

Neighborhood News

The Neighborhood Learning Center's monthly newsletter

The Director's Corner

Greetings,

Spring has finally arrived! It is hard to believe it is already May with summer just around the corner. These photos were taken a few weeks ago when I went to visit my oldest daughter in DC. I have lived in the area for fourteen years and this is the first time I have experienced the cherry blossoms in full bloom. What a wonderful treat!

May is a busy month with Mother's Day, Teacher Appreciation, Pre-K Field Trip, Playground renovation, etc. We are preparing our annual Parent Survey and will be sending the link out soon. We want to hear from you. Please take a few minutes and fill it out. Your comments and feedback will aid us as we evaluate our program and plan for the summer and upcoming school year.

The Playground renovation will begin on May 4th. We want to thank Malloch Henderson for taking this on as his Eagle Scout project. If you would like to donate to help him reach his fundraising goal, you can write a check payable to Troop 969 and in the memo line put Malloch's Eagle project. Thanks for your support.

Blessings,

Jo Anna Rich



May Highlights

May 7, 14 & 21

Ballet Class for Birds and Owls

May 7–11

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 11

Muffins with Mom
6:30–8:30 am

May 13

Mother's Day

May 17

Tractor Day—Visit from
John Deere Tractors
10:00 am

May 18

Pizza Party Day

May 19

Parents' Night Out
5:30–9:00 pm

May 23

Pre-K Field Trip to Oatlands
Plantation

May 28

**NLC CLOSED FOR
MEMORIAL DAY**

Save the Date

**June 18—First Day of
Summer Camp**

**June 24–28—Vacation Bible
School (VBS) 5:45–8:15 pm**

**Sunday worship and
Sunday School every
Sunday at 10:00 am**

This Month at School...

May is a time when we learn about the Incredible Animals that share our world! We have LOTS of fun activities planned. Here are some highlights for the month:

- **Teacher Appreciation Week** is May 7th through 11th. Please see the article below for how you can recognize your child's amazing teachers!
- The Birds and Owls classes will enjoy three weeks of **Ballet classes** on Mondays starting May 7th. Ms. Judith Duffy began studying classical ballet at age 5, and she has taught ballet for over 30 years to all ages and levels of proficiency, with a special gift for working with ice skaters, gymnasts, graded Vaganova children's classes, and adults.
- Mother's Day is Sunday, May 13th, and we want to recognize all of our moms, grandmas, nanas, or any special lady in your child's life! Please join us on Friday, May 11th for **Muffins with Mom**, from 6:30—8:30am. We will have muffins, fruit, juice, coffee, and—most important—a chance to sit with your little one for a special time together to kick off the Mother's Day weekend. There will be a **Photo Booth**, too!
- Our *amazing* Joe Cahill, a dad in the Bees and Owls classrooms, will be bringing several John Deere tractors on Thursday the 17th at 10:00 am for **Tractor Day!** The children will learn about tractors, will get to touch and even sit in them! This annual event has become an absolute favorite here at the NLC!
- The Pre-K class will go on a fun-filled **Field Trip to Oatlands Plantation** on the 23rd. See below for details.
- **The NLC will be CLOSED on Monday, May 28th, in observance of Memorial Day.**

Pre-K Field Trip ~ Wednesday, May 23rd

The Owls class will travel to historic Oatlands Plantation in Leesburg for a Strawberry Tour! Oatlands and Wegmeyer Farms have partnered to offer this unique program. The strawberry field trip brings history and plant science to life. Students will pick strawberries and learn how they grow down at the strawberry field and also visit the historic greenhouse and gardens at Oatlands. A hayride transports students between the field and the historic buildings at Oatlands. Each student takes home a hand-picked (by them) pint of fresh from the field strawberries! Students will need to bring a packed bag lunch (NO NUTS) which they will enjoy as a picnic lunch after their tour. The buses will leave by 9:30 am, returning by 1:00 pm.

Teacher Appreciation Week

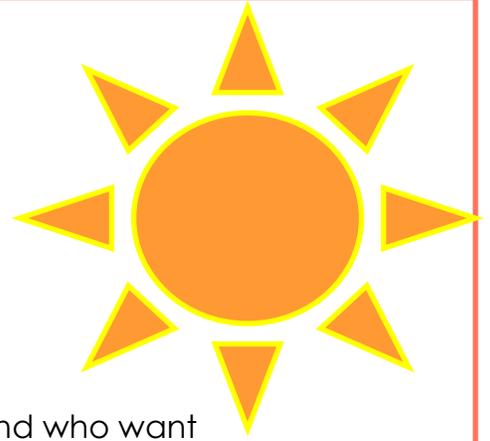
Monday—Friday, May 7th—11th

This is the perfect time to show the amazing teachers of the Neighborhood Learning Center just how awesome they are, and how much you appreciate the love and care they show your child every single day!

- We will be sending home a "flower" with every child on which to write something they love about their teacher(s). Please help them to write or draw something that we will then add to a mural in Fellowship Hall to make a beautiful bouquet of love and appreciation. Extra "flowers" will be available, so please fill out as many as you feel inspired, whether with a message from your child or yourself!
- If you'd like some ideas about what your child's teacher enjoys, see the "Favorites" binder on top of the Front Desk.
- If you're interested in getting together with some other parents to do a group gift such as a breakfast or lunch, please speak with Ms. Jo Anna or Ms. Lorie to coordinate to ensure there's no conflict with other events or meals.

This week means so much to our teachers. Thank you for showing them some love!

COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING (CIT) PROGRAM



Calling all high schoolers who **love kids** and who want to get some real-life **job experience**, all while **earning volunteer hours!**

- ◇ Come volunteer at The Neighborhood Learning Center to assist as a CIT in our school age Summer Camp which serves rising 1st – 5th graders!
- ◇ Each week you'll help chaperone field trips to fun places like the pool, local parks, and museums, AND you'll get to help assist at the Center with activities such as Arts & Crafts, Games, and even Science Experiments!
- ◇ You'll get a chance to shadow our experienced teachers, see what it's like to work in the childcare industry, earn some experience that will look great on your resume, and as you get older you'll be ready to step into a paid Camp Counselor role! Not to mention **have fun** with the kids!

When: Starting the week of June 18th through the week of August 13th. Sign up for one week, two weeks, or more! Camp hours are 8:30 am – 3:00 pm, Monday – Friday.

Where: The Neighborhood Learning Center is located inside St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in scenic Purcellville, Virginia.

Who: If you're a rising 9th through 12th grader who loves kids and who wants to see what it's like working with them, give being a CIT a try! It's also a great program for earning volunteer hours.

Apply: Fill out a program application, which includes providing references, and submit it to Director Jo Anna Rich at joanna@theneighborhoodlearningcenter.com. Once your application is received, we'll schedule an interview with our Director and Camp Leader to get to know you, and to give you some real-life experience in what it's like to go on a job interview. Pick up your application from Jo Anna.

What's Next: If you're chosen, you'll come to a training session at the start of the summer, so you'll be ready to jump right in!

April was FULL of fun and adventure!

Preparing to spread wildflower seeds with Mr. Barbagallo



Learning about seeds with the Loudoun Master Gardeners



Being Happy!!

Making Vegetable Stone Soup



Freshly hatched praying mantis'

Reading and parachute time



The Neighborhood Learning Center 2018 Summer Camp

Register Now!

Every week a new theme encourages campers to explore and learn, all while having FUN! The kids stay active, whether going on the regular field trips or staying in-house enjoying activities and games led by our awesome Staff! Summer Camp is for children entering 1st through 5th grades.

June 18-22: SURF'S UP! Get ready for a luau! Inspired by a Hawaiian beach party, this week we will dive into summer at both Volcano Island Water Park and the Franklin Park Pool. Our week of ocean-themed fun and exploration might lead us to explore questions like why the ocean tastes salty, or what lives on the ocean floor? This is the week we jump with both feet into these questions and more during our fun explorations, all topped off with – of course – an actual luau!

June 25-29: ANIMAL PLANET! Ever wonder why chameleons change colors, what materials birds use to build their nests, or why giraffes have purple tongues? We will find answers to these questions and more! We will visit the National Zoo in D.C., a local farm, and may even bring a petting zoo to us!

July 02-06: PARTY IN THE USA! As we celebrate our country's independence, we visit "For the Kids, By George" Children's Museum, inspired by the life of the young George Washington. Lots of patriotic activities including a cookout at a local park with our friends, a dip in the pool, and ice cream and apple pie fill the days. We will also hold a patriotic bike and scooter parade in the parking lot, followed by water play and popsicles!

July 09-13: CREATIVE FRENZY! From painting to sculpting to drawing and more, campers are encouraged to express their inner artists and let their imaginations soar all week long. To explore the beautiful world around us and let our creative juices flow we will take a trip to Skyline Caverns – truly God's canvas! –and will visit with a local artist. Cooling off in the pool might not be artistic, but it sure is a great way to enjoy the summer! Art show at the end of the week!

July 16-20: PICTURE PERFECT! Campers will explore the tools necessary to capture great photos and videos, as well as composition and attention to detail. Visiting Great Falls will be a great place for photos, and going to a movie will allow us to observe cinematography in action! We will add some of our photo projects to the art show we started the prior week.

July 23-27: MEGA SPORTS! This week we focus on fitness fun and experiencing a variety of different sports and games, both indoor and out. Campers can play familiar favorites like freeze tag and soccer, and can try some new sports and games, too (Quidditch, anyone?). Field trips to a bowling center and Sport Bounce of Loudoun are also on tap!

July 30-Aug 03: BLOCK PARTY! Dream it. Build it. Wreck it. Repeat! Campers will construct simple and elaborate objects, structures, and vehicles, using different materials. We'll build using items like Lego blocks, but also unusual materials such as paper and string, or even food items, all while exploring fundamental principles of engineering and physics. Field trips include a trip to Udvar-Hazy to learn about airplane engineering, and the National Building Museum in D.C.

Aug 06-10: MAD SCIENTIST! Get out your goggles, magnifying glasses, and microscopes! We will create fun experiments like building our own volcanoes, collecting items to grow in petri dishes and then checking them out under a microscope, and making our own crystals. Our scientific minds will be working overtime this week! Field trips include the Children's Science Center and walking the nature trail at Franklin Park to explore the local flora and fauna. And every mad scientist must experiment with what floats and what sinks by visiting a water park!

Aug 13-16: OUR WACKY AND WET SUMMER! Water, water everywhere, and everyone will get wet! Towels and swimsuits are a must every day this week as we have fun cooling off with water, both in house and out and about. We will head to the AV Symington Aquatic Center and Jay Dee's Family Fun Center's water park for our outings, and will enjoy fun water-themed games and activities in-house all week long.

Aug 20-22: LAST LAZY DAYS OF SUMMER! With 3 days of summer left before school starts, we will relax at the NLC and take one final trip to the local pool. Chalking up the sidewalks, having a bubble blowing frenzy, signing each other's summer camp tees, scrapbooking our summer adventures, making ice cream or getting comfy while we watch a movie or read a good book, this week will be the perfect end to an amazing summer! Rising Kindergartners will join the summer camp fun this week!



To Register:

- Complete your registration online at www.tnlcenter.com
- Email your completed form to info@theneighborhoodlearningcenter.com
- Drop off (or mail) your completed form at our Center:
711 W Main St, Purcellville, VA 20132

2018 SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION FORM

**ATTEND 4 OR MORE FULL WEEKS AND RECEIVE \$10 OFF EACH WEEK OF SUMMER CAMP TUITION
AND YOU MAY PAY THE CAMP RATE EACH WEEK OF THE CAMP ATTENDED!**

Attend fewer than 4 full weeks and payment for all camps must be received in full on or before June 5th, 2018
Space is limited. Registration will continue until each camp is full.

SUMMER CAMP RATES

- Full week (4 or 5 days) = \$235 per week
- Daily = \$60 per day (No Discounts for Daily Drop Ins)
- Non-refundable registration fee \$50 (Includes 2 shirts)
- Family discounts for multiple children
- *Week of Aug 20 – 22 Summer Camp tuition is \$150.
August 23rd and 24th will be charged at prorated School-Age Program rates

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Summer Camp is from 8:30 to 3:00 p.m.
- *Center Hours: 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.* Extended care available at no additional cost!
- Weekly tuition includes all activity fees!
- For some field trips, campers will need to pack a sack lunch. Parents will be notified in advance.

Select Your Camps	Circle Your Requested Days Per Week						Total Due
___ June 18 – 22	M	T	W	TH	F		\$ _____
___ June 25 – 29	M	T	W	TH	F		\$ _____
___ July 02 – 06	M	T	CLOSED	TH	F		\$ _____
___ July 09 – 13	M	T	W	TH	F		\$ _____
___ July 16 – 20	M	T	W	TH	F		\$ _____
___ July 23 – 27	M	T	W	TH	F		\$ _____
___ July 30 – Aug 03	M	T	W	TH	F		\$ _____
___ Aug 06 – 10	M	T	W	TH	F		\$ _____
___ Aug 13 – 16	M	T	W	TH	CLOSED		\$ _____
___ *Aug 20 – 22	M	T	W	School Starts 8/23/18			\$ _____
<i>Non-refundable registration fee (includes two shirts)</i>						+	\$ 50.00

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____

CHILD Name: _____ Grade Entering: _____ Shirt Size: (Circle) YXS YS YM YL AS

Parent Name: _____

E-mail(s): _____ Phone: _____

We accept checks, cash or weekly ACH Direct Debit for Summer Camp payments.

The \$50 registration fee must accompany this form to complete the registration process. Payment for ALL CAMPS must be received ***in full on or before June 5th***, unless your child is attending 4 or more full weeks and you wish to use the weekly payment option.

CANCELLATION RESPONSIBILITIES: YOU MUST CANCEL IN WRITING BY THE MONDAY PRIOR TO THE WEEK YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO ATTEND, OR YOU WILL BE CHARGED FOR THE WEEK. **NO EXCEPTIONS.** Thank you for your cooperation!

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the above stated cancellation policy.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

The Pastor's Epistle:

Spirit Alone/Spirit Together

After walking across Spain with my daughter Karen four years ago, I've kept up "my Camino" by walking miles and miles. Two or three days a week, Bonnie will drop me off at Routes 9 and 7 and I will walk the six-and-a-half miles home. Most of the time, I take our Jack Russell, Frodo, with me. He wails as we leave on those days when I want to make the walk without him. I sometimes need a break from his constant leash-pulling pursuit of squirrels and seek the solitary stroll. Having walked the famed "Camino de Santiago" in Spain, I keep my walk as my way of having that spiritual time for thoughts and prayers, for keeping my head together. I find that the physical assertion of my fast pace helps to ground me, which is my way of keeping my earlier pilgrim journey alive.

I hope that you also have some way of personal rest and renewal. You might not walk (or maybe you walk on the golf course!). Perhaps you paint, or read, or garden, or take time to play with your kids. There is much in the Bible about keeping the Sabbath. More than a rule, the practice is meant to characterize human beings as having a measure of the freedom of God. We aren't slaves – to work, to the bills, to a comparison we might make between ourselves and the Jones's. We are commanded to stop! We To stop from our busy-ness regularly so that we can remember that our lives are a gift from God and to be lived so fully that we feel like opening our hearts to return thanks.

I've heard people talk about these solitary spaces as the places they most find God. So we hike. We fish. We sew. We write letters. Some even brew beer! But the

Sabbath also extends an invitation to worship in the company of others.

For me, the gathering for worship on Sundays complements my solitary walking. Just as I find that my six-and-a-half miles goes much faster if I have a partner for the day's walk, I also know that the presence of others energizes me. David Brooks, among many others, emphasizes how we are "social animals," as human beings. In just such a way, we find that sense of flourishing when we gather together for our worship.

A visitor to one of our recent Music with a Cause concerts asked what our worship was like at St. Andrew. With the morning service still in mind, I described it as "wonderful"! Married to a Baptist, while he was raised as a Roman Catholic, the man was asking whether we followed a formal pattern of worship with a bit of freedom included. Yes, that well describes our worship, but we both appreciated my outburst.

I hope that the members, friends and visitors at St. Andrew can reaffirm that sense of made-in-God's-image-freedom that we get when we rest and renew ourselves in things like hiking, reading and the like. I hope that we can also find the sense of that same freedom when we set aside that time to gather – singing our songs, hearing and reflecting on sacred Scripture and the life and teaching of Jesus Christ, praying those deeply held prayers also described as "sighs too deep for words." Bless your busy lives with those moments to set the busy-ness aside.

Yours with delight,



Pastor Dave Milam

Coming Up at St. Andrew...

Weekly Worship: *Sundays 10am*

NOTE: Child care is available for the littlest ones during worship. 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.

Saturday, May 5th—Music with a Cause Concert—Loudoun Chorale—7:00 pm—Proceeds to go to ECHO (Every Citizen Has Opportunities), a Leesburg non-profit offering lifelong support for adults with disabilities. Tickets \$20. Kids 17 and under are free.

Saturday, May 19th—Trustee Workday—8:00 am—2:00 pm—All hands on deck for some work around the church building and grounds! Come for breakfast and stay to lend a hand—all ages, skills and abilities are welcome!

Sunday, May 20th—Confirmation & Pentecost—Our confirmation class will complete their journey and be confirmed. We hope you can come and support them!

Tuesday, May 22nd—Daryl Davis Talk: Healing the Divide—7:00 pm—Davis has received numerous local and national awards for his work in race relations, and is often sought after by CNN, MSNBC and numerous other media outlets as a consultant on the KKK and race relations and lectures nationwide and abroad on the topic. Please join us for this FREE event—invite your friends and neighbors!

May 2018

Monthly Theme: Incredible Animals

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Chapel	2	3 National Day of Prayer	4 Space Day Music & Movement	5
6 Worship & Sunday School 10 am	7 Ballet for Birds & Owls	8 Chapel	9 Lost Sock Memorial Day	10	11 Muffins with Mom 6:30 – 8:30 am Music & Movement	12
13 Mother's Day Worship & Sunday School 10 am	14 Ballet for Birds & Owls	15 Chocolate Chip Day Chapel	16	17 Tractor Day 10:00 am	18 Pizza Party Day Music & Movement	19 Parents' Night Out 5:30 - 9:00
20 Pentecost Worship & Sunday School 10 am	21 Ballet for Birds & Owls	22 Chapel	23 Pre-K Field Trip to Oatlands	24 Scavenger Hunt Day	25 Music & Movement	26
27 Worship & Sunday School 10 am	28 NLC CLOSED for Memorial Day	29 Chapel	30	31		

May 7th - 11th - **Teacher Appreciation Week** - If you would like ideas about what your teacher enjoys, see the "Favorites" folder at the front desk. Show them some LOVE!

May 11th - **Muffins with Mom** - Please join us at drop off from 6:30 - 8:30 am for muffins, fruit, and juice/coffee so we can show our love to our fabulous NLC moms!

May 23rd - **Pre-K Field Trip** - The 4s will travel to Oatlands Plantation for their Strawberry Education Program, which includes a wagon ride to a strawberry field for picking!

Save the Date!

- **VBS (Vacation Bible School)** is fast approaching! Running from Sunday, June 24th through Thursday, June 28th, ALL FAMILIES are invited to these free, fun-filled evenings! Dinner will start at 5:15 pm, with the program starting at 6:00 pm and ending at 8:15 pm. Bring a friend!