

Neighborhood News

The Neighborhood Learning Center's monthly newsletter

February Highlights

Introducing Half Day Preschool at The Neighborhood Learning Center!

These classes are designed for children who do not need full day care, but whose parents want to give them a class experience with their peers to help prepare them for Kindergarten. These programs, like all of our programs, will seek to grow the child physically, emotionally, socially, intellectually, and spiritually.

Program runs September 9, 2019 – May 22, 2020

(If LCPS is closed, the half day program is also closed that day)

3-Year-Old Class (turn 3 years old by September 30th, 2019)

9 am – 12 pm, Tuesday, Thursday

\$195 monthly

Annual, non-refundable Registration Fee of \$100

Pre-K Class (turn 4 years old by September 30th, 2019)

9 am – 12 pm, Monday, Wednesday, Friday

\$255 monthly

Annual, non-refundable Registration Fee of \$100

Registration opens

February 25th, 2019

Space is limited! Only 12 students per class, with 2 teachers per class, and we will fill up quickly!

If you know of anyone who might be interested in this new program, have them contact us for more information!

February 1

Wear Your Favorite Sports Jersey/Colors

February 9

Parents' Night Out 5:30–9:00

February 14

Valentine's Day Class Parties

February 15

Visit from Purcellville Pediatric Dentistry 10 am

February 18

NLC CLOSED in observance of Presidents Day

February 25

Owls receive visitors from Mac Brownell Adult Day Center

Mondays in February

Mercier School of Dance
Registration Required

Wednesdays in February

Family Night—ALL ages
Dinner 6:00–7:15 pm

Thursdays in February

Wee Little Arts
Registration Required

Thursdays in February

AcroKidz
Registration Required

Sunday worship and Sunday

School every Sunday at
10:00 am

February Staff Birthdays

5 Amy Lynn Helwig
(substitute)

25 Amanda Waldron (Bird House)



This Month at School...

February is a time to learn about our bodies and how to keep them healthy!

- **Parents' Night Out** on Saturday the 9th from 5:30—9:00 pm is the perfect date night for Valentine's Day!
- See the signup sheets later this week outside your child's classroom door regarding **Class Valentine Parties**.
- We are looking forward to our annual visit on the 15th at 10 am from **Purcellville Pediatric Dentistry** to learn about our teeth and how to keep them healthy!
- The **NLC will be CLOSED** on Monday the 18th for Presidents Day. Our NLC staff will spend the day here at the Center for a Staff Development Day including CPR/First Aid recertification, a presentation on classroom management, and ample time to refresh their rooms for the coming Spring!
- The Owls class will receive their monthly **visit from the Mac Brownell Adult Day Center** on the 25th.
- **Family Nights** continue every Wednesday. Come join us for dinner at 6:00 pm, followed by activities and programming for all ages, children through adults, with events concluding by 7:15pm sharp. Family members of all ages are welcome for this free fellowship event sponsored by St. Andrew.
- **Wee Little Arts** will continue their extracurricular classes every Thursday for the Birds, Owls, and School Agers. Visit weelittlearts.com to register.
- The **Acrokidz Bus** will continue visits on Thursdays for our preschoolers 2s and older. To register for this optional, extracurricular class, visit www.acrokidz.net.
- The **Mercier School of Dance** will continue their Creative Movement and Ballet & Tap Classes on Mondays. Visit mercierschoolofdance.com to register for this optional extracurricular class.

NEW Extracurricular Activity—Spring Into STEM!

Brainiacs STEM center, located out of Lovettsville, VA, will come to the NLC this spring for a Spring into STEM series! Starting in March, students in Birds, Owls, and our School Agers will be able to participate in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) classes. Students can explore the season of Spring with a variety of hands-on STEM activities and fun! Students can enjoy chromatography butterflies, seed germination, fizzy rainbows and more! Registration forms will be sent home, and will be available at the Front Desk for this fully OPTIONAL class.

Referral Credits

You can earn \$75 for every family you refer who enrolls their child(ren)! Also, if we missed providing a deserved referral credit—please let us know. We are very appreciative and would hate to overlook anyone!

Family Nights

Wednesday evenings from 6:00—7:15

Join us for a fun-filled, midweek gathering where you can reconnect and recharge with your NLC & St. Andrew Family and Friends!
Dinner kicks off at 6:00 pm, followed by programming and fun for kids and adults.

Invite your friends and neighbors!

The Neighborhood Learning Center 2019 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 Kindergarten through rising 6th graders.

June 10-14: DREAM IT. BUILD IT. WRECK IT. REPEAT!

Kick off the summer dreaming big! Campers will build elaborate objects, structures, and vehicles, all while exploring fundamental principles of engineering and physics. In addition to using a variety of building materials in-house during the week, campers will have a blast visiting Bricks 4 Kidz where they will learn, build, and play with Lego bricks! A trip to the pool is on the agenda for our older campers, while the younger ones will enjoy a trip to a local park to explore and play.

June 17-21: SELF EXPRESSION! There are so many amazing ways to express ourselves – through music, art, sculpting, drawing, and many more! In-house skits to explore drama, sculpting with clay, and our own karaoke party will all be enjoyed this week! All campers will cool off at Volcano Island Water Park one day, with a second field trip for our younger campers to the bowling alley, and a trip for our older friends to Berryville Park and Willie's Ice Cream.

June 24-28: HANDS AROUND THE WORLD! We want to take campers on an adventure around the world, learning about different cultures and discussing heritage. We can't wait to celebrate what makes each of us unique! The field trips this week will take campers to the Sully Historic Site to learn about colonial life, and to the movies followed by a picnic lunch in the park.

July 01-05: COMMUNITY HEROES! You don't have to go to the movies to find a hero – there are plenty of them right in our community! Campers will take a trip to the fire house to meet some of them and learn how fire fighters keep us safe. In addition, campers will enjoy a trip to Sport Bounce with a picnic lunch to follow.

July 08-12: GOING GREEN! Campers will learn how one person's trash can be another person's treasure by turning recycled materials into beautiful and useful items! A tour of our local landfill is also on the agenda where we will watch 40-ton tractors smash trash and will get quizzed on recycling! A dip in the Franklin Park Pool is also scheduled.

July 15-19: BRAIN GAMES! Just because it's summer doesn't mean our brains get a vacation! This week, campers will show off their problem-solving abilities and will test their fine motor skills through puzzles, word games, mathematics, sorting, stacking, and more! Brainiacs will pay us a visit here at the Center, encouraging curiosity while learning through their "Imagine, Discover, Create" model. We will also take a trip to both Monster Mini Golf and the movie theatre!

July 22-26: FOOD FOR THOUGHT! Kitchen fundamentals and culinary techniques are on the menu this week as campers tie on their aprons and create yummy snacks. They will be master chefs in no time! A "behind the scenes" tour at Domino's Pizza is on the calendar for all campers. The younger campers will also visit Temple Hall Park, and the older kids will enjoy JD's Family Fun!

July 29-Aug 2: MIND BLOWING TRICKS! This week we are challenging campers to come up with their best creative toppling tricks using all sorts of different objects and materials! In addition, the older campers will head to Curiosity Zone while the younger ones visit Winchester's Discovery Museum. All campers will take a trip to the bowling alley and try to topple as many pins as possible!

Aug 5-9: STEM SQUAD! Challenging and fun projects encourage collaboration, decision-making, and innovation! While working together to solve problems, campers will develop a love of science, technology, engineering, and math. A visit to Blandy Farm will teach campers about mammals and insects, while Volcano Island Water Park lets them cool off while investigating ideas such as buoyancy and physics first hand.

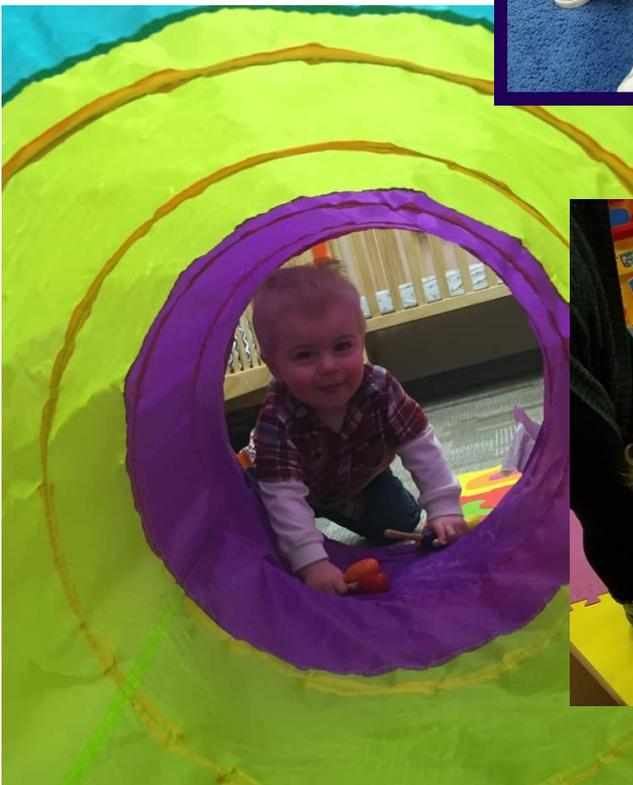
Aug 12-16: GAME CHANGER! We hope our campers are ready for some good old-fashioned fun! They will have a blast building their skills in a variety of indoor and outdoor games. Maybe Marco Polo while at the Franklin Park Pool? And how about soccer while at Berryville Park? Board games, group games, you name it, we play it!

Aug 19-21: LAST LAZY DAYS OF SUMMER! During these last three days of summer camp, campers will relax, chill, and share their favorite moments about our summer camp experiences. Back to school on Thursday, August 22nd.

****NOTE:** Field Trips are subject to change.



Life sure is fun when you're a toddler!!



Ms. Kendra's Hummingbirds loved playing in the snow in the warmth of their own classroom!



The Pastor's Epistle: Unbind Your Heart

I've just returned from a fantastic vacation in California. I was in a rock band in our San Diego high school. Besides loving and playing rock music, we'd often go to the San Diego Sports Arena to hear the likes of Led Zeppelin, Fleetwood Mac, and Elton John, among many others. If you've seen the movie *Almost Famous*, to some degree it was about us.

Inspired by the Elton John Farewell Yellow Brick Road tour, I texted my friends and asked if we could meet for the L.A. concert in late January. One came from Hawaii, one from Seattle and the other still lives in San Diego. Even though it had been decades since we had seen each other, the laughter around our dinners together, the old stories, the easy familiarity was kind of like getting back on a bike after some layoff. Our bonds returned as quickly and naturally as getting your balance again and going straight ahead.

Our friendships came from going to high school together, surfing, rocking, and coming of age in that wonderful corner of the world. Some of us also became Christians together. In college we would spend time together in a Bible study where we talked deeply about who God is and how the grace of Jesus Christ defines how God gifts us with life. It's wonderful how friendships make one feel so alive and can sustain a sense of your identity over such a long time. It's one of God's most marvelous gifts to us as human beings.

One of the things I've noticed about the NLC is that many of you as parents have been making friendships with each other. I can't tell you how fantastic that is to me. It wasn't

something we planned for in creating the school, but it is fitting. Knowing the wonderful kids you have and the crazy busy lives you lead, I'm sure that having others to connect with and to laugh with is super important.

At the St. Andrew church, we believe that building community is a key ingredient to our purpose. We actually have had several NLC families join us in ways that have enriched us with such community.

Starting in March, for six weeks, we are organizing into several small groups, seeking to create similar opportunities for friendship. In an event called "Unbinding Your Heart," we will focus on what it's like to have faith, to talk about it, to have it become a part of our lives when we are with others in our neighborhoods, at the grocery store and with those who at other times we might likely ignore. Having the experience of deepening your faith by talking with others so that we become more comfortable with such sharing, is something that makes bonds that both invite God to be real to us, but also to find how wonderful it is to share that experience with others.

As always, we wish to extend a welcome to our NLC families to participate. We will be starting several groups where the members are new to one another, seeking to create new friendships. If you're interested in joining us, speak to me, to Jo Anna, Ally or Lorie. We would be delighted to include you. Back from my band reunion and the 2:45 minute Elton farewell concert, I am well reminded how life transforming and sustaining friendship is.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Dave

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, February 9—10:00 am—Believing & Belonging Class—Please come join this exciting series to deepen your faith in Scripture and learn about fellowship at St. Andrew. Childcare will be offered. Contact Pastor Dave if you're interested at revdocdavem@aol.com.

Saturday, February 9—8:00 am—Trustee Workday—Come help with some light work around the building and grounds...many hands make light work!

Sunday, February 10—DC TOP Trip—The youth will be traveling into DC to serve the homeless as part of the DC Teens Opposing Poverty program. Contact Pastor Dave if you're interested at revdocdavem@aol.com.

Sunday, February 17—6:00-9:00 pm—Appetizer Social Potluck & Game Night—Older children are welcome to join the games while the younger children will have their own supervised fun in the basement. Sign up in the church entry!

SAVE THE DATE—May 31-June 2—All Church Retreat at Camp Highroad

February 2019

Theme: My Body

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Wear Your Favorite Sports Jersey/Colors	2
3 Adult Sunday School 9 am Worship & Sunday School 10 am	4 National Homemade Soup Day Mercier School of Dance**	5 Chapel	6 Music & Movement Family Night	7 AcroKidz** Wee Little Arts**	8	9 Parents Night Out 5:30 – 9:00
10 Adult Sunday School 9 am Worship & Sunday School 10 am	11 National Inventor's Day Mercier School of Dance**	12 Chapel	13 Music & Movement Family Night	14 AcroKidz** Wee Little Arts** Valentine's Class Parties	15 Visit from Purcellville Pediatric Dentistry 10:00	16
17 Worship & Sunday School 10 am	18 NLC CLOSED for President's Day; NLC Staff	19 Chapel	20 Music & Movement Family Night National Love Your Pet Day	21 AcroKidz** Wee Little Arts**	22	23
24 Worship & Sunday School 10 am	25 Visitors from Mac Brownell Adult Day Center to Owls Mercier School of Dance**	26 Chapel	27 Music & Movement Family Night	28 AcroKidz** Wee Little Arts**		

OF NOTE... ** Designates Registration Required Classes

- **AcroKidz**** - 2s and Older 9:45 am
- **Wee Little Arts**** – Birds & Owls 2:45 – 3:30 K – 5th Grade 3:45 – 4:30
- **Mercier School of Dance**** – 2s & 3s Creative Movement 3:00 – 3:30
3s and older Ballet & Tap 3:30 – 4:00
- **Family Night** – Dinner at 6 pm. Activities for children and adults 6:30 – 7:15 pm.
OPEN TO EVERYONE!