

st. john's christian PRESCHOOL

Newsletter

January 2025

Learning My Way

By Jean Feldman

When I listen to stories and books each day,
I'm learning to read in my own special way.
When I sing a song or say a rhyme,
My listening skills will develop in time.
The small muscles I use when I work a puzzle or play with clay,
Will help me to write a sentence one day.
When I jump, wiggle, and run the day long,
My muscles are growing strong.
When I put away my toys or pass out snacks at school,
I'm really doing my math, too.
Making bubbles or looking at the clouds in the sky,
Will develop my scientific skills by and by.
My coloring, painting, and gluing may look a mess,
But they all encourage my creative best.
When you read to me, talk, and listen, too,
I'll learn to love books and language, it's true.
As you give me choices and let me go,
Into an independent adult I will grow.
When you accept me for whom I am and cherish what I do,
I'll learn to love others and respect them too.
Every minute of every new and exciting day,
I'm learning and growing in my own special way!



“Sharing” New this Month at SJCP

Our classes will start “sharing” activities this month. They will receive their own “sharing bag” to use each week. Please help your child select an appropriate item(s) for each week’s topic which is listed below and in the newsletter calendar. Place the item in the bag and bring it to class on the designated day. We will collect the sharing items as the children



arrive at preschool. Later in the day, we will take turns telling about their selections and showing the class. The items will be sent home each day. This is a favorite activity at preschool and may inspire some fun conversations at home too!

January 9-10: a gift you have received

January 16-17: something white

January 23-24: fits in a mitten

January 30-31: something that rolls

Snack Fee Reminder

Snack fee for the second half of the year is due now. Please leave payments in the mailbox in the office or pay on Brightwheel. Thank you!

MWF: \$28.00

TTh: \$20.00

Preschool Birthdays

Lennon MWF- Hanson

Jan. 7th

Myles TTh - Hanson

Jan. 30th



Outdoor Play

The days have gotten colder and we may have snow soon. Please have your child bring the following clothing to preschool each day so that we can enjoy God’s creation this winter! Thanks.

Warm Coat

Hat

Mittens or Gloves

Hat

Boots*

Snowpants*



*When there is snow on the ground

S.J.C.P. 2025-26

We are looking forward to sharing another year of love and learning at St. John’s Christian Preschool! We realize that many families are also considering plans for next school year. We are happy to answer questions and discuss possible options with you. Of course, we invite you to re-enroll your child for the next school year at S.J.C.P.!

If you know other families that may be interested in preschool, please encourage them to check out SJCP. We encourage current families to register early as classes often fill quickly.

Preschool Registration 2025-26

February 3rd: Currently/Previously

Enrolled Families

St. John’s Members

February 10th: Open Registration

SJCP Open House - COMING SOON!!

Early in February we will host an open house at SJCP. Families will have a chance to visit our classrooms, meet our teachers, and learn about our program. More details to follow!

Epiphany is here! Let your light shine!

The Bible, tells us that Jesus came “...to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace.” What an amazing thing for us! During the month of January, we celebrate the church season called Epiphany. The Epiphany of our Lord is the recognition that the little baby in Bethlehem wasn’t only a human baby, but a savior, the savior who came to save us from darkness and lead us throughout our lives. The image that is used to demonstrate this is light.

This “Epiphany”, this recognition of Jesus as our savior, is not only about the light of the star the Three Wise Men followed, but more importantly, it is about how Jesus *is* light for us. Jesus is the light of the world, as we hear in John’s Gospel: “The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness can’t overcome it!” Light and darkness: these polar opposites are used in the Bible to help us to know that Jesus is the one who shatters the darkness in our lives and brings us to a place where we can find peace.

All of us know darkness. Beyond the metaphor, we all know sickness, frustration, difficulties, and even suffering. We see that the world is not the way it should be and we know that there are children in this world who are in need. The darkness needs the light of the world to help dispel it and eventually, when all of God's promises come to light, Jesus will conquer it completely for us. The darkness will not have the last word.

That, I think, is the important thing to teach your children this January. Give them the metaphor of light by lighting candles, playing games in the dark with flashlights, and teaching them songs about light such as "This Little Light of Mine". Even though the metaphor will not be fully understood at their age, your children will learn the salvation story which is this: Jesus, the light of the world, will not leave them in the dark even at the lowest times of their lives. For, this is a God who will go the distance, all the way to the darkness to save us, even to a place that seems to have no light at all.

So, teach your children the story of the Magi/Wisemen who follow the light of a star to see the light of the world in a manger. For, this light, a little piece of Christ himself, has been given to each and every one of God's children, so that no one may be alone in the dark...ever. Peace to you at this time of light!



Pastor Christine

Shrove Tuesday **March 4th**

4:30-7pm at St. John's



SJCP will be hosting a festive event that your whole family will enjoy! Current preschool families, former preschool families, and St John's friends gather to share an evening of fun and food. This pre-lent event has been a favorite tradition here and has been a great way to raise money for the ongoing ministry of St. John's Christian Preschool.

Shrove Tuesday is...

- known as "Fat Tuesday" or "Mardi Gras".
- a traditional time for feasting and fun before the church season of Lent begins the next day on Ash Wednesday.
- Celebrated from **4:30-7:00PM at St. John's** and include a **Pancake Supper, Carnival Games, a Cake Walk and Silent Auction.**

SJCP needs your help!

SJCP Board appreciates your help with this annual fundraiser! Be on the lookout in February for sign-up sheets.

- Working in the Dining Room/Kitchen
- Leading a Carnival Game
- Baking for the Cake Walk
- Donation for the Silent Auction

Mark your calendars and plan to bring friends and family to this fun evening!

January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
	No Preschool	No Preschool	Happy New Year! 			
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	<i>Epiphany</i>			Sharing: a gift you have received		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
				Sharing: Something white		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	No Preschool	No Preschool	No Preschool	Sharing: Fits in a mitten		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
				Sharing: Something that rolls		

