

# Neighborhood News

The Neighborhood Learning Center's monthly newsletter

## The Center's Corner

On March 2, 2017, Dr. Seuss would have celebrated his 113th birthday! On this day, and throughout the month of March, we not only celebrate Dr. Seuss' whimsical way of viewing the world, but also the love of books and reading. Across the country, thousands of schools, libraries, and community centers celebrate by bringing together kids and books, and you can too!

Here are some tips for reading with your child from [www.Seussville.com](http://www.Seussville.com):

- ⇒ Pick a comfortable spot to read in - one with plenty of light.
- ⇒ Make it a routine - whether it's right before the breakfast, or right before bed, set aside a special time every day.
- ⇒ Give lots of encouragement! Read the words aloud to your child. Point to the pictures. Say the words together. Laugh with your child.
- ⇒ It's never too early. Reading can be a bonding activity for you and your new baby. Introduce reading in the very beginning, keep books in the nursery and have your books out for baby and toddler to see!
- ⇒ The fun continues after the last page! When you finish a story, ask your child about his/her favorite passages, characters, and illustrations.
- ⇒ Imagine that! Encourage your child to make up another character that might appear in the book. What would it look like? What would it say? What would you call it?
- ⇒ Letters and words are here, there, and everywhere! Dr. Seuss was a master of words, real and imagined. When you're driving with your child along a familiar route, read the signs aloud. Make your next trip to the grocery store an interactive one—read the names of food items aloud with your child. Make up new ones!

### Reminders...

- Make sure you send in a water bottle labeled with your child's name EVERY DAY.
- Have you learned the new door cipher? Ask a staff member if you need help!
- Please read all correspondence from your child's teacher. They work hard to keep communication clear and timely!

## March Highlights

### March 1:

Ash Wednesday—  
Imposition of Ashes 7:30am-  
3:00pm, Pancake Supper  
5:45pm, Worship 7:00pm

### March 2:

Dr. Seuss' Birthday

### March 7:

Wacky Hair Day!

### March 11:

Parents' Night Out 5:30pm-  
9:00pm

### March 12:

Daylight Savings—Spring  
Forward!

### March 14:

Wear a Crazy Hat!!

### March 16:

Seuss-tacular Magic Show  
at 10:30

### March 17:

St. Patrick's Day—wear  
**green!**

### March 20:

Earth Day  
1st Day of Spring

### March 21:

Wear Silly Socks!!

### March 24:

Waffle Day

### March 28:

Wear Red & Blue Day!

### March 31:

Picture Day starting at 9:00

## This Month at School...

Dr. Seuss is on the loose during the month of March! We celebrate Dr. Seuss and his love (and ours!!) for books through various fun activities and events.

- Send them to school with crazy hair on the 7th—gel, color, glitter, pig tails...use Seuss' illustrations as an inspiration!
- Parents' Night Out will be held on the 11th from 5:30pm-9:00pm hosted by Ms. Toni & Ms. Lee. Stay tuned to Facebook and the Front Desk for which movie and theme they will choose!
- Dig through those costume boxes and closets and pull out those crazy hats on the 14th!
- One of our favorite shows of the year is the "Seuss-Tacular Reading Show" by Dean Alan, the Wizard of Reading. He will be coming in on the 16th at 10:30am. The show is not to be missed!
- Don't forget to wear green for St. Patrick's Day!
- We give another nod to Dr. Seuss with a silly sock day on the 21st.
- On the 28th please send your child wearing red and blue, two of Dr. Seuss' favorite colors!
- Picture Day is on the 31st, so send the children with their best smiles and cutest outfits! Pictures will start at 9:00am beginning with the youngest. Sibling pictures will be taken together, as will class photos. After Picture Day you will be provided with an online link where you can view your child's photos and make any purchases you might desire. Our photographer is so talented at getting those perfect shots!

## Ms. Marcie's Departure

*For those who weren't able to attend NLC Sunday on Feb 26th, this is the Call to Worship Ally Fetch offered:*

My name is Ally Fetch and I feel so blessed to be part of this joyful noise this morning! I wear a lot of hats around this building....I'm an Elder on the St. Andrew Session, the NLC Business Manager, co-leader of the First Place 4 Health small group...this building is my second home (I think I might be here more than the pastors!) and both the congregation and NLC families are truly my second family.

This has been a difficult and challenging week at the NLC with the departure of our director, Marcie Peterson. She brought such love to the children every day, and dedication to the school she helped to grow during her four and a half years here, and it is hard for all of us to see her leave. We truly wish her blessings in all her future endeavors.

Times of transition are also times for growth. As the NLC steps forward into a new chapter, I took the opportunity to count some of our blessings.

- First, the incredible NLC staff, who always put the care of the children first in everything they do, who bring such energy, love, and grace to all they do.
- Second, the guidance of the NLC Board and the pastors, who help keep everything rolling along. Their leadership is so appreciated.
- Third, the NLC families who, in trust and faith, share their children with us every day. Whenever I need grounding, all I need to do is head to the nursery to cuddle a beautiful infant, or head to the toddler playground to see those smiles everywhere.
- And finally, our St. Andrew congregation, who supports the mission they started in the Neighborhood Learning Center through their prayers, time, and love.

We are truly blessed this day. Let us share that blessing by worshipping God together.

## The Chaplain's Corner:

### Lent in a Bag

On NLC Sunday, our school and church kids made their own "Lent in a Bag" to take home and use for the season of Lent. In Chapels, we are sharing that Lent is the 40 days preceding Easter that are set aside as a season of preparation, paralleling Jesus' own experience of being driven into the wilderness for 40 days to be tested and tempted. If you didn't get to build a Lent in a Bag, here are the directions so that you may build your own and use it during the next 40 days as your family practices Lent.

**Week 1: Sand** Just between his baptism and the beginning of his adult ministry, Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days, 'to be tested'. What constitutes wilderness in your life? What have you learned there? What might you learn there? Read the story of Jesus wandering in the desert. (Luke 4: 111) *Open the sand and touch it.*

**Week 2: Seeds** Watching a plant grow reminds us of the miracle of hope and transformation that is the promise of Easter. Where is hope in your life? Where is mystery? What transformation do you hope for during the season of Lent? Read the Parable of the Mustard Seed and the Parable of the Leavened Bread. (Matthew 13: 31-32, 33) *Plant your seeds.*

**Week 3: Rock** While in the wilderness, Jesus was tempted to transform stone into bread. Might there be a stony place in you that needs transforming? Some attitude or

habit that, with a little attention, might even become a gift for you and others?" Read the story of Zacchaeus. (Luke 19:110) *Hold your rock while you think.*

**Week 4: Shell** Historically, the season of Lent provided a time in which converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. Jesus began his ministry after his baptism. As someone who has been or will be baptized, what is your ministry? How are you living out the promises made at your baptism? Read the story of Jesus' baptism. (Luke 3: 21-22) *Share memories of your child's or your own baptism.*

**Week 5: Human Figure** Because Jesus was, as we confess, fully human, he gets us, understands us from inside our skin, and knows from experience that we're each capable of great things, Godly things. And no matter what we do, he keeps on inviting us to join us in his work which has become our own. As you enter this Lent, what might you plan to do over these 40 days so that the Easter you will more closely reflect you and the Christ who lives in and through you? Read the story of Jesus washing the disciple's feet. (John 13: 1-17) How can we live like Jesus?

**Week 6:** Candle Lent begins in the dimness of late winter and ends with the burst of bright spring. Jesus is, according to John's gospel, 'Light of the world' and that Light, directing his attention to his disciples and through them to us, insists: 'You are the light of the world. Don't be hiding under some bushel basket.' So where do you shine? How do you keep your light lit? *Sing "This little light of mine." How do you let your light shine?*

In God's Grace and Love,  
Pastor Jessica

## This Month at St. Andrew...

**Weekly Worship:** Saturdays 5pm; Sundays 10am

**NOTE:** Child care is available at all worship services for the littlest ones. For children age preschool and up, Sunday School is provided during Sunday worship services—your child starts the service sitting with you, will leave for Sunday School and then will return to you before the service concludes. The first Sunday of every month is Family First Sunday, when children remain in the service and their joyful noises are welcomed!

**Lenten Small Groups Forming**—Lenten Small Groups will begin the last week of February in preparation for Ash Wednesday on March 1st. Books, materials and signup

sheets are available in the main entry.

**March 1st—Ash Wednesday —Pancake Supper at 5:45pm, Worship Service at 7pm**—Imposition of Ashes will be available until 3:00pm. All are welcome for all events!

**March 3rd & 4th—30 Hour Famine**—Youth 6th grade and up are invited to join us with our Bethany and Harmony friends for this annual event that not only helps them to grow closer to Christ and each other, but also helps them to learn about and fight hunger.

**March 5th—Children's Choir sings in worship**

**March 18th & 19th—St. Andrew's 50th Anniversary Celebration Weekend**—Catered dinner on the 18th. Sign up in the church entryway!

# March 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			Ash 1 Wednesday Music	2 Dr. Seuss' Birthday Music	3 Yoga	4
5 Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss!	6 Chapel	7 Wacky Hair Day!! Music	8 Music	9 Music	10 Yoga	11 Parents' Night Out 5:30pm-9:00pm
12 Daylight Savings Green Eggs & Ham	13 Chapel	14 Wear a Crazy Hat!! Music	15 Music	16 Dr. Seuss Show 10:30	17 St. Patrick's Day Yoga	18
19 The Lorax	20 Earth Day 1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Spring Chapel	21 Wear Silly Socks!! Music	22 Music	23 Music	24 Waffle Day Yoga	25
26 Thing 1 & Thing 2	27 Chapel	28 Wear Red & Blue! Music	29 Music	30 Music	31 Picture Day Yoga	

**Notes: Dr. Seuss is on the Loose!!!!**

1 <sup>st</sup> Ash Wednesday	Imposition of Ashes available 7:00am – 3:00pm; Pancake Supper @ 5:45pm; Worship at 7:00pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dr. Seuss's Birthday; Staff Meeting	
12 <sup>th</sup> Daylight Savings Time Begins	Spring forward!
16 <sup>th</sup> Seuss-facular Magic Show @ 10:30am	Not to be missed!!
17 <sup>th</sup> St. Patrick's Day	Don't forget to wear green!
31 <sup>st</sup> Picture Day	Pack their best smiles...starts at 9:00. Individual and sibling portraits and class pictures will be taken.

www.calendarlabs.com