

# ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN PRESCHOOL

317 North Sixth Street  
Watertown, WI 53094  
261-3756



## **PHILOSOPHY AND PURPOSE**

The purpose of St. John's Lutheran Preschool is to enrich the life of each child and to work closely with the home to help develop well-rounded, well-adjusted, Christian personalities.

**SPIRITUALLY:** The child will learn that God loves him, God takes care of him, and God lovingly forgives him when he's done wrong. In each lesson the child will learn many of the truths apply to the child's life.

**EMOTIONALLY:** Each child will learn to operate "on his own" successfully. Within a framework of loving guidance, each child will learn the balance between dependence and independence.

**PHYSICALLY:** The child will further develop coordination in large and small muscles through many experiences ranging from organized play activities to cutting with scissors and manipulation pencils and crayons.

**SOCIALLY:** The child will learn the important values of sharing with and caring for others. This will be accomplished through cooperative peer-group play and organized activities. Lessons from the Bible and other sources will help to emphasize the importance of loving one another.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The aim of St. John's Lutheran Preschool is to provide an environment conducive to spiritual, social, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth as defined in the following objectives:

1. To instill in the young child the knowledge of God's love for him.
2. To encourage the child to speak to God in prayer.
3. To lead the child to appreciate the wonders of God's creation.
4. To help the child become aware of and have an interest in the world around him.
5. To encourage in each child a healthy self-image as a child of God.
6. To foster love and respect for all people.
7. To help each child understand his feelings and how to cope with them in God-pleasing ways.
8. To help each child feel at ease about being away from home.
9. To help each child learn to enjoy the friendship of others-both children and adults.
10. To help each child learn to work and play independently.
11. To give each child many opportunities to work and play cooperatively in a group.
12. To provide each child with opportunities to experience success.
13. To inspire in each child the love of learning.
14. To assist each child in proper muscular and motor development.
15. To provide a wide variety of opportunities for creative expression.

16. To provide for and encourage good listening and speaking experiences.
17. To strengthen family ties and to help parents understand their children better.
18. To provide the security of gentle Christian discipline.
19. To foster a feeling of responsibility toward property and materials.
20. To provide an opportunity for positive learning experiences.

## **CURRICULUM**

Devotions and Bible Lessons	Story Times	Play Experiences
Reading and Math Readiness	Social Studies	Music and Fingerplays
Large and Small Muscle Activities	Arts and Crafts	Field Trips

## **ENROLLMENT**

Children who will be 3 years old by September 1<sup>st</sup> are eligible for the 3 year old preschool. Children who will be 4 years old by September 1<sup>st</sup> or children who are 5 years old and have not entered Kindergarten are eligible for the 4 year old preschool. Enrollment is without discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, or national origin. The child must be in good health and have up-to-date immunizations. Our preschool class will be limited to a maximum of 18 children with one teacher and a helper.

## **HOW TO ENROLL**

You may enroll your child in St. John's Lutheran Preschool by stopping at the school office at 317 N Sixth Street during school hours and filling out the necessary forms. A registration fee of \$25 is required when forms are turned in. The fee is not refundable. The registration fee and form must be at the school no later than Registration in August. We need to know the number of students by then to make all the necessary plans for the beginning of school.

## **EDUCATION FEE AND PAYMENT**

The Education Fee for St. John's Preschool is set by the Board of School and Family Ministry and approved by the Church Council and Voters' Assembly. The Education Fee is to be paid on Registration in mid-August. We prefer that you pay for the entire year at one time, but if that is difficult, you may choose one of the following payment options;

- ✓ The semester plan is half of Education Fees due on Registration and the other half due January 15<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ The quarterly plan is one fourth of the Fees due on Registration and 3 equal payments due on November 15<sup>th</sup>, January 15<sup>th</sup>, and March 15<sup>th</sup>.

- ✓ The monthly plan divides the Fees into 9 equal payments with the first due at registration and 8 following payments on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month starting in September and ending in April.

Failure to make payments could result in the termination of your child's enrollment. Payments may be mailed or dropped off at the school office. All checks should be made payable to St. John's Lutheran. The school office will NOT know what you owe. The church office would know that amount (261-5959). Please make all checks payable to St. John's Lutheran School.

## **SESSIONS**

### TWO, THREE, and FIVE DAY SESSIONS

The 3 year olds Preschool will have a choice of 2, 3, or 5 day sessions. The 4 year old Preschool will have a 3 or 5 day choice, with 3 day being held on Tue., Wed., & Thurs. mornings. Preschool classes meet from 8:00 – 10:50 a.m. When necessary an afternoon class will be held from 12:20 – 3:00 pm. Sessions will begin after Labor Day and will follow the regular school calendar given to you on a separate sheet.

## **PHYSICAL EXAMINATION**

The state of Wisconsin recommends that all children have a physical examination before entering preschool programs; however we do not require one. The state requires that immunizations be up-to-date. Immunization records for each child must be filed in the school office.

## **MEDICATION**

No medication of any type will be given to a child without the written consent of a parent. If a child needs to take a prescription medication during school, a form must be signed by a physician. Please inform your child's teacher should your child be under medication which might affect the child in class. Simple injuries will be washed and bandaged.

## **NEEDED SUPPLIES**

No supplies from home are needed for the children, although each child is required to have a backpack or school bag. There will be times when children are asked to bring certain items to school for use on that day.

## **SNACKS**

Parents will be asked, on a rotating basis, to help supply a snack and drink. A snack schedule will be sent home at the beginning of each month. Please feel free to bring anything you feel will provide the children with a nutritious snack. The following list of suggestions may prove helpful: fruit, carrots, cheese & crackers, popcorn, cereal mixes, finger Jell-O, fruit bread, or muffins. Milk or juice is appropriate for the beverage. **BE SURE TO INDICATE FOOD ALLERGIES OF YOUR CHILD ON THE HEALTH AND ENROLLMENT FORMS.**

## **PREPARING YOUR CHILD FOR PRESCHOOL**

The initial separation of a young child from his parent is sometimes quite traumatic. Preschool may be that first separation. The best preparation you can give your child is self-confidence. The average child can learn to do everything if he feels confident. Boost your child's confidence by emphasizing the familiar; don't build up school as a place where unfamiliar things go on. Emphasize the joys of teaching and learning. Don't dwell on the hard work and discipline required. Other things which will help prepare your child are:

1. Enjoy them. Spending time with them. Let them be part of your daily life. They will learn a great deal from being with you, learning by your example. Let them "help" you. This will help them gain confidence in themselves.
2. Reading to them. Children learn to enjoy reading by having been read to from little on. They can also gain many experiences through books.
3. Exposing your children to crayons, scissors, paste, glue, pencils, craft items, and other learning tools. By using these materials they learn to control better the small muscles in their hands along with developing good eye-hand coordination. It will also stimulate their imagination and creativity. Make sure you spend time to teach them the proper way to hold the pencil (one finger on top).

## **TRANSPORTATION**

Watertown Transportation Services will no longer transport students to preschool even if they live beyond the city limits. Parents are responsible for arranging safe and reliable transportation for their children. Please let the teacher know who will be transporting your child if it's someone other than yourself.

## **DAILY ADMISSION AND DISMISSAL**

Children should be brought to the classroom by the person transporting them. Any special instructions for the day should be given to the teacher. Children will be released at dismissal time only. When Preschool dismisses the children will exit the building at the Jones Street doors (South entrance). You may park on the playground.

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

It is hoped that this handbook will answer most of your questions about St. John's Lutheran Preschool. You will find other helpful information in the regular St. John's Lutheran School Information Handbook available to you at registration. It covers such items of general interest as Absences, Health, Inclement Weather, Proper Student Dress, and Parent/Teacher Consultations. Each week during the school year, the school publishes a newsletter, the "Eagle Flyer", to keep parents and students informed of weekly activities. From time to time notes are also sent home by individual teachers outlining special items dealing with just their particular class. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the school (261-3756), or our preschool teacher, Sherri Damman (988-5882). We will be happy to try to answer your questions!