

Preschool Pages

August 2020



Welcome Back Issue

What to Wear

Send your child in play clothes. During the day, the children enjoy art, outside play and other activities. We offer protective clothing during art, but it feels awkward to children this age and often they choose not to use it. Also, please have your child wear tennis shoes for comfort and safety on the playground. Most children do not like sand and mulch between their toes and running can be dangerous in sandals or flip flops. We cannot apply sunscreen or bug spray according to state requirements, so apply these before coming to school.

Separation

It is sometimes hard to separate at first and tears are normal, especially in younger children or children who are experiencing school for the first time. Please know that we will do everything we can to help your child adjust to preschool. We want your child to feel safe, welcomed and loved. When you drop off your child, it helps to be cheerful, tell them you will be back soon, and then go ahead and leave. They will realize, as time goes by, that this is a fun place and that you really do come back. Please don't sneak off because it hurts them when they realize you are not there. Many times your child will stop crying as soon as you leave. If you are concerned, feel free to call the preschool office and we will be happy to check on your child and give you an update. We will not let your child be unhappy for long without your knowing about it.

Cornerstone UMC Preschool

Dear Learn-a-Lot Parents:

We are so excited about the upcoming school year! Your child's teacher will be calling you between *August 26-30*. She will give you information regarding **Meet the Teacher, which is Friday, September 11**. She can also answer any questions you have regarding the first days of school, nametags, school procedures and other important information. Below is information that may answer many questions. We wanted to give you a few days to read this information before your child's teacher calls.

Backpack

Your child will need a full-size non-fabric backpack to carry to class each day. It will need to be **large** enough to hold their lunch box, daily folder, coat and a full change of clothes. If these things do not fit easily inside, then it is too small. Please no drawstring tops or rolling backpacks. The backpack will look huge on their little bodies; nevertheless, they will be able to handle it before you know it. It is important that they have only one thing to carry, keeping their hands free for safety. Please label their backpack where the name can easily be seen. Don't forget the change of seasons when packing the extra set of clothes. Do not keep any bug sprays, medicines or sunscreens in the backpack. Please leave all toys at home. Backpacks will be sprayed with a mild sanitizer upon entry.

Projects will come home periodically, but not daily. We will be saving special pieces to send home at a later date or to display in our room. Some days we will be busy doing projects other than art, but your child will have the opportunity during center time to participate in free art if desired.

Art

Volunteering

At this time of enhanced health and safety procedures volunteering will be halted. We hope to be able to begin this program soon.



Our Contact Information:

Address:

18081 West Rd.

Phone Number:

281-859-1612

Fax Number:

281-859-4567

Email:

pssec@cornerstoneumc.org

FACEBOOK:

Cornerstone UMC
Preschool

INSTAGRAM:

cornerstone-umc-preschool

YouTube:

Cornerstone UMC Preschool

— Allergies —

Sometimes we have a student or two who have diagnosed severe food allergies. When this happens, it may be necessary to declare the classroom a “peanut-free room” or whatever the circumstance. If this affects your class, you will be informed after your teachers have visited with all the parents. Snacks and your child's lunch may be affected so all is peanut free.



Lunch

A nutritious lunch should be packed every day. Please see the *Parent Handbook* and the *Snack Suggestions Sheet* for ideas and guidelines. Cut items such as grapes and hot dogs lengthwise and into bite size pieces. It is easier if everything is disposable (ex. Ziploc bags, juice box, plastic spoon). We encourage the children to open whatever they can on their own and dispose of their trash. No glass containers or red juice, please, and keep candy for after school. Don't forget to send eating utensils, straws, napkins, etc.



Snacks

Each child will take turns sharing a snack with the class. Send a healthy snack that the children can serve themselves, napkins and necessary supplies. Children will enjoy water with snacks and preschool provides cups. Birthday snacks can be a special snack to share – send your child's choice.

Your teacher will schedule your child to bring birthday snack close to his/her birthday. Your snack day will be indicated on the calendar with his/her name. Occasionally, teachers will request that a special item be brought for the snack, usually to correspond with an activity or theme; this will be noted beside the snack person's name on the calendar. As we all know, simple and healthy snacks are the best. The children really look forward to bringing snack; however, if you forget snack, we do keep a few items in our pantry. You will receive a note so you can send a replacement snack on your child's next school day to keep our pantry stocked. All snacks must be store bought, sent in unopened package(s). No homemade snack during the time of enhanced health and safety practices.



Fundraisers

We have a Fall fundraiser each year as well as monthly activities at local establishments that result in revenue for the preschool. This money is used to purchase playground equipment, classroom toys, manipulatives and materials to support the curriculum for the children, as well as teacher training. You will be given your packet at **Meet the Teacher**. There are prizes for top sellers.

Due to extra expenses incurred because of COVID-19 the fundraiser is extremely important!!

Label

Please label everything! It is very common for several children to have the same lunch box, backpack or coat. Write your child's name on everything they bring to school (preferably using a permanent marker). Labeling your child's things also gives them the opportunity to recognize their name and gives them a sense of belonging. Label the backpack, extra set of clothes, lunch box, plastic containers, etc. Please write their name on a very visible spot (i.e. on the outside of the lunch box vs. the inside of the lunch box).

— Home away from home —

You will get a poster board for you and your child at **Meet the Teacher**. Help your child decorate and return it on the first day of school. You may decorate any way you like (e.g. photos, paint, markers, stickers, crayons, etc.). Include immediate family members and pets. These boards will be laminated so it is best to avoid 3-D. The children enjoy these all year long.

Cell Phone Policy

Just as the public schools are a cell phone free area, we are also. We ask that cell phone usage not occur in the school or in the car line. We will not be able to put your child in the car if a cell phone is in use.

Nametag The nametags are so important, as they help all of the staff at Cornerstone learn your child's name and whose class he/she is in. Have your child wear it every day. You may pin it on the front or back of your child. The teacher will take the nametag off in October and will keep it at school. We use these nametags when there is a substitute teacher in your child's class.

Calendar A calendar and newsletter will be sent home the beginning of each month in the backpack and via email. This will inform you of the skills and themes that we will focus on for the month. Also, the child that is responsible for snack will be included for each class day. **Calendar is on one side, newsletter on the other.**

Daily Folder This is a folder that will be kept in your child's backpack. This will be used for the whole year to hold all important papers, book orders, money, tuition, art and notes. Check this folder after each school day. If you need to send something to the teachers, this will be the safest place to put it. Please do not put loose items, including checks, inside the backpack; use the folder instead.

Drop-Off/Pick-Up and Rainy Day Procedures

Morning Drop-Off will be through the car line starting at 8:55 a.m.

Afternoon Pick-Up will begin at 1 p.m. through the carline only.

★ If you need to pick up your child early, or are arriving late please refer to the Parent Handbook addendum.

Meet The Teacher Schedule

Friday, September 11

Procedures to be announced soon via the
website www.cornerstoneumc.org

(Ministries tab, Preschool tab)

Our first day of school is :
Monday, September 14.

Final Thoughts...

Our number one priority is your child's safety, so please let us know if there are any legal situations of which we need to be aware.

Cornerstone United Methodist Church Information

Pastor Ben Lohmer
Church phone number: 281-859-4141

Texas state law requires that all required paperwork be complete and in place when your child begins school. If you are missing paperwork, we will let you know. We appreciate your getting it completed as soon as possible so that your child can begin school.

If your child has any medical conditions such as an allergy, please let us know in the office.

All medications must be brought to the office.

Sunday Services:

8:30 Worship—Piano

9:35 Worship—Praise Band

10:45 Worship—Chancel Choir

Sunday School for ages 3 and up

