



# Saddleback Children's Center



Newsletter  
December 2016



## Message from SCC

Christmas is such a special time of year with family gatherings, decorations, and gift giving. Our teachers and staff members enjoy learning about many of the traditions that our students share from home. It is also fun to hear all the stories the children bring back with them after they have made new memories during this time.

We hope you have a wonderful Christmas filled with joy, hope and peace!

Carla Leveratt, Director &  
Meagan Kraszewski, Assistant Director

## Important Dates to Remember



### **Christmas Program**



**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13<sup>TH</sup> AND  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>**

**Our Annual Christmas Program** will be held at 11:00 am in the church. Parents can be seated at 10:30 in the church and the children will process in at 11:00. **We welcome family and friends to come join us!** Also, please note: following the program the children will process back to their classrooms for 11:30 pick-ups. Thank you!

**“Happy Birthday Jesus” Parties**  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> AND  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup>**

Each classroom will hold a special **Birthday Party for Baby Jesus**, complete with a special Christmas treat! The children will also hold a \$5.00 book exchange! If your child attends 5 days please bring one book for each party day with the exception of Miss Carla's class. Please check flyer for more details.

Note: Please wrap the book(s)

### **Holiday Schedule**

- ❖ **Preschool classes will end:**  
Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> and resume Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- ❖ **Full Day Program ONLY Dates:**  
December 19-22, 27-29
- ❖ **School Closed:**  
December 23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>  
December 30<sup>th</sup> - January 2<sup>nd</sup>

## Thank you!

An abundance of gratitude goes out to the parents who helped prepare our Thanksgiving Feast.

We appreciate all your hard work that help made this a special day for our children and teachers!





## See's Candy

We are happy to announce that our See's Candy fundraiser raised a profit of \$1,300.84.

So far this year we have raised a total of \$3100.84 in fundraising proceeds between Poppin Popcorn and See's.

The money will be used for new flooring and updates to our classrooms as well as materials for our Outdoor Classroom.



Thank you, parents  
for all your support!



### Classroom Improvement Update

Last month we announced that there is a team from the church who is dedicated to supporting our fundraising efforts here in the preschool to create updated classrooms. Our goal is to accomplish a model classroom so that you can see our vision. Our first phase of this project is to replace the flooring in our classrooms with new vinyl planks. We are hopeful that this project will be under way this school-year. Our fundraising efforts so far help us to be that much closer!



### Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive

Our preschool children are not too young to learn about helping others in need. This month we are participating in the Great Bedtime Story Pajama Drive that is sponsored by Scholastic books. Our children are asked to donate brand-new pajamas and Scholastic will match the donation with a book to accompany the pajamas to a needy child.

**Please have your child bring a new pair of  
pajamas to school by:  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>.**

Thank you for helping to share the gift of  
good sleep and a sweet bedtime story!



Help support us while you shop! The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases, which will go toward our school and church when you select "Community Lutheran Church" as your charity!

### Outdoor Classroom Project



Carla Leveratt and Kristina Amante recently attended the second in a series of three Outdoor Classroom Specialist trainings. They have learned about the following fundamentals that are the basis of an outdoor classroom:

- ❖ In an outdoor classroom children connect to the natural world and learn from what nature has to teach us.
- ❖ Learning occurs everywhere.
- ❖ The Outdoor Classroom provides learning environments that facilitate activities that are child-initiated, hands-on, interactive and engaging.

We are putting together a wish list of items that we feel would enhance our Outdoor Classroom.



### Yelp Update

Unfortunately, we will not be able to add the Check-In feature as planned in the previous newsletter. We apologize if this is something you were excited about.

# Fundraising WHILE YOU Shop®



Stop selling and start earning! Scrip fundraising is a no-selling program that allows families to raise money for their non-profit organization (NPO). Scrip is just another way to pay for everyday purchases using gift cards in place of cash, checks, and credit cards.

You purchase gift cards from your organization at face value, and your coordinator orders those cards from Great Lakes Scrip Center at a reduced price. The difference is an instant rebate for your organization. It's really that simple!

When you use scrip gift cards at your favorite retailers, you're fundraising while you shop. Great Lakes Scrip Center offers over 300 of the country's biggest brands, including grocery, department stores, gas stations, restaurants, hotels, home improvement, and more. Just by using scrip to pay for your normal weekly purchases, you can easily raise \$500 or more per year. It's time to put your shopping dollars to work!



Do you need ideas for Christmas Gifts for family, friends, or teachers? SCC Families can now give back to the school using Shopwithscrip!

To enroll please follow these simple instructions:

1. Go to <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/>
2. Click on the green "get started" button
3. Click on the blue "join existing program" button
4. Enter the enrollment code A5ADFLAD536L2 and fill out your information!
5. \*Register for "Prestopay" to have your bank account automatically debited
6. Orders will be placed every Friday
7. Megan Kraszewski is your Scrip Coordinator if you have questions

**\*\*Gift Card Give-Away:** We will give out a gift card for a local dinner favorite in March and one again in June for the family who raises the most Scrip money!

Scrip Coordinator: We are still looking for a Scrip Coordinator to take on this task if you are interested! Please ask Megan Kraszewski for more information.

# **Community Lutheran Church**

## **Advent/Christmas Calendar**

**1st Sunday of Advent Sunday, November 27th.**

**Wednesday, November 30, 7:00 PM – First Mid-week Advent Service**

**Wednesday, December 7th, 7:00 PM – Mid-week Advent Service**

**Sunday School Christmas Worship Service - Sunday, December 11th,  
10:45 AM**

**Wednesday, December 14th, 7:00 PM – Last Mid-week Advent Service**

**Men of CLC Santa Pancake Breakfast – Sunday, December 18th - 9:15  
AM**

**Chancel Choir Christmas Cantata - Sunday, December 18th, 8:15 AM  
& 10:45 AM**

**Sunday, December 25th One Worship Service at 10:00 AM**

**Sunday, January 1st One Worship Service at 10:00 AM**

**Christmas Eve Wednesday, December 24th**

**4:30pm – Christmas Candlelight Service with Holy Communion**

**7:00pm – Christmas Candlelight Service with Holy Communion**

**10:30pm – Christmas Candlelight Service with Holy Communion and  
Chancel Choir**



# Parent Page

## Letting Children Choose

Why do we as adults pursue hobbies such as golf, crochet or gardening? We spend time in such an activity because we find it enjoyable, we have some control over the activity, and we see it as offering some probability of success. We choose what we will crochet or plant; we decide where, when and with whom we will play golf or tennis.

Children, too, learn best when they have some control over their learning, when activities are meaningful and relevant, and when they can make choices in the materials they will work with and how they will use them.

Children thrive when they have opportunities every day to make choices in their learning. We facilitate children's choices within a carefully planned environment. We create the environment to allow each child to choose activities that are developmentally appropriate for his or her age. The children choose the peers with whom they will work and play and usually determine how they will use the available materials.

These choices empower children to take control of their own learning. Children use materials and equipment in far more creative and innovative ways than we could ever plan, and they use the materials in ways that meet their own developmental needs.

Research indicates that intrinsic motivation-when we work on a task primarily because we find it satisfying-is the most effective and engaging way to learn. In this program we make an effort to provide materials and activities that provide choice and interest for the children. That's a key reason that you'll see busy, involved children when you visit the classroom.



# December 2016



December Concepts  
 Color: Green  
 Number: 4  
 Shape: Triangle

M	T	W	Th	F
			1 See's distribution this week 	2
5	6 Chapel	7	8	9
12	13  Christmas Program 11:00am in the church		15 "Happy Birthday, Jesus!" Parties 	
19	20 PRESCHOOL CLOSED FULL DAY PROGRAM ONLY			23 Merry Christmas  SCHOOL CLOSED
26 Merry Christmas  SCHOOL CLOSED	27 PRESCHOOL CLOSED FULL DAY PROGRAM ONLY			30 Happy New Year <u>School Closed</u>

December Bible Verse:  
 "God's son is born for us."  
 (See Isaiah 9:6)

