

February, 2020

# Neighborhood News

*The Neighborhood Learning Center's monthly newsletter*

## **The Director's Corner—The State of the NLC**

Every January the NLC Board presents an annual report to the Session and members of St. Andrew regarding the state of the NLC. Here are some of the highlights:

- There are currently 128 children enrolled and 36 staff members. The preschool is near capacity in all classes from age infant through pre-K, with a waitlist of 20 prospective enrollees.
- Our Summer Camp program continues to grow in attendance and was at capacity for most of the summer of 2019.
- The year 2019 saw both expected and surprising upgrades and enhancements. The existing carpet in the upstairs classrooms was replaced with hard floors, which are more sanitary and easily cleaned, while the Cub House received carpet squares to replace the original carpet. The upstairs hallway and classrooms received a fresh coat of paint. A new air conditioner unit was added, improving basement air flow. The existing Wi-Fi capabilities were upgraded, allowing teachers in the back hallway and basement to now access the network.
- The NLC continues to meet its financial responsibilities to St. Andrew including paying the monthly mortgage, the majority of the cleaning bills, and adding a reserve fund for St. Andrew's use.
- The NLC Board is establishing the "NLC Plan 2022," which is setting both short- and long-term goals for the Center. Plans to improve drainage and equipment on the back playground are in the works. During 2020, the NLC will be taking steps to become paperless. We will use the new Wi-Fi capabilities to move to a tablet-based system of tracking attendance, daily sheets, and communication with parents.
- We give thanks to so many within the community for helping to make the NLC the wonderful and sought-after learning facility it is today. Our NLC families are very supportive through their referrals to friends and families; generous donations of toys, books, and outgrown clothing (for our spare clothes bins), organization of fundraisers solely for the benefit of our Center; and the gift of their time and resources.
- Ways you can continue to help: Link your Harris Teeter and Giant Food cards; if you have a special skill or ability you would like to share, or if you think your job would be interesting to learn about, please let us know; We would love to have a pianist to accompany the children during our Christmas program and pre-K graduation; Tell your friends and neighbors about us; "Like" our Facebook page so you can keep up on all the fun activities and pictures we share!

Blessings,

Jo Anna Rich

## **This Month's Highlights**

- February 3**  
*Wear Your Favorite Team Shirt/Colors to School*
- February 7**  
St. Andrew Tween Night for 4th and 5th Graders 6:30 pm
- February 8**  
Trustee Workday 8 am—come lend a hand!
- February 14**  
*Wear RED Day*  
Valentine's Day Class Parties
- February 15**  
Parents' Night Out 5:30—9:00
- February 17**  
NLC CLOSED for President's Day & Staff Development Day
- February 19**  
Visit from Purcellville Pediatric Dentistry 10 am
- February 24**  
Visit from Mac Brownell Adult Day Center to Owls Class 11 am
- February 26**  
Ash Wednesday—Imposition of Ashes all day; Pancake Supper 6 pm; Worship 6:30 pm
- Every Wednesday Evening**  
St. Andrew Family Night 6:00 -7:30 pm. All are welcome!
- Sunday worship and Sunday School every Sunday at 10:00 am**

### **February Staff Birthdays**

- 15 Amy Blair (Bird Nest)  
25 Amanda Waldron (Bird House)

## This Month at School...

During the month of February we think of love and Valentine's Day...how about loving ourselves by learning about health!

- Show your team spirit by **wearing your team's shirt and/or colors** to school on Monday, February 3rd! (*Go Caps!*)
- If you have a 4th or 5th grader, bring them to **Tween Night** on Friday the 7th starting at 6:30 for dinner, fellowship, and LOTS of fun!
- St. Andrew's Trustees are appointed positions within the church who are tasked with the care and maintenance of the church (and school!) building and grounds. Please consider lending a hand for their next **Trustee Workday** on Saturday the 8th at 8 am. No skills needed, a task can be found for everyone!
- On Valentine's Day, our children will celebrate with **Valentine's Class Parties**—sign up sheets will be posted outside your child's classroom door. Don't forget to **wear RED** this day, too!
- **Parents' Night Out** is Saturday the 15th from 5:30—9:00 pm—sign up at the Front Desk.
- The **NLC is CLOSED** February 17 in observance of Presidents Day. Our staff will meet for a Staff Development Day including First Aid/CPR recertification.
- Learning how to care for our teeth is important, and we are grateful to **Purcellville Pediatric Dentistry** for paying us a visit on Wednesday the 19th at 10 am to teach us about good dental hygiene!
- Monthly visits with our friends from the **Mac Brownell Adult Day Center** to the Owls class will continue Monday the 24th at 11 am.
- **Ash Wednesday**—see the information below.
- It's the heart of winter and a perfect time to celebrate **Polar Bear Day** on the 27th.
- **St. Andrew's Family Nights** continue every Wednesday night in February from 6:00 til 7:30 pm. *All are welcome*, please come join us for dinner and activities for both children and adults.

### Ash Wednesday

**February 26**

Ash Wednesday signals the beginning of the season of Lent, which is a time to prepare for Easter. It lasts 40 days, not counting Sundays.

On Ash Wednesday, we put ashes on our foreheads to signify our repentance and sorrow for our sins.

Lent is a time of penance and purification, a time of turning toward God once again, and a time to get ourselves ready for the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of our Lord.

Imposition of Ashes available 7 am – 6 pm

Pancake Supper 6:00 pm

Worship 6:30 pm

### 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!**

### Summer Camp

**Registration for School Ageds (rising Kindergartners through rising 6th graders) will start February 18th!  
Camp details and registration forms will be sent home and posted online as soon as they are finalized.**

**January was a month for dreaming and magic! Our toddlers explored snow in the warmth of their own classroom, looked for shapes in the clouds, and we all oohed and ahed during the Dean Alan Magic Show!**



# The Neighborhood Learning Center ~ Menu for February 2020

Whole milk is served to children under 2 and 2% milk is served to all others. Menus are subject to change.

\*May contain eggs ^May contain milk (T) = Toddler WG = Whole Grain

		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Feb 3-7	Breakfast	WG Cereal Fruit Milk	Pancake Wrapped Sausage^* Fruit Milk	WG Cereal Fruit Milk	WG Oatmeal Banana Milk	WG Cereal Fruit Milk
	Lunch	Taco Salad^ Corn Wheat Roll Milk	Chicken Noodle Soup Carrots Crackers Pears Milk	Chicken Teriyaki w/ Rice Broccoli Pineapple Milk	Mac & Cheese^* Green Beans Peaches Milk	Turkey Meatball Sub^ Potato Rounds Mixed Fruit Milk
	Snack	Graham Crackers Cream Cheese Water	Whole Wheat Pita Ham Water	Veggie Straws Raisins Water	Applesauce Animal Crackers Water	Variety Water
Feb 10-14	Breakfast	WG Cereal Fruit Milk	Pancakes^* Berries Milk	WG Cereal Fruit Milk	Sausage Biscuit^* Fruit Milk	WG Cereal Fruit Milk
	Lunch	Roast Beef & Noodles Broccoli & Cheese^ Pears Milk	Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese^ w/ Whole Wheat Bread Fruit Milk	Shepherd's Pie^ (Chicken, corn, carrots, potatoes) Wheat roll Peaches Milk	Breaded Chicken Nuggets Corn Pineapple Milk	Pasta & Spaghetti Sauce Salad & Cucumbers w/ Dressing**^ Mixed Fruit Milk
	Snack	Pudding^ Banana Water	Goldfish^ Sliced Apples/ Applesauce (T) Water	Trail Mix Water	Sliced Cheese^ WG Wheat Thins/Ritz Crackers (T) Water	Valentine's Parties Cookies & Fruit (T)
Feb 17-21	Breakfast	<b>NLC CLOSED in Observance of President's Day</b>  <b>Staff Development Day</b>	Yogurt^ Granola Fruit Milk	WG Cereal Fruit Milk	Blueberry Mini-Muffin* Banana Milk	WG Cereal Fruit Milk
	Lunch		Chili Mac Cornbread^^ Peaches Milk	Meatloaf^* Mashed Potatoes^ Wheat Roll Mixed Fruit Milk	WG Breaded Fish Nuggets Green Beans Pineapple Milk	WG Chicken Patty on a Bun^ Salad & Cucumbers w/ Dressing^^* Pears Milk
	Snack		Nachos Salsa/Cheese^ Saltines (T) Water	Grapes Pretzels w/ Dip^ Crackers (T) Water	Jell-O w/ Fruit Cheese Itz^ Water	Cheese Sticks^ Ritz Crackers Water
Feb 24-28	Breakfast	WG Cereal Fruit Milk	Waffles^* Blueberries Milk	WG Cereal Fruit Milk	Whole Wheat Bagels Cream Cheese^ Fruit Milk	WG Cereal Fruit Milk
	Lunch	Beans & Franks Wheat Roll Pears Milk	Grilled Ham & Cheese^ Carrots & Dip**^ Pineapple Milk	Chicken Pot Pie^ w/ Potatoes & Corn Peaches Milk	Goulash Salad & Cucumbers w/ Dressing**^ Fruit Milk	Chicken Salad* Hawaiian Roll Green Beans Fruit Milk
	Snack	Yogurt Cup^ Goldfish^ Water	Pepperoni Cheese^ Ritz Crackers Water	Graham Crackers Bananas Water	Mandarin Oranges Cheese Itz^ Water	Breakfast Bar 100% Fruit Juice Water

## The Pastor's Epistle Financial Peace University

Hans and Stacy Newton will be facilitating a Dave Ramsay Financial Peace University starting this Sunday evening from 4—5:30 pm. Yes, they realize that the Super Bowl will be getting underway only an hour after this first week's session begins. Yet, in order to finish the 9-week course before Easter break, it needed to start this week. Even at this late date, parents of the NLC are invited to join the other 30 who have already registered for the class.

The Newtons are two-time graduates of Financial Peace. Through it, they paid off six figures of student loan and other debt and now are doing amazingly well financially. In other words, they know what it takes to tighten their belts and get on top of their family financial challenges – and have also come into the peace that comes when debt is in the rear view mirror. Their married life is easier because there is less pressure. They find themselves blessed to be generous with their resources. And they have gained new experiences of gratitude.

My wife, Bonnie, and I have had a similar experience of financial peace. Yes, we took an abridged version of the Dave Ramsay seminar. Yes, we also had a moment when a gift within our family gave us that extra umph to get out of credit card debt. But when I hear Hans and Stacy share about the peace that they feel by taking this journey, I agree that it is a smart direction to take.

Knowing that NLC families and staff alike shoulder costs that bring pressure to your daily lives, I hope

you might consider joining those taking the Financial Peace University course. There is a \$99 cost for each person or couple. St. Andrew is making child care available. At present, we have child care arranged for several elementary children. If requested, we would also arrange for the care of infants and preschoolers.

Please email me at [revdocdavem@aol.com](mailto:revdocdavem@aol.com) if you wish to register. I'm guessing that you would also be welcome to join in on the second week of the seminar, if this week is impossible for you. We are glad to support the many who will be seeking positive change in their lives by taking this course.

**Ash Wednesday**—Additionally, I welcome NLC families to receive ashes to mark the beginning of Lent anytime during the day on the 26th. We will have a pancake dinner at 6 pm and an Ash Wednesday service to remind us that “we are dust and to dust we shall return,” as we think of Jesus' journey towards the cross in the Season of Lent. I will be here at 7 am and throughout the day for any who would like to be marked before our evening service. I am grateful to have the opportunity to reflect on the message of Lent and share in this reminder of our mortality so that we know more deeply that ultimately God is the one in whom we can trust.

Intriguingly, there are few if any Hallmark cards marking Ash Wednesday. Yet, it's deep meaning resonates and, in fact, brings us joy as we mark our lives as a gift.

Yours,



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.

**2nd and 4th Sundays—6:00-8:00 pm—Sunday Night Live Youth Group**—A fun gathering for middle and

high school youth! Bring a friend for an evening of learning and drawing closer to Christ, sharing in his love and grace.

**Tween Group for 4th and 5th Graders—Friday, February 7—6:30-8:30 pm**—Grab a friend and come play crazy games with us Friday nights! Pizza dinner provided (donation of \$2 requested). Contact Kathi Hottinger with questions at [kathibabygrl@yahoo.com](mailto:kathibabygrl@yahoo.com).

**Boy Scout Sunday—February 9**

**Ash Wednesday—February 26**—See page 2 for details.

# February 2020

**Theme: Health**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Loudoun Hunger Relief</b> Suggested Item of the Month Donation: <b>Hygiene Items</b> <i>Drop off in wooden box in church entry</i>						1
2 Worship & Sunday School 10 am	3 <b>Wear Your Favorite Team Shirt/Colors</b>  **Mercier School of Dance	4 National Homemade Soup Day	5 Family Night – 6:00 – 7:30 pm	6 **Wee Little Arts	7 St. Andrew Tween Night for 4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> Graders 6:30 pm	8 Trustee Workday 8 am
9 Boy Scout Sunday Worship & Sunday School 10 am	10 **Mercier School of Dance	11 Chapel	12 Family Night – 6:00 – 7:30 pm	13 **Wee Little Arts	14 Valentine's Day Class Parties  <b>Wear RED Day</b>	15 Parents Night Out 5:30 – 9:00
16 Worship & Sunday School 10 am	17 NLC Closed for Presidents Day  Staff Development Day	18 Chapel	19 Visit from Purcellville Pediatric Dentistry 10 am Family Night – 6:00 – 7:30 pm	20 **Wee Little Arts	21	22
23 Children's Sunday Worship & Sunday School 10 am	24 Mac Brownell Adult Day Center Visit Owls 11 am **Mercier School of Dance	25 Chapel	26 Ash Wednesday Imposition of Ashes – all day Pancake Supper – 6 pm Worship – 6:30 pm	27 Polar Bear Day **Wee Little Arts	28	29

**Of Note...**

- St. Andrew's Family Night – Dinner at 6:00 pm; Activities for children a& adults 6:30 – 7:30 pm! All are welcome!
- Children's Sunday – Children of St. Andrew help lead the 10 am worship service. All NLC families invited!
- Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent. Imposition of Ashes will be available all day starting at 7 am. Free Pancake Supper starting at 6:00 pm followed by worship at 6:30 pm.

**\*\* Designates Registration Required Class (Details & Registration Info at Front Desk)**

- **\*\*Mercier School of Dance** – Enrollment is ongoing. Ages 2 and up. Visit [www.mercierschoolofdance.com](http://www.mercierschoolofdance.com) to register.
- **\*\*Wee Little Arts** - Visit [www.weelittlearts.com](http://www.weelittlearts.com) to register.