

CHAMBLEE METHODIST KINDERGARTEN
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December 2022

Dear Parents,

Very soon it will be December! Our classrooms will begin to be full with Christmas spirit, stories, art and music that will focus on this wonderful season. We will have fun talking about Rudolph and Santa, but we'll emphasize the true story of God's love for us as shown through the birth of His Son, Jesus. We will also participate in the joy of giving to others during this season by bringing to Chapel a small gift for a needy child. This is done instead of exchanging gifts among students. These special gifts will be given to Cross Cultural Ministries for distribution to children in the Chamblee-Doraville area. More information about this is detailed later in this newsletter. We hope, too, this will be a meaningful and happy experience for the children. Also, during our Chapel service on Wednesday, December 7 our Kindergarten students will perform a special program called "This is The Stable."

While this is a very busy season for us all, I pray that each of our Chamblee Methodist Kindergarten families will find time in the hustle and bustle to experience the wonder of Christmas through special times with family and friends. On behalf of the entire staff we wish for the joy and love of the Christmas season to dwell in your hearts now and throughout the coming year!

With Gratitude,

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, December 1	Chapel 9:15 am Bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate
Thursday, December 1	School closes at NOON for staff Christmas luncheon (NO LUNCH BUNCH, Kindergarten dismissed at noon, Art class still meets)
Tuesday, December 6	REGULAR SCHOOL (DeKalb is virtual; we are in person)
Tuesday, December 6	Last Cooking class for the semester
Wednesday, December 7	Last Gameday class for the semester
Wednesday, December 7	Chapel 9:15 am Bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate
Thursday, December 8	Last Art class for the semester
Saturday, December 10	CFUMC Breakfast with Santa 8 – 11am Reservations required.
Sunday, December 11	CFUMC Live Nativity, outside on the front lawn, 6:30 pm
Monday, December 12	Last Ballet class for the semester
Monday, December 12	Last Art class for the semester
Tuesday, December 13	School closes at NOON - Christmas break (NO LUNCH BUNCH) School closes at 1:00 for Kindergarten School opens for second semester
Wednesday, January 4	Chapel 9:15 am
Thursday, January 5	Open House for prospective new families
Sunday, January 8	Rising PreK information meeting at 9:15 am
Tuesday, January 10	Rising Kindergarten information meeting at 9:15 am
Wednesday, January 11	The Puppet Guy, in house field trip for students
Thursday, January 12	No School – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Monday, January 16	Chapel, 9:15 in the sanctuary
Wednesday, January 18	Registration for 2023-2024 school year for Church members, current CMK and PMO families
Thursday, January 19	Registration for 2023-2024 school year – alumni families
Wednesday, January 25	Registration for 2023-2024 school year open for all new families
Thursday, January 26	

CHRISTMAS PROJECT FOR CROSS CULTURAL MINISTRIES

During this season of giving we have partnered with a local after-school program for children in need in the Chamblee area. Cross Cultural Ministries provides a safe, fun place for children to go after school for homework help, mentoring and a safe place while parents are at work. We have gladly held a toy drive for Christmas for these children age PreK – 5th grade.

We will be collecting toys during our chapel services on December 1st and 7th.

Thank you for helping us make Christmastime special for others. Please know that no one is required to participate in this project; we understand that your family may be choosing to honor the season in another way or could be helping with projects at many different schools and churches.

SPECIAL EVENTS AT CHAMBLEE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Since our preschool is a ministry of the church I encourage you to go to Chamblee First United Methodist Church website (chambleeumc.org) to learn about several upcoming holiday events like Breakfast with Santa, Live Nativity and Christmas services. You can also sign up to receive an Advent box and sign up to participate in Parents Night Out.

ENRICHMENT CLASSES FOR NEXT SEMESTER

If your child is currently enrolled in an enrichment class but will not be continuing after December, please let the instructor know now so spots can be filled by other students if available. It's also very helpful to let the CMK office know, so please email Mellie at mokeefe@chambleeumc.org if your child is not going to continue with enrichment.

CLASS PREFERENCE SURVEY

In the next few days you will receive a survey by email asking about your preferences and plans for your child for next school year. The results of this survey will help guide the Kindergarten Board in making decisions about next school year. The choices being offered are a way to get input for the needs in our community but may not be offered depending on overall preference and staffing. Please give as much input as you can and fill out one per family.

REGISTRATION FOR '23-'24 SCHOOL YEAR

A few parents have already asked about registration for next year, so we want to let you know that registration for current families will begin on **Thursday, January 19**. You'll have about a week or so to register before we open registration to the public on **January 26**. ALL currently enrolled PMO students, 2s, and 3s are guaranteed a spot in the program if you register before January 26. If we have more rising kindergarten students than openings, we will assign spots based on several factors like church membership and the length of time the family has been at CMK. More details on registration will be available later; we just want you to have the dates now. Please help us spread the word about our special school and registration for the 2023-2024 school year. Tours are also available for new families; contact Mellie to arrange a time to tour our school.

INFORMATION MEETINGS ABOUT PRE-K AND KINDERGARTEN AT CMK

We will have two special one-hour meetings in January for all parents (both current and new) who want more information about our PreK classes and our Kindergarten class. The information meeting to learn more about PreK will be on **Tuesday, January 10** at 9:15 am. The information meeting to learn more about Kindergarten will be on **Wednesday, January 11** at 9:15 am. Please mark your calendars now since these meetings will happen shortly after school re-opens in January. Also, feel free to invite neighbors and friends who may be interested in our private faith-based school for PreK and Kindergarten. Our small class size and low student-teacher ratio are great benefits of our program.

If you do not have a rising pre-k or kindergarten student but wish to attend either of these meetings to get an early idea of what to expect in the future, you are more than welcome! Even if you feel certain of your choices at this point, we strongly encourage you to attend one of these meetings so that you will be completely knowledgeable about what CMK has to offer your student.

An Advent Prayer

Gracious God..... Prepare our hearts for your coming.
Quiet the stirrings within.
Calm the business without. Renew us with Your Spirit.
We are ready, Lord ----- ready for Christmas.
Ready to hear the cries of a needy neighbor;
Ready to extend our hands to a fallen brother;
Ready to sit with a hurting friend;
Ready to comfort a grieving child;
Ready to reach out to someone who is lonesome;
Ready for You.
With open hearts, we receive the Christ Child into our lives today.
Amen.

