



# St. Peter's Lutheran Early Childhood Center



## Holiday Happenings

Christmas memories are precious. You and your family are invited to make special memories this year as the ECC children participate in the Children's Christmas Eve service at St. Peter's. We will be singing "Away in a Manger" at the start of the 4:00 service. You may bring your child to the basement of church at 3:45. The children will go up together and return to their parents in the pews after they sing. We can't wait!

## Caterpillar Chat



The Caterpillar room is beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Ms. Sue and Ms. Lauren have been adding special holiday touches to make the environment festive for our little ones.

The room has also been rearranged to give the littles a better view of the outside and more wiggle and crawl space for active growers. Stop in and say hi!



## Meet Ms. Lauren

You may have noticed a smiley new face around the ECC. We are so pleased to welcome Ms. Lauren fulltime to our Center. She is principally working with our littlest ones in our Caterpillar room.



Lauren isn't exactly new to us—her 3-year old son has been coming to the ECC since he was an infant. Lauren hails from Illinois and is an avid Cubs fan. She loves animals, being with her family, camping, and anything to do with the outdoors. She grew up with four brothers and two sisters. Lauren worked as a nanny for seven years and also was employed as a CNA.

Please introduce yourself to Lauren if you haven't had the opportunity yet. We are blessed to have her caring for our little people!

## Butterfly and Monarch

Are you starting to wonder why your 2-year old has been going around shaking hands? In our morning greeting song, we finish with saying "Good morning" as we extend our hands to those around us. Even when they don't have the words, they definitely have the handshake! They look forward to this part of the daily routine.



The kids love to sing and we are expanding our repertoire of Bible songs. They regularly ask for their favorites by a one- or two-word request. Try asking them to sing "Alleluia," "Little Light," "Jesus Loves," or "Whole World." The amount of joy that comes from their voices, energy, and motions is pretty priceless and is a particularly wonderful blessing in the day. We have worked to establish this part of the morning routine, and the kids look forward to our special time at the carpet in the Monarch room as we get the day rolling.



- New crib sheets
- Bluetooth-capable CD player
- Garbage bags
- Diaper wipes
- Walmart gift cards
- New board books
- Menards gift cards for shelving and rugs



## Happy Birthday to You

Joey	12/1
Jameson	12/13
Owen	12/13
Garrett B.	12/21



## Closings Due to Weather

The ECC will be closed whenever St. Peter's School is closed. We follow the closings of the Jefferson School District. Listen to your local news for announcements. You may not hear St. Peter's, but if Jefferson is closed, our ECC will also be closed.



## Looking Ahead

12/7 Helenville Christmas parade  
 12/21 January Schedules due  
 12/24 ECC children sing in Christmas service  
 12/24 ECC Closed  
 12/25 ECC Closed  
 12/26-1/2 No Hot Lunch  
 12/31 ECC Closed  
 1/1 ECC Closed

## Wisdom from the Word



While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in strips of cloth and placed him in a manger.

Luke 2:6-7



- Maron family for garbage bags and wipes
- Thank you to everyone for sending their child with a hat, mittens, boots, coat, and snowpants so we can have fun outside!

## Parent Corner

One of the most important things you can do for your children is also one of the most joyful - read to them. The Family Reading Partnership lists these "10 Great Reasons to Read Aloud!"

1) When you hold children and give them this attention, they know you love them. 2) Reading to children encourages them to become readers. 3) Children's books today are so well-written that they are fun even for adults. 4) Illustrations in children's books rank with the best, giving children a lifelong appreciation for beautiful art. 5) Books are one great way of passing on your values. 6) Books will help your children's imaginations soar. 7) Until children learn to read themselves, they will think you create magic. 8) Listening to stories will help develop your child's attention span. 9) When you give them this gift, you will create memories that last a lifetime. 10) Every teacher and librarian you ever meet will thank you!

You can find more info on their website at <http://www.familyreading.org/>

