to the MOONBEAM room.

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CATERPILLARS

"I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be my people." Leviticus 26:12

December has been a very busy month in the Caterpillar room. We have been busy making our parent gifts. We hope you enjoyed them. We also had fun getting outside before it was too cold. The children really enjoyed reading and looking at all of our Christmas books too.

On January 2nd we said "goodbye" to three of our friends. Alicia, Dylan and Mae as they moved on to the Beaver room. We will miss them but wish them the best! We will be welcoming Brianna, Cora, Evan and Gavin from the Bumblebee room.

In January we will be talking about arctic animals, winter and snow. Hopefully we will be able to play in the snow!

Have a blessed 2012,
"Miss" Ruth and "Miss" Lynn

BEAVERS

"We love because God first loved us." 1 John 4:19

Happy Holidays everyone! The month of December just flew by! We started out talking about Christmas fun! Some of our favorite activities were dancing with bells, painting trees using our feet and dressing up. We also hammered candy canes into little pieces and sprinkled them on top of ice cream. YUM!

The next week we did Christmas activities from different countries. We spun like dreidels, painted with pine branches and made paper plate wreaths.

The last few weeks in December we talked about Jesus' birth and angels. We were excited to play with nativity set and see all of the animals that were there when Jesus was born. We enjoyed matching colored angels and making star prints too!

We ended the month talking about winter fun! We "ice skated" in the room and had fun making playdough snowpals. Thank you to all of the families who donated Christmas presents to the room. We love playing with all of them!

Please remember to bring winter gear every day your child is scheduled. We go outside every day (weather permitting). Also please make sure your child has an extra set of winter clothes in their cubby.

Have a Blessed New Year!

Love,
The Beavers, Miss Mary and Miss Joan

GRASSHOPPERS

"Praise to the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has come and has redeemed his people." Luke 1:68

We hope you all had a very Merry Christmas. We made it through December with little snow and very few illnesses. Praise God for that. We do hope to get some snow soon though to help with our winter-themed lessons. I'm sure it won't be long and we'll have plenty to discover, examine and explore. It is such an exciting time of year. Seasons change and that means classes have changes too. We gain some new friends, Ben, Eli and Kendall and we see Marley off to the Willows. The window between our rooms makes for opportunities to peek and wave at our graduating friends. The Grasshoppers will play fun number and color games with penguins and other arctic animals. We will continue to work on sharing, helping and being gentle and kind as we bring out "new" toys to play with and learn from. We'll be practicing some Bible verses and songs so we can be more like Jesus this month and in the year to come. Our prayer is that you, as parents, will choose to strive to be more like Christ in ways that the Holy Spirit reveals to you. Together we can shine the light of Jesus to these marvelous, precious children and in turn see how they too can reflect His love.

"So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God." 1 Corinthians 10:31

Happy New Year,
"Miss" Lana and "Miss" Joan D.

OPERATION OUTREACH

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone who participated in our collection for the Emergency Shelter's "Giving Tree." We collected MANY items under our tree! As always they are extremely grateful and have written a thoughtful thank you that is posted on the time clock. Our next Operation Outreach will be in February. If you have any ideas for this or future Operation Outreach collections, please talk to "Miss" Lori.

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WILLOWS

"Every good and perfect gift is from God." James 1:17

December went by quickly. We spent the first two weeks working on our gifts and cards for our parents. We also discussed how Jesus is the best gift we'll ever get. We had nativity sets to play with so we could recreate what happened on Christmas.

We talked about all of the different legends at Christmas time. Our favorite was the "legend of tinsel." We made tinsel trees, Christmas pickles, gingerbread men and wooden shoes.

Next, we talked about decorations at Christmas time and made some of our own. We made bells, star and candy cane ornaments. We also painted with bows and bells.

We read a lot of books about Christmas and the birth of Jesus. We made a beautiful nativity picture. We also talked about gifts that we might give to Jesus if we saw him that first night.

We also worked very hard on learning our songs for the Christmas program and making a pinata for our Christmas party. We loved breaking the pinata!

Mr. Shane came to talk to us about hibernation. We got to feel the furs of several animals and think about how much nicer it is to live in a house that is warm instead of outdoors.

Next month, we'll talk about the arctic, winter and transportation. Mr. Shane will also visit us again to talk about what deer do in the winter!

Have a great month, The Willows, Miss Debby and "Miss" Tammy

EAGLES

The Eagles had a fantastic Christmas season. The highlight was our Christmas play. The Eagles did a great job! We were very proud of their memorizations and singing. We also had a fun Christmas party. Thank you to all who sent treats and gifts!

Our four reporters for this month are Kenny, Abigail, Ella P. and Caleb.

Kenny is reporting on J,j week and Advent. He liked decorating our room by cutting out stockings and using "do-a-dots." He also enjoyed making Christmas cards for the soldiers that we mailed to the Red Cross to distribute.

Abigail is reporting on K,k week and decorating for Christmas. She enjoyed eating our pretzel wreaths and shopping for Toys for Tots. Thank you to everyone who helped us buy wonderful toys for other children by purchasing from our bake sales.

Ella P., who is reporting on L,l week and bells and bows, says that playing hide and seek with a bow and wrapping blocks were lots of fun.

And finally Caleb, reporting on M,m week and angels, shepherds and wisemen; enjoyed making our wisemen pictures. He also enjoyed our Christmas party!

The Eagles wish all of us God's Blessing in the New Year!

Dates to remember:

Jan. 2-6—Katie, Star of the Week, Letter O,o , Winter Fun

Jan. 9-13-Max, Star of the Week, Letter P,p, Arctic Animals

Jan. 16-20-Ava, Star of the Week, Letter Q,q, Transportation

Jan. 23-27-Evan G., Star of the Week, Letter R,r