

The Neighborhood Learning Center



The Director's Corner

Marcie Peterson, Director

Dear Parents,

What a fabulous, fun filled school year this has been! When school started on August 27, 2012 we had an enrollment of 30 children and 6 teachers. We now have over 70 children and 16 staff members. Thank you for your support and kind words to others. The NLC Board and the staff have worked closely together this year to bring a quality program to the community. As proof of the dedication given by all, we will be at full capacity this fall with a waiting list! We are thankful you have chosen us to care for your precious children and

look forward to growing with your family.

With school winding down the beginning of June, we will be focusing our school age summer camp curriculum on God's Summer of Wonder. The school agers will be learning about weather, visiting farms and parks and exploring our earth, water and sky. The year round children will be "going on a safari", at-



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June Highlights

June - 6th - Last of LCPS

June 10th - Summer Camp Officially begins

June 12th - Baseball Invented! Wear your favorite team

June 15th - Parent's Night Out

June 17th - 21st - Vacation Bible School 5:15 Dinner, 6 pm program

June 18th - Wild West Day! Dress as Cowboys & Cowgirls

June 20th - Ice Cream Soda Day! Ice Cream sundaes for all!

This Month at School

This summer our school agers will experience a curriculum called the Christian Pinnacle Curriculum. Because Pinnacle offers Ms. Melissa & Ms. Cindy (our school age teachers) so many ideas in an easy-to-use format, the burden of program planning is lighter and more time is available for field trips and exploring the area around us.

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Staff Spotlight



My name is Toni Gardiner. I am the Infant teacher here at The NLC. It is a

blessing to care for precious wonder-filled little angels all day. I love to watch them blossom and develop new skills, and treasure being able to be part of their early formation and see their gifts and personalities emerge.

My family lives nearby in beautiful Brunswick, Maryland, where

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Teacher Appreciation Week

The teachers were overwhelmed with your kindness during this special week. The cards and flowers and food were enjoyed by all. Thank you for helping us reaffirm the commitment to parent-teacher partnership. We are thankful for the many ways you expressed your feelings.

Here is a prayer that helps us through the day.....

Lord, please help me,
To strengthen their voices,
Bodies and minds,
To express their feelings and
Control them sometimes,
To explore what's near &
Venture afar,
But most important, to love
Who they are!

Author Unknown





Director's Corner (From Page 1)

tending a “carnival”, become “island explorers” and much more. Besides the in house shows we have planned, the school agers will go on weekly field trips and swimming at Franklin Park. The importance of all of these activities and goals we plan yearly for your children and our parent/teacher relationships are summed up in this poem—
WHOSE CHILD IS THIS?

Author Unknown

“Whose child is this?” I asked one day Seeing a little one out to play

“Mine,” said the parent with a tender smile,

“Mine to keep a little while

To bathe his hands and comb his hair

To tell him what he is to wear

To prepare him that he may always be good

And each day do the things he should”

“Whose child is this?” I asked again,

As the door opened and someone came in

“Mine,” said the teacher with the same tender smile

“Mine, to keep just for a little while

To teach him how to be gentle and kind

To train and direct his dear little mind

To help him live by every rule

And get the best he can from school”

“Whose child is this?” I asked again

Just as the little one entered the door

“Ours” said the parent and the teacher as they smiled

And each took the hand of the little child

“Ours to love and train together Ours this blessed task forever.”

God Bless,

Ms. Marcie

Staff Spotlight (From Page 1)

my husband, five year old daughter and I enjoy hiking along the C & O Canal, and taking the boat out into the Potomac River which runs just a short bike ride from our front door.

This Month at School (From Page 1)

It also provides opportunities for students to interact with each other as they participate in activities that challenge their creativity and provide a social/recreational outlet. The material is formatted into weekly themes with a daily Bible focus. Pastor Jessica will be meeting with the children weekly as well. Our full day children will be enjoying different themed adventures filled with summer fun. They will experience the Rain forest, Wild West, Ancient Egypt, and Princess' and Knights' just to name a few. The children will also be participating in water play activities and in house shows.

Summer Attendance

We need your help in preparing for the summer program. If your child's schedule is going to change in any way, we need to know ASAP. If your child is going to be in our school age program, (completed kindergarten through 5th grade), we need a signed form letting us know the weeks they will be in attendance. We also ask that you let us know your summer vacation plans. Families are eligible for a one week half price vacation credit between July and December. A form will be sent home for you to record any changes to your summer schedule.

IMPORTANT

NEW SIGN IN PROCEDURES

**PLEASE USE THE LAST 4 DIGITS OF YOUR CELL PHONE
TO SIGN YOUR CHILD IN USING THE TABLET ON THE
FRONT DESK**

**PLEASE WATCH FOR OUR PARENT SURVEY OUT
THIS MONTH - YOUR OPINION IS IMPORTANT
TO US**



The Chaplin's Corner

Celebrating the Full 50!

Playing in God's Backyard – Picnic and VBS

I love what summer brings. Longer days and warmer temperatures invite us to play outside in God's big creation, God's very Big Backyard. There seems to come about special opportunities for fellowship, good eating (BBQ) and relationship building through reunions, trips and lots of picnics. Andy and I live in a wonderful neighborhood, where the summer draws us to start up impromptu backyard potlucks and for the kids to run a bit freer. It is a good time, after the cold of winter and jitters of spring, to get out and meet someone new or renew old relationships.

We are looking forward to what the summer may bring at St. Andrew, too. We greet summer with two biggies – our church picnic and Vacation Bible School to which we invite you to join us. The St. Andrew church picnic will be on June 2nd from 3:30 to 6 pm. We have lots of plans coming together. For the kids, we hope to offer a bounce house and balloons. We will enjoy the obligatory hot dogs and hamburgers on the grill. We will culminate our activities with volleyball. (Get ready v-ball players). We will close the night with Campfire Songs.

Our Vacation Bible School will pick up where our Picnic leaves us



– in God's Big Backyard. Our theme is called "**Under the Stars in God's Big Backyard**". Each evening, June 17th – 21st, we will explore the abundance of God's goodness out under the stars. Our Bible stories will feature God's people who discover God at night. Our focus will be serving our neighbors, friends and learning how to serve Jesus. We will enjoy a meal each evening starting at 5:15 pm and the program will go until 8 pm. The Adult Ministries Team is already shaping a great adult program for parents and members featuring lessons on how to carve out time in Sabbath and in God's creation. We will close the week with a Family Movie Night for VBS families and the community.

We invite you to join us in God's backyard this summer, where big things have the possibility to happen. In God's backyard this summer, we could grow in relationship with one another and grow deeper with God. In God's backyard this summer, we may discover the beauty of the earth that surrounds us and how God delights in our play. Come on out in the sun of the Picnic or out in the stars at VBS and see what God may do.

I bet we will have fun!

Ready to play!

Pastor Jessica

Cost-effective family time

One-tank trips: A simple Google search of our area will bring up a variety of ideas-just type in "One tank trips" and insert our state. Add to the fun and make your trip more special by making shirts for the entire family to wear. Vacation in Your Own Backyard: Put up a tent, grab your camping gear and have a campout in your backyard! Build a fire and cook hot dogs and s'mores. When it gets dark, bring out glow-sticks for everyone, play games and tell scary stories! Create Your Own Water Park: It's hard to resist playing in a sprinkler or sliding down a slick, wet piece of plastic. Kids love it! The only thing they would love more is to have you join them! For added fun, let the kids finger (or body) paint with pudding. Clean-up is just a quick run-through-the-sprinkler away!

Author of the Month

This month's author of the month is Tomie dePaola. He's been published for 40 years and has written and/or illustrated over 200 books, including *26 Fairmount Avenue*, *Strega Nona*, and *Meet the Barkers*.

Tomie dePaola and his work have been recognized with the Caldecott Honor Award, the Newbery Honor Award and the New Hampshire Governor's Arts Award of Living Treasure.

He lives in New London, New Hampshire with his new Airedale dog, Bronte. Be sure to stop by the library this month and check out some of his books. Your children will love them!

Letter from the NLC Board

As president of the NLC Board, I want to keep you informed about two recent decisions of the Board. As you've read elsewhere in the newsletter, we are excited about the summer adventure program the NLC is embarking on beginning this month. But while we look forward to challenging and encouraging our school age children with adventures, we know that our care for the younger children is equally important. Their challenges and need for encouragement never end. The reality is that in any preschool/child care center, enrollment goes down over the summer as families go on vacations or are able to spend more time at home with their young. Even though our enrollment may be decreased, our staffing costs remain the same. Most centers require families to maintain full enrollment through the summer in order to reserve their child's place in the center for the fall. The Board of the NLC has agreed that for the summer of 2013 at least, we can meet our obligations by requiring only a two-day enrollment through the summer. While that requirement is necessary for the stability of the NLC, it is also good for the children. Children like (need) a stable routine, and part of their routine now is coming to the NLC. This two-day minimum requirement affects only the "year-round" children, not the school-age children.

The Board has also increased the tuition rates for the Center. The chart below provides the new rates. For infants through age 4, these rates reflect a \$10 per week increase and will become effective on July 1, 2013. For the Kindergarten Enrichment and school age, the rates have been increased by \$15 per week and will become effective with the beginning of the school year enrollment next fall.

	5 days/wk	3 days/wk	2 days/wk
Infants	\$275	\$183	\$125
Toddlers	\$260	\$172	\$118
2's	\$250	\$166	\$114
3's	\$250	\$166	\$114
4's/Pre-K	\$240	\$160	\$110
K Enrichment	\$170	\$120	\$85
Before & After	\$140	\$140	\$140
After School	\$95	\$95	\$95

The Board joins me in thanking you for a wonderful school year. We wish you and all of your family a fun summer and look forward to a great new school year beginning in the fall. *Ibby Dickson*

JUNE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6 Last Day of School for	7 Tuition Due	8
9	10 Summer Camp Begins	11	12 Baseball Invented	13	14 Tuition Due	15 Parent's Night Out
16	17 Vacation Bible School	18 Wild West Day	19	20 Ice Cream Soda Day	21 Tuition Due	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Tuition Due	29
30						