

November Newsletter

World Kindness Day is November 13, 2021



LHUMP will celebrate kindness

Fred Rogers said, "There are three ways to ultimate success: The first way is to be kind. The second way is to be kind. The third way is to be kind."

As a champion of early childhood education and social-emotional learning, Mr. Rogers saw the value and importance of teaching kindness, love, and compassion to preschoolers. These lessons have lifelong benefits for children's physical and emotional wellbeing, both inside and out of the classroom.

Lake Harriet UM Preschool is committed to providing an environment where your children will learn how to compromise, be respectful towards others, and solve problems. Preschool will provide a place where your child will gain a sense of self, explore, play with their peers, and build confidence. This month each classroom will put an extra emphasis on learning about and practicing kindness.

Early Childhood Screening

An Early Childhood Screening is a developmental and health check of your child. At screening, trained staff will check your child's development, hearing and vision, growth, immunizations and health history. It is recommended that all children be screened at age 3, but children can be screened at 4 or 5 as well. Early screening is recommended so that any health or learning concerns can be found early and help can be provided sooner. In Minneapolis call 612-348-8687. In other districts, contact their ECFE. Screening is required by MN prior to the start of public school kindergarten.

2022 - 2023 Registration

November marks the beginning of enrollment for the 2022-23 school year! Our currently enrolled children, their siblings and members of the Lake Harriet UMC have priority registration.

Applications will be shared with you via brightwheel beginning November 1st are due no later than December 31st.

New families who submit applications prior to January 31, 2022 will be part of our random selection process. **Please ask your friends who are interested in the preschool to visit our web site** www.lakeharrietumpreschool.org for more information or give us a call.

Fall Conferences

Fall conferences are a wonderful opportunity to meet with you to discuss how your child is adjusting to preschool. The conference will be about 15 minutes in length via zoom or phone. Teachers will send a google doc link for you to sign up and send home a fall conference questionnaire the first week in November. Conferences will take place the week of November 15th, regular preschool is in session.

Thanksgiving Break

Preschool will be closed the week of November 22nd - 25th. Happy Thanksgiving!

Scholastic Books

Thank you to all who ordered Scholastic Books last month! Orders for book are due by Thursday, November 4th. If books are a gift, please indicate that on your order or contact Mrs. Jordan. Thanks!

Nov 3 Election

LHUMC is a polling location. Please use extra caution on Nov 3 when dropping off & picking up your preschooler as there will be more traffic than usual. Voters enter only through the main church entrance and immediately are directed downstairs to the polling location in Fellowship Hall (church basement) while our preschoolers in Room 105 will be escorted upstairs to the commons area during drop off. LHUMC office staff and polling volunteers will be monitoring voters and voters will be restricted to the designated polling area.

Joyce Food Shelf

LHUMP has partnered with Joyce Food Shelf over the years, a tradition that helps us teach the preschoolers to be thankful for all that they have and to share with those less fortunate.

In November, LHUMP will be collecting books (can be gently used), coloring books and crayons, children's painting supplies, silly putty, or other small toys the preschoolers think someone their age might like (like a hot wheels car or small stuffed toy). You can also donate small gift bags for the kids to wrap them in.

Each class will participate in packing the small gifts to send to Joyce which will then be distributed to families with young children.

The food shelf is continuously in need of diapers of all sizes and baby wipes, so if parents would like to donate an alternate or additional item, that would be ideal. Thank you for your generosity!

Expanded Covid-19 Testing

From The Minnesota Children's Cabinet: In an effort to provide Minnesotans even more access to free, quick testing resources, and meet families where they are in their busy lives, the state has expanded testing sites and rapid COVID-19 testing opportunities across Minnesota. These sites allow Minnesotans **experiencing COVID-19 symptoms** to take an **antigen test** and receive results in 1-3 hours.

Testing is free, safe, and simple. It helps protect Minnesota families from COVID-19 and slows the spread of the virus in our communities. **Find these community site locations and more information:** <https://mn.gov/covid19/get-tested/testing-locations/community-testing.jsp>

Important Message Regarding Vaccines

On Oct 26th, we learned that eligibility for the 5-11 age group for the Covid-19 vaccine is one step closer! We are constantly seeking information that can assist LHUMP in our decisions on Covid-19 health and safety policies and procedures.

Starting with our oldest preschool population, we will be sending our a **voluntary** survey to complete regarding vaccines. A link to a survey monkey will be shared with you via brightwheel and email. We will continue to gather data next month with our younger classrooms as we wait to learn if and when the younger cohort of students will be eligible.

LHUMP understands that this data is confidential and your providing this information is purely voluntary. However,

by having an accurate account of data, LHUMP can use this documentation to assist in our future response to the Covid-19 pandemic. It can also help provide us with information that may alleviate the potential quarantine of students and/or classrooms.

Thank you for your support of our efforts to keep all students and teachers safe and in school!

School Pictures

Rich Osness, our trusted preschool photographer, will be returning to Lake Harriet UM Preschool on Wednesday, Dec 1st after a year hiatus. Our families have missed the opportunity to have preschool photos taken. If you would prefer for your child not to be photographed, please contact us and let us know. Each preschooler will be photographed at no cost to you. Prior to winter break, we should receive the pictures for you to review. You may purchase as many as you like or return the photos to us. There is no obligation to purchase. We have been very pleased with the quality of the photos in the past and are happy to offer this service to you.

Peace Coffee Fundraiser

The Preschool has partnered with Peace Coffee for over 15 years, as a major fundraiser for our school. We have sold over 5000 pounds of coffee and Peace Coffee has generously donated back thousands of dollars to our program! We are making plans to organize this fundraiser in the near future. Please keep your eyes peeled for more info to come! Your purchase supports both the Preschool and fair-trade farming. Thanks!

Contact Us

As always, if you have any concerns, questions or comments, please share them with us. You may leave us a voice mail, message through brightwheel, email or talk with us at school.