



Asbury Community Christian Preschool and Clubhouse News

God's Child is Patient

"Be Patient" James 5:7

January 2024

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December Review

What an absolutely amazing Christmas production! The children worked so hard on their performances and given the amount of positive feedback; it seems it was enjoyed by all.

We had a wonderful Polar Express immersion day. All children and staff wore their pajamas to school and participated in an interactive retelling of The Polar Express story. Fellowship Hall was decorated to mimic the train, North Pole and other scenes. Children were given a train ticket, boarded the train and while listening to the story, took off on their interactive journey through forests, across polar ice caps, and up and down mountains while drinking hot chocolate and eating cookies. Once at the North Pole, one special friend was selected to receive the first gift of Christmas. To everyone's surprise, all train riders also received a shiny gold bell! It was a fun and enjoyable morning.

Thank you to everyone who took time out of their busy schedules to volunteer, help with class parties, chaperone our Pre-K concert performance and for all the thoughtful and generous cards and gifts we received. I hope everyone had a peaceful, joyous and blessed Christmas and that the New Year brings prosperity and love to all.

Our open house that we held in December was well attended and we look forward to our returning and new families joining us for the 2024-2025 school year. Information about registration is below.

Coming in January

Asbury reopens on January 2nd, 2024. There are two scheduled days in January when Asbury Christian Preschool and Clubhouse is closed. Monday January 15th, we are closed in recognition of Martin Luther King. Then on Friday January 19th, when public schools are closed, we will be holding parent teacher conferences, so we are also closed on this day. Please see the school calendar, website and weekly teacher newsletters for other changes in schedules.

Your child's classroom teacher will be reaching out to you with a signup sheet for conferences which we be held on Friday January 19th. During the conferences, you teacher will be discussing your child's progress, the Early Learning assessments that they have been conducting all year and sharing information for future enrollments. Please continue to look at our ProCare classroom apps for classroom specific updates.

Upcoming dates

January 2, school opens. 1/15 ACCPC closed for MLK. 1/19 ACCPC closed for Parent teacher conferences.

February 19, ACCPC closed for President's Day.

2024-2025 Registration

Registration forms for 2024-2025 will be posted on our website on January 8th, 2024. Registration forms are opened in the order they are received based on the following dates:

- January 8-12 Asbury UMC Church member families.
- January 15-19 Current and returning Asbury families.
- January 22-26 New families.

We also enroll families based off a point system. For every year that you have children enrolled at Asbury, you receive one point. Registration priority is given to families based off the number of points they have acquired. Families cannot accumulate more than one point per year, regardless of the number of children enrolled that year. For example, if a family have three children enrolled during the 2023-2024 school year, they accumulate one point for that year.

Inclement Weather Procedures

With inclement weather season upon us, I wanted to remind everyone of our procedures.

On the first day of a weather event, we will typically follow the decision of Anne Arundel County Public Schools. For additional inclement weather closings during the same weather event, we will make independent decisions.

We will post on Wbal by 6:30am, our Facebook page and our school website for any closing or delay.

- If we are closed, then there is no preschool, extended care or clubhouse.
- If there is a two-hour delay, there will be no morning clubhouse or extended care and classes will begin at 10am.
- If there is an early dismissal due to inclement weather, all children should be picked up from their classrooms as soon as possible after the announcement is made or by the time given on the announcement. There will be no extended care or clubhouse on early dismissal days and those students should be picked up at Arnold Elementary School by their families.



**** Reminder ***



Students will go outside every day unless there is a weather advisory. Please make sure that your child is wearing a winter coat and has gloves and a hat.

All personal items should be labeled with your child's name.

Early Years

WORKING TOGETHER FOR A GREAT START

Asbury Community Christian Preschool

KID BITS

Sneezes and coughs

Does your youngster know how to sneeze and cough into the crook of his arm? Just turning his head and lifting his elbow isn't enough. Show him how to put his other hand under his elbow and lift the arm to cover his nose and mouth. This strategy will help him avoid spreading germs.

Comparing kids

It's normal for a parent to wonder why a friend's or neighbor's child reads better or gets upset less often than theirs. Keep in mind that youngsters develop at their own pace, and try to focus on what your child does well without comparing her to others. *Note:* If you have concerns about her development, talk to her teacher.

Stay warm at recess

Colder weather means extra layers of clothing so your youngster can run and play comfortably during recess. Have him practice putting on his coat, hat, and gloves at home so he can do it independently at school. Also, label these items so he can tell them apart from his friends' clothes.

Worth quoting

"Do something wonderful, people may imitate it." *Albert Schweitzer*

Just for fun

Q: What starts with a "p," ends with an "e," and has thousands of letters?

A: Post office!



Responsible for me

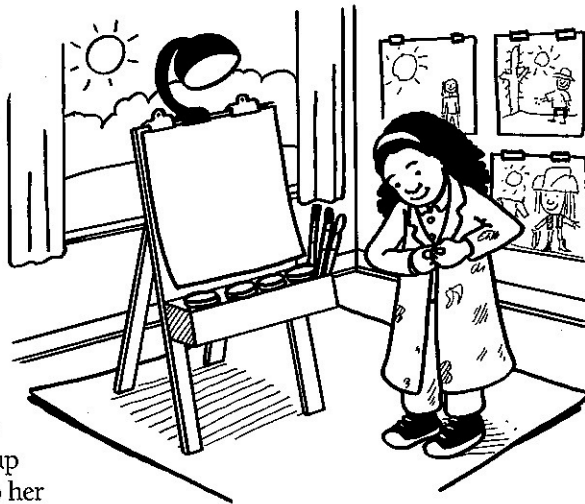
As your child grows, she'll gradually take more and more responsibility for her routines, behavior, and belongings. Try these tips to guide her along the way.

Set expectations

Decide what your youngster should be responsible for. For instance, you might expect her to get up at a certain time on school mornings. But she may not be ready to set an alarm and get up without having you come into her room. Follow her lead—if she takes comfort in seeing you first thing, wait until she's a little older before expecting her to use an alarm clock.

Celebrate successes

When your child shows responsibility, let her know you noticed—and point out the benefit. *Example:* "You found your missing train when you tidied up your room. Now you can play with it." She'll see that responsible behavior has its own rewards, motivating her to repeat it.



Use mistakes as opportunities

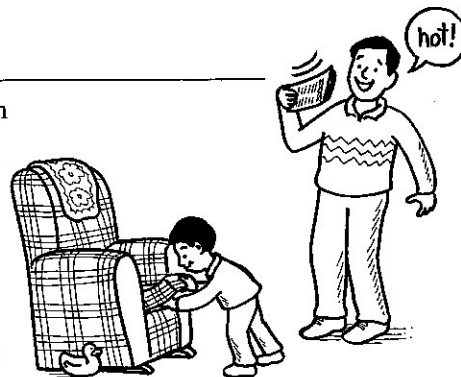
Let your youngster learn from mistakes when possible. She'll discover that mistakes are okay and that she's in charge of correcting them. For instance, if she gets paint on her favorite shirt, teach her how to wash it. Then, help her think of ways to keep nice clothes clean when she paints. She might suggest setting aside old clothes to wear for painting or ask to use one of your old shirts as a smock. ♥

Staying focused

Boost your youngster's attention span with these activities that encourage him to focus.

● **Hot and cold.** Hide a toy for your child to find. As he searches, let him know when he's close to it ("Hot!") or far away ("Cold!"). He'll want to stay focused on your words until he locates the toy.

● **Claps and stomps.** How many motions can your youngster copy? Ask him to pay close attention while you do just one (clap), and have him repeat after you. Then add another (clap, stomp) for him to copy. Keep going until he forgets one. ♥





Asbury UMC News

Sunday Nursery

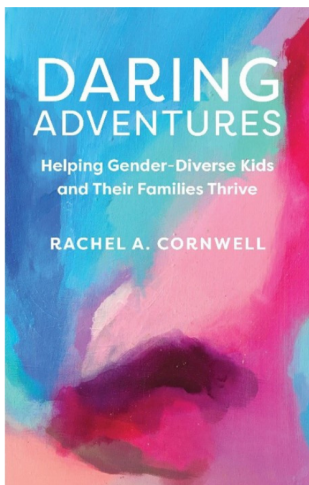
We're excited to announce that our Sunday Nursery at Asbury is now open during Worship Service!

Parents can register their little ones, ages infant through 3 years old, in advance on our website by using the QR code, www.asburyumcarnold.org, or simply before the service begins. For parents with small children, we have a dedicated "Wiggle Room" offering space for diaper changes and a TV streaming the service. Furthermore, children ages 4 and older can explore our engaging "Activity Bag" during the service. Need assistance? Don't hesitate to ask one of our ushers—they'll be more than happy to help you find whatever you need. We can't wait to welcome your little ones and make Sunday Worship a comfortable and enjoyable experience for the whole family.



New Book Study

Starting Wednesday, January 17th



Join us Wednesdays at 7:00 pm on Zoom starting January 17th through February 7th as we read and discuss "Daring Adventures: Helping Gender-Diverse Kids and Their Families Thrive" by Rachel A. Cornwell. We will watch her book intro and discuss two chapters per session. A follow up session will also be scheduled with a local health care provider who works with gender diversity.

Meets on Zoom @ 7:00 pm

A coloring page for your little one

