

Paradise Valley United Methodist Church

PRESCHOOL

PARENT PAGES

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www.preschool.pvumc.org

January 2017



PVUMC
Preschool
Learn, Play, Grow

Dear Parents,

Everyone is familiar with the practice of making New Year's resolutions at this time of year. It's an annual reminder that we constantly need to keep re-evaluating what we do, or add new challenges to our lives, in order to grow personally, professionally, and as parents.

We often make resolutions to better ourselves personally and sometimes professional resolutions or goals are built in, but have you ever made a parenting resolution? Something beyond "I'm going to be a better parent to my child this year"?

In 2017, I challenge you to make one resolution about your parenting skills. Choose a new technique or possibly an old one, then use it consistently until it becomes a natural part of how you interact with your child.

Following are some ideas for your consideration:

1. ***Use the language of encouragement*** – it helps a child accept himself, feel worthy and build self-esteem.
2. ***Use reflective listening*** – it lets your child know you have heard the feeling and meaning behind their words. It encourages your child to be aware, trust and express their feelings constructively.
3. ***Send I Messages*** – I Messages do not label or blame, they simply tell how you as a parent feel.
4. ***Empower your child with choices*** – choices help your child become a decision maker. Choices help children learn about values.
5. ***Notice positive behavior*** – it is an opportunity for "yes" rather than "no" responses.
6. ***Play with your child*** – it gives your child the opportunity to be "powerful" as you follow your child's lead.
7. ***Read with your child and ask open-ended questions*** – it is a wonderful opportunity for language and thought to develop.
8. ***Share a 3-Minute Miracle*** – as you tuck your child into bed each night, share 3 minutes of special thoughts about your child and his/her day.

The new year can always be better than the one that came before, just by implementing some new practices appropriate for you and your family.

Happy 2017!

Fondly,

Mindy Sobraske

PVUMC Preschool Director

Where to Find...

| | |
|-------|--------------------------------|
| 2 & 7 | Calendars |
| 2 | Mission Project |
| 2 | Open House |
| 2 | 2017-2018 Registration |
| 2 | Spirit Days |
| 2 | Thanks |
| 3 | Child Lending Library |
| 3 | Littlest Angels' Chapel |
| 3 | Private School Applications |
| 3 | Winter Flu & Illness |
| 4 | Parenting Corner |
| 4 | Teacher Reflection |
| 5 | Ice Cream Social |
| 6 | Church News |

| <u>JANUARY CALENDAR</u> | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Jan. 3 | First Day of Preschool Mom's Morning Out, Lunch/Play Bunch & After School Classes begin |
| Jan. 5 & 6 | Spirit Days |
| Jan. 16 | <u>NO PRESCHOOL</u> —Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday |
| Jan. 18 & 19 | Open House |
| Jan. 27 | <u>NO PRESCHOOL</u> —Staff Inservice |
| Jan. 30 & 31 | Preschool Registration starts |

| <u>FEBRUARY CALENDAR</u> | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Feb. 1-10 | Preschool Registration for 2017-2018 |
| Feb. 2 & 3 | Parent Teacher Conferences <u>NO PRESCHOOL</u> (Child Care Available) |
| Feb. 20 | <u>NO PRESCHOOL</u> —Presidents' Day |
| Feb. 24 | Staff Meeting— <u>NO</u> Lunch/Play Bunch or After School Classes |

JANUARY SPIRIT DAYS – SNOW DAYS!!!

Winter has arrived and snow will magically appear at PVUMC Preschool on Thursday and Friday, January 5 & 6 as we celebrate our January Spirit Days. Children will enjoy playing in the snow and sliding down the hill. Please have your child wear appropriate clothing to play in the snow and bring a change of clothes to school. Please label all clothing with your child's name. Parents are invited to come take pictures and observe the fun!

Paradise Valley United Methodist Church Preschool Open House

Wednesday & Thursday, January 18 & 19

Come tour Paradise Valley United Methodist Church Preschool and visit our classrooms on Wednesday, January 18 and Thursday, January 19 from 9:15 to 11:00 am at our Open House. Meet our staff and learn more about our classroom curriculum and our programs for children 12 months through five years of age.

If you are already attending PVUMC Preschool, please come and spend time visiting the classes you may want to consider registering your child for during registration which takes place January 30 through February 10, 2017.

JANUARY MISSION GIVING

During the month of January we will be collecting new or gently used children's books for the children of UMOM. Please place these in the wagon in front of the preschool office.

**THANKS TO ALL WHO
DONATED TO THE SOCK AND
UNDERWEAR TREE DURING
THE MONTH OF DECEMBER!**

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR THE 2017 – 2018 PRESCHOOL YEAR

PVUMC Preschool registration for children already attending PVUMC Preschool will take place January 30 thru February 10, 2017.

Registration forms for returning children can be found in the Preschool Office.

Please mark your calendars.

PRIVATE SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

If you have obtained an application for a private school such as All Saint's Episcopal Day School or Phoenix Country Day School, there is a portion that your child's current preschool teacher will need to fill out. If you are applying to St. Thomas or a school that needs a letter of recommendation, please state in writing that you are in need of a letter of recommendation for your child. Please turn these forms/requests into the Preschool Office with a \$20.00 application fee (\$20.00 for each school for which an application/request is being filled out - this money compensates the teacher for the extra time spent filling out these applications and the processing and handling of the applications). The applications are confidential and are mailed directly to the admissions office of the school where you are applying.

WINTER FLU AND ILLNESS

Paradise Valley United Methodist Church Preschool policy and the Arizona Department of Health require that children must be free of the following symptoms for 24 hours before returning to preschool:

- Fever
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting

If an antibiotic has been prescribed for an infection or bacterial illness, *the child must be on the antibiotics for 24 hours and free of congestion and coughing before returning to preschool.* Thank you for helping to keep all of our PVUMC Preschool children well!

Littlest Angels' Chapel

The theme of the Bible stories for January will focus on WORKING TOGETHER. We will learn about cooperation through the following Bible stories:

- The Wise Men Visit Jesus - Story of the Magi
- Walls of Jericho
- Jesus Calms the Storm
- Jesus and the Children (Younger Only)
- Parable of the Sower (Younger Only)

The Bible verse for January is: We work together with God. 1 Corinthians 3:9

The community caring word for January is: Cooperation

Child Lending Library

During the month of January the Child Lending Library invites you and your child to check out one of the following book bags and "stuffed animal friend" to take home and enjoy for a few days.

- Sick Day for Amos McGee (Elephant)
- Corduroy
- Little Red Riding Hood, Little Critter
- Curious George's Dinosaur Discovery

Please check out book bags in the Preschool Office. Thank you.

Parenting Corner – Value Individuality

“If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music that he hears, however measured or far away.”

–Henry David Thoreau, American essayist, naturalist, and poet

Children are like fingerprints. Each one is different, unique, and individual, no matter how alike they seem. To children, their differences are far more important than their similarities. Treat each of your children differently.

Parents often think that what works for one child will work for another. Assembly-line parenting doesn't work. The parts aren't interchangeable. For example, some parents encourage all of their children to play the same sports, simply to make it more convenient, but in reality it is important to value each child's uniqueness and individuality which generally doesn't mean that the same sport will meet each child's needs.

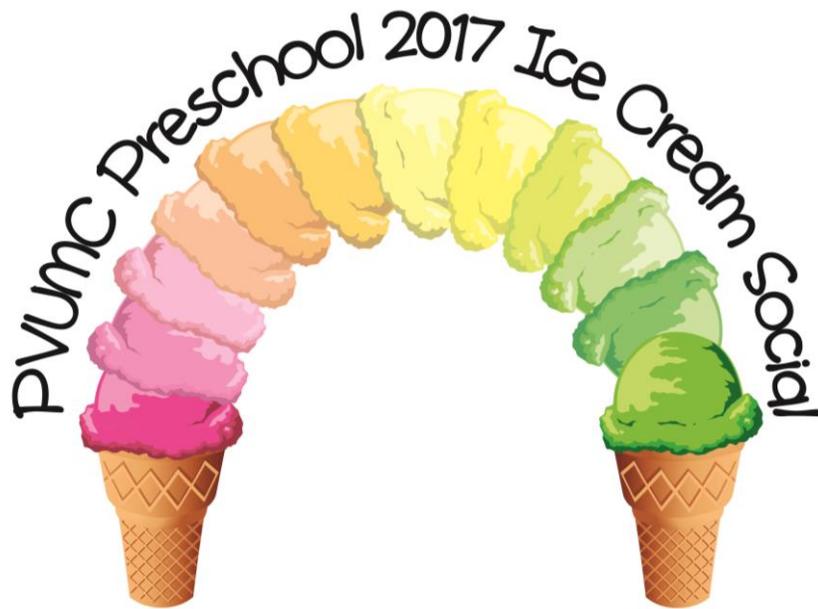
It's also important that teachers value your child's individuality. Just because your oldest child was quiet and enjoyed fine motor activities, does not mean that your next child will be the same. Don't compare children, don't allow others to compare your children, and discourage your children from comparing themselves.

Sometimes your child may misinterpret a compliment you give to his siblings. He thinks that when you say his sister is a good artist, it means that he is not. Discourage such behavior by explaining that a statement is not a comparison. Assure him you value his talents as well, but he must allow his sister her spotlight.

Teacher Reflection

In D-1 we like to give the children an aromatherapy experience when they play with play dough. Teacher Dorothy is our play dough making master. She recently has made scented play dough with vanilla, peppermint, pumpkin pie spice and lemonade mix. The children love to make worms, hair, cookies, muffins and other creations with this fantastic sensory scented dough. We sometimes forget how truly great this stuff is. It's great for developing fine motor skills especially when you add garlic presses, plastic scissors, Popsicle sticks or toothpicks and rolling pins. Play dough sparks imagination and creativity. It let's children play out real life experiences that they see in the kitchen or read about in a story. Our children pretend that under the table is the oven and bake their play dough treats. Try reading Frosty The Snowman and then build a snowman out of sparkling dough with sticks and buttons. We will be doing it in D-1 during the month of January. Play dough helps to develop language skills as you discuss colors, shapes, textures and the items being made with children. Ask children to make a ball or roll out a snake, it also develops hand and eye coordination. So go ahead and check out all the fun recipes for play dough on Pinterest. Enjoy!

Teacher Julie



MARK YOUR CALENDARS! It's our **31st Annual Ice Cream Social Fundraiser and Children's Art Show** on **Thursday, April 27, 2017**. We are busy planning for our preschool fundraiser and welcome your support. If you would like to get involved as one of our sponsors or you have an item you could donate, please email us, **Megan Bert** at megangbert@gmail.com or **Jackie Leivian** at jaclynleivian@gmail.com. *Any and all support is greatly appreciated!*



Kick Off the New Year with PVUMC

Paradise Valley United Methodist Church invites you to join us in 2017 as we kick off the New Year with family friendly events and opportunities to help you grow spiritually in community with others. Join us for **worship** at 9:30 am on Sundays, and bring your children to Sunday school at the same time, where we'll learn more about prayer. On **January 8**, the wise men or magi visit the classes, and bring special gifts for all the children. Enjoy a **free community concert** or purchase tickets to hear and see critically acclaimed pianist **Andrew Tyson** (early Feb). End the month with **Bingo Night on January 27, 2016**, 6-8 pm, Fellowship Center. Read more below and on our website at <http://pvumc.org>.



The Perfect Prayer

Beginning **January 1, New Year's Day**, PVUMC begins a new worship series focusing on the Lord's Prayer. Often called *The Perfect Prayer*, our pastors will dissect the prayer week by week so we can better understand the meaning behind all the phrases. Read more about upcoming sermons and scriptures on the website at: <http://pvumc.org/connect/worship-services/upcoming-sermons/>. If you are looking for a church home, we offer a New Members' orientation class on **Sunday, January 22**. Read more on the church website.

The Wise Men or Magi (also known as the Three Kings) visit the Sunday School classes at 9:30 am on **Sunday, January 8**. Bring your children, and don't be late, or they may miss the Magi's story of their journey to see the Christ child, the new king, and the special gifts they are bringing for all the children they meet.

- The **PVUMC Community Concert Series** continues with the *Phoenix Conservatory of Music* on **Friday, January 20 at 7 pm in the PVUMC Sanctuary**. This concert features some of their best students performing jazz, blues and pop music. Childcare is available for little ones with a 48-hour reservation. Call 602-840-8360, ext 134, to schedule. See the dates and artists for upcoming concerts at: <http://pvumc.org/2016/09/12/pvumc-2016-2017-community-concerts/>. Register for this concert at Eventbrite: <https://pvumc-concerts-1-20-17.eventbrite.com>.



- Get your tickets now for the Piano Dedication concert featuring critically acclaimed pianist Andrew Tyson. **February 3, 2017** at 7 pm in the church sanctuary. The concert will feature works by Scarlatti, Ravel, Albéniz and Liszt. A reception follows (additional cost). Proceeds go toward the PVUMC Piano Fund. **Tickets:** \$20-\$25. Tickets are available online through the church website. [BUY TICKETS](#). Read more at <http://pvumc.org/events/concerts>.
- Mark Your Calendar: Bingo Night! **January 27, 2016**, 6-8 pm, Fellowship Center. Read more about this on our website and look for posters advertising this event later in January.

January

| <i>Sun</i> | <i>Mon</i> | <i>Tue</i> | <i>Wed</i> | <i>Thu</i> | <i>Fri</i> | <i>Sat</i> |
|------------|---|---|--|--|--|------------|
| 1 | 2 Winter Break | 3 • First Day of School • MMO, Lunch Bunch, After School Classes start | 4 | 5 • Spirit Day Snow Day | 6 • Spirit Day Snow Day | 7 |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 • NO PRESCHOOL Martin Luther King, Jr Birthday | 17 | 18 • Open House 9:15-11:00 am | 19 • Open House 9:15-11:00 am | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 • NO PRESCHOOL Staff Inservice Day | 28 |
| 29 | 30 Preschool Registration for 2017-2018 (Jan. 30 – Feb. 10) | 31 | | | | |

2017