

st. john's christian **PRESCHOOL**

Newsletter

September 2024



Welcome

We are excited for a great start at preschool! Our days will be filled with play and learning as we adjust to new schedules and get to know new friends. Thanks for the support you have shown our staff and your children at this special time. We want each family's experience here to be positive. Please let us know if you have any input and/or concerns as the year begins.

Meet the Teachers!

Nancy Hanson-Director/Teacher

I grew up in White Bear Lake MN and am the fourth of five girls! I am very close to my family. My husband Dave and I will be celebrating 40 years of marriage in September. We have four adult children, a goldendoodle named Sal and a few grand dogs and a grand kitty. This is my 24th year working at Preschool, this school year I will be the full time Director/Teacher. I will be teaching 5 days a week and doing director duties in the afternoon. In my spare time I like to travel, read, do jigsaw puzzles, and spend time with my family. I'm very excited to be starting another year with the preschoolers and their families.

Sarah Wergeland-Teacher

I am so happy to be back teaching preschool at St. John's again this year! This will be my 3rd year teaching the Tuesday/Thursday class. I'm looking forward to meeting my preschoolers and their families and spending time discovering, playing, creating, learning and sharing God's love and light. I keep our busy household running, or shall I say I try to keep up with my boys and their adventures and activities by running them around! I have 4 boys: Samuel-16, William-13, Aaron-11 and Owen-8 (almost!). I have been married to Kevin, my husband, for 23 years! This year I will also be working as a part-time physical education teacher at Crestview Academy, the school where my 3 youngest attend. In my free time I love running (and in the winter, Nordic skiing) and taking part in races. This summer I completed my first half ironman triathlon in the 90-degree heat! I also love baking, playing board games, and watching my boys take part in their sporting activities. I feel honored to be a part of the community at St. John's. I pray that these children have a positive experience as they embark on their journey of learning and growing, making friends and discovering more about themselves and the world.

Amanda Schroeder-Teacher

Hi, I am an outgoing mother of two girls Peyton age 14 and Riley age 6. I love to play, sing, and be silly. I have an educational background in child development and really enjoy being around children. I've been a preschool teacher for over 20 years. I love to draw and paint and just about anything art related. My Family and I recently moved here in July from Arizona you can usually find me in my art room at home, classroom, or at the ice rink cheering on my girls with my Husband Jeremy. We also have a cat named Onyx and a betta fish named Bubbles. I really like colorful things, unicorns and butterflies. My goal is for everyone to feel safe and welcome in my classroom, so that they can learn how to be great little students with a love for learning while having fun and being silly. I am so excited to be a part of St. John's Christian Preschool

Amanda Downing-Assistant Teacher

I couldn't be more excited to be working with the preschoolers at St. John's this year. My husband and I moved to Eau Claire 10 years ago to help start a church and since have had two boys, 8 and 6, and started our own business. In my free time I love gardening, reading, cooking, and adventuring with my family. My boys attended St. John's as preschoolers and know this year will hold just as many special memories for our new preschoolers as it did for our family.

We invite your family to join us as we explore TREES as we begin the school year. Our classes will share songs, activities, stories and art as we learn about these fascinating pieces of creation. Of course, we will be learning about ourselves too. As we settle in with new classmates, teachers, routines and experiences, we will work to develop those educational roots that help us grow!

A Note from Pastor Christine

One of my favorite things in the whole wide world is listening to the pitter pat of little feet as they come up the stairs for preschool at St. John's. As the pastor of this church, I love watching these children grow as they learn, have fun, and share God's love. I am looking forward to meeting all of you and watching your children thrive at preschool. Many blessings to you on this new school year. May God enrich your life and the lives of your beautiful children.

Snacks

Preschool snack time is important. It gives children the nutrition and energy they need to get through a busy preschool day. In an attempt to keep snacks safe and healthy for all of our students, we stock a variety of simple snacks here. Children will be able to select one or two items for their snack each day. We will offer snacks like fresh fruit, cereal, string cheese, carrots, goldfish crackers, graham crackers, pretzels, and raisins. We will also offer 100% juice, milk, or water to drink. A weekly snack menu will be posted on the snack bulletin board in the preschool hall. A snack fee is billed each semester. (TTh-\$20/MWF-\$28)

Online

Please take a chance to visit our website. Preschool forms and resources are posted here monthly. The site is also a convenient way to share a little about our program with others.

stjohns-ec.org (Click the preschool logo) or stjohns-ec.org/preschool/com

Families and friends can also “like” us on Facebook to receive an occasional preschool update to help keep connected!

Brightwheel

We use the Brightwheel app for communications, billing, and check in throughout the school year. If you haven't already, please take time to update your family's information. Including a photo will help us learn names and faces as we start the school year.

What to Wear

We are active and sometimes messy here at preschool. Please send your child in comfortable clothes and shoes that can get dirty. When the weather permits, we spend time outdoors. Please send jackets suitable for the weather and an extra change of clothes for your child. Please label personal items. Thank you!

Payments

Preschool tuition and fee payments can be made by cash, check, or online payment through Brightwheel. First Semester Snack fee will be billed soon. Please let us know if you have questions or need more information about payments.

Apple Orchard Field Trip

TTh: Thursday, October 3rd

MWF: Friday, October 4th

9:30-11:30AM

Please meet us at Bushel-and-a-Peck Apple Orchard at 9:30AM. We will explore nature, take a wagon ride, and of course pick apples! We will dismiss from the orchard at 11:30AM. Please note that S.J.C.P. will not be providing/arranging transportation for this trip, but we encourage families to coordinate carpools if you would like. Children should dress for the weather, as we will spend an active morning outdoors. The cost of the field trip is \$3.50 per child. Please return the field trip fee with the completed permission form to preschool by September 30th. Parent participation is optional, but you are invited to stay and join the fun if you would like. Please let us know who will attend on your child's permission form. Thank you!



September Birthdays at SJCP!

Oliver M – September 8th (MWF) Hanson

Remington– September 18th (TTh) Wergeland

Parker – September 21st (MWF) Hanson

Happy Birthday and May God Bless You!

We love celebrating birthdays at preschool! We will honor children by listing them in this newsletter, singing songs, dancing, and making cards in the classroom. We even have special toys, bongo drums and a snack plate that we use on birthdays. We ask that families save food/treats for home and not to send them to preschool. Thank you!



September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10 Come and See TTh Classes	11 Come and See MWF Classes	12 First Day of Class TTh	13 First Day of Class MWF	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	October 1	October 2	October 3 Apple Orchard Field Trip 	October 4 Apple Orchard Field Trip 	