

# December 4's

Bethlehem Lutheran Preschool

## Monthly News



Christmas Greetings to all of you! It is with great joy that we teach your children about the season of Advent. Did you know that Advent means, "He is coming"? Christmas is the day we celebrate Jesus's birth. Each day during December we will be telling part of the wonderful Christmas story beginning with the angel Gabriel's announcement to Mary that she would have a baby, God's own son. We will follow Mary and Joseph on their journey to Bethlehem and learn a song about a donkey that we call Ting-a-leo. We will be making Christmas books by coloring a new page each day. (So don't be surprised when no coloring papers come home in the backpacks.) We will count down the days on our advent chains, taking off one ring each day and watch as it grows shorter and shorter as the 25<sup>th</sup> gets closer and closer. We will be making a Christmas gift for our family and giving one to a friend at our party. And will be remembering that God gave us our best gift ever - Jesus, and we will sing Happy birthday to Him!! By the time Christmas arrives we hope your child will have a greater understanding that Christmas is much more than Santa and getting toys - Jesus is the reason for the season.

### Children's Christmas Musical

On Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> Bethlehem children will present "Glory of the King" a musical. Our Preschool children have been invited to sing at the start of the program. This program will begin at 10:00am. Please join us at 9:45 in the Rainy Day Room. Wear your dressy Christmas clothes and come enjoy the show!

Christmas party- On Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup> we will be having our "Happy birthday Baby Jesus" party. To help celebrate the most wonderful gift ever given to us, we will exchange gifts with each other. Each child will bring ONE gift to be given out at our party. This need only be a small gift - \$3-\$5. Girls should buy one gift for a girl. Boys buy a gift for a boy. You might label your gift, "To a girl (or boy)" "Love from - Your name." In other years we have noticed that some children came with the intent of giving his/her gift to a special friend and only to that person. Please emphasize to your child that it will be a "surprise" to see who gets the gift as we play a musical "Gifting" game! This is a regular day of school with the party beginning at 10am with a very special visitor! Families are invited to join the fun. Sometimes parents like to bring a gift for a brother or sister so he/she has something to open too. You may wrap and label with that child's name and please see the teacher with the gift.

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What about Santa? Did you know that Santa's name originally was Nicholas and that he lived in 300AD. As a child he learned about Jesus from his Mommy and Daddy. As he grew up he decided that he wanted to be just like Jesus by loving and helping others. He shared this love of Jesus by surprising people with needed gifts. He soon became well known for his good deeds and after his death he became a Saint. The name Saint Nick later changed to Santa Claus in our country and so the began the tradition of Santa brining gifts on Christmas. Here at preschool, rather than focus on the gifts we are hoping to get from Santa, we are going to emphasize the giving of gifts. We too can be like Santa and be like Jesus by sharing our love with each other.

**Snow Alert:** Winter is on it's way. It's time to remind everyone what to do in the event of a snowy school day. When BEAVERTON school district closes because of hazardous driving conditions, our preschool will also close. When BEAVERTON has a late opening, our preschool will be CLOSED. You can go to [www.beaverton.k12.or.us](http://www.beaverton.k12.or.us) for an immediate answer. We will also send you a text reminder about any closures. (P.S. be sure to not be confused if you should hear on the radio/TV that Bethlehem Church Preschool is closed. That is a school with our same name in Lake Oswego and is NOT us. We DO NOT announce under our own name, but follow Beaverton School District's closures.)

**Lunch Bunch:** Need some EXTRA time to get ready for the holidays? Sign your child up for Lunch Bunch Monday thru Friday. 11:30-1:00pm ~ \$10 a day.

**Chapel** will be Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:10 in the Sanctuary. Please join us for this special time with other parents with your child. Wear your school T-shirt and catch the "Spirit".

**Vacation:** The last day of school before Christmas for the 4 year old class is Friday December 15<sup>th</sup>. We will return after the New Year on Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Have a very Happy Holiday.

**Registration** for next years pre-school classes will open mid-January for currently enrolled families. Registration begins for new families in February. If you have a 2 year old who will be 3 by Sept 1, 2018, January is the time!! 3's classes meet from 9-11:30am on Tuesday and Thursday. Spots fill up quickly, so don't delay.

A BIG shout out, "THANK YOU" to our parent helpers Siri and Jose. We appreciate you, and welcome any other parents who would like to help! We are also thankful for our snack helpers in December: Holden, Mark, Jae, Liam, Lucy and Blake. Did you know that Blake turns 5 on 12/17? Happy Birthday Blake!! Merry Christmas and sending all our love, Mrs. Hoffman

