



The Ark Children's Center

Best of Olney Award Recipient~2009 and 2010

3425 Emory Church Road, Olney, MD 20832 301-774-5369

November 2011 Newsletter

From the Director's Office ...

I love coming to work each day! It's such a joy watching children who are busy at school and eager to try new things. Those "messy" finger painting projects and shaving cream table experiences have now become favorites for some children who resisted these new and unusual textures at the beginning of the year. The cooler weather has also inspired some of our classes to experiment with baking. We have some very enthusiastic bakers among us! With Thanksgiving around the corner, be sure to invite your child(ren) to help set the table, make centerpieces, use their best manners, and help with special cooking projects at home. Children are highly motivated to follow directions, take turns, and evaluate the results of their hard work especially when they realize positive praise or a taste-test is in store! Celebrate family blessings as you enjoy delicious foods and visits from family!

November brings the *Operation Christmas Child* outreach collection. It all starts with an empty shoebox! I know we have had a very busy fall but I ask for your support and generosity to make this Christmas outreach extra special to children around the world. Please take time to review the attached brochure. It's easy, fun, and a great opportunity for you and your family to model care, concern, and compassion for others! I had the chance to work at one of the distribution centers in North Carolina several years ago and it was very touching to read the heartfelt notes and see family photographs included in these gift boxes. Please mark your calendars for Friday, November 18, the last day we will be able to accept filled boxes.

Be looking for the new Clubs Booklet and sign-up request form before our Thanksgiving Break announcing upcoming Winter Club selections!

The staff and I wish you and your family a safe and blessed Thanksgiving holiday. We pray that you will feel God's love and appreciate His goodness as you gather with friends and family. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord!



Susan
+
Staff

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Wednesday, November 2

Scholastic Book Orders Due (optional)

Friday, November 4

No Classes for Students
Professional Day for Teachers

Monday, November 14

No Cooking Club
Staff Meeting

Friday, November 18

Operation Christmas Child
Last day to collect filled boxes.
(see attached information)

Monday, November 21

Thanksgiving Feasts
MWF (103,104,106,109) and Chicks (108)
No Soccer or Cooking Club

Tuesday, November 22

Thanksgiving Feasts
T-TH (103, 106); M-F (203); Lambs (108)

Domino's Pizza Dough Raising for The Ark!
(see page 2)

Wednesday, November 23

Thursday, November 24

Friday, November 25

No Classes~Thanksgiving Holiday Break
Classes Resume Monday, November 28

Oakdale Emory United Methodist Church

(www.oeumc.org) has so many opportunities for worship, learning, fellowship, and service. Small groups; Bible studies; couple's conference; citrus sale; exercise groups; outreach and missions; food and fellowship; choirs . . . Something for everyone!



Reminder: Please be sure your child's "change of clothes" in his/her backpack is appropriate for colder weather.



Thanksgiving Feasts



Monday, November 21
MWF (103, 104, 106, 109)
Chicks (108)

Tuesday, November 22
M-F (203); T-TH (103, 106)
Lambs (108)

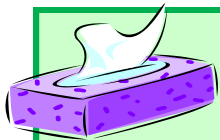
The children are excited about this upcoming in-class feast.

Parents, please check classroom doors for ways you can assist or to provide food.

If your child will not be in school, please call and let us know. If illness related, your child will be allowed to return to school only if fever-free for 24 hours (without fever reducing meds) and/or on an antibiotic for 24 hours.



For information about
*Delayed Openings
*Closings
*Early Dismissals
see www.oeumc.org
-Community & Events
-The Ark Children's Center



If you have not already contributed, please help us by bringing these items in as soon as possible.

Thank you!

4 year olds—large box of tissues
3 year olds—baby wipes (70 + count)
Lambs and Chicks—Disinfecting Wipes
(Clorox, 78 count)

Child-friendly mission and service!

Kids With Purpose, a brand new OEUMC ministry, meets monthly, **6 -7 p.m.** We'll work on projects like making special greetings for nursing home residents, bringing treats to community helpers (i.e. fire dept.), preparing food for shelters, and caroling. Join us for our first meeting, **Tuesday, November 8th** in the Oasis. Please call or e-mail Michelle Brinkley if you plan to attend or with questions.

mibrinkley@yahoo.com 301-346-6543

Cherub Choir (age 4 through grade 2) meets **Wednesdays, 4:30-5 p.m.** in the Oasis. Join our music teacher, Peggy Manion, to make a joyful noise!! For more information, www.oeumc.org



*Volunteering . . .
the ultimate exercise
in democracy. When you
volunteer, you vote every day about the kind
of community you want to live in.*

—Marjorie Moore

With gratitude to all who help to make The Ark community such a special place, especially

Anne Depman who shares her love of books and stories with children each week during *Lending Library*.

Michelle Brinkley for her energetic efforts to coordinate fund-raising opportunities, like *Domino's Pizza Dough Raising for The Ark Children's Center*.

Don and Mary of Masterpiece Studio who worked their magic keeping us organized and creatively coaxing smiles and giggles on *Picture Day*. Looking for a photographer for your family portrait? Give them a call at 301-570-1067 or check their website www.masterpiecestudio.net

All the Ark Families who generously participated in the *Soles4Souls* shoe collection.

The entire church staff here at OEUMC who tirelessly support us, keep our grounds beautifully maintained, and work with us to create a superb school environment.

Linda and Jim Brown and staff at Triadelphia Lake View Farm who always help to make our *Pumpkin Patch* visit lots of fun! We especially appreciated their flexibility in rescheduling due to weather. Visit again to find the perfect Christmas tree—www.tlvtreefarm.com for details.



Help Domino's raise some "dough" for our school, **Tuesday, November 22**. Order two medium, two topping pizzas for only \$5.99 each! Be sure to mention The Ark Children's Center when placing order—20% of sales to The Ark. 20 pizzas were ordered during our October Domino's Night! Thanks to all who participated!!