



DIRECTOR'S DIGEST

From the desk of Jen Myers

January issue 2016

Wise Still Seek Christ

January 6, marks the day we celebrate Epiphany. Epiphany is when the Wise men brought Jesus their gifts. Now while the Bible doesn't tell us how far they traveled, how many of them there were or how long their trip took them, it does tell us that they followed a magnificent star. Something about the star compelled them to pack up and follow it. These weren't crazies who went on a whim; they were considered very educated, wise people. They followed the longing placed in their hearts by the Holy Spirit to follow a star to an unknown destination, take who knows how long to reach and not knowing what the journey would be like.

I wonder what I would have done if I was in their place. It would be easy to say, "yeah I love adventure, I would have gone" or "Well, of course I would go, I would get to see Jesus." But that is said with knowing the outcome all along. Would I have truly followed?

Here's another thought, in John 8:12, Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me does not walk in darkness but will have the light of light." Jesus is beckoning us to follow Him as the Magi of old. He is the star in this dark world and we are to follow. We don't know exactly what the adventure will look like, we don't know how long we will be on it, and so many other variables. I am certain of His promise in Mathew 28, "Surely I am with you unto the end of the ages." I am certain of promise in John 3, "whoever believes in Him shall have eternal life." I am certain that He wants us to work together on this journey. (1 Corinthians 12) I am also certain that God keeps every promise in His word. So, who is ready to follow The Star?



Holy Cross Preschool Presents: Family movie and popcorn

VeggieTales

Daniel in the Lions Den and Dave and the Giant Pickle

January 23rd: 10-11 a.m.

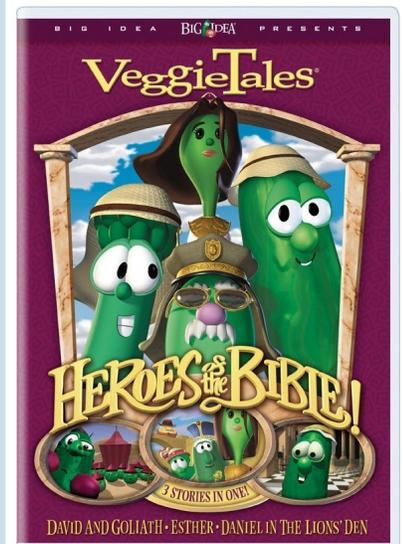
In Holy Cross Fellowship Hall

Free movie and popcorn for the whole family

Brought to you by Holy Cross

Special points of interest:

- *January 5th : School resumes*
- *January 8: Re-enrollment packets go home*
- *January 18th: no school Martin Luther King Jr. Day*
- *January 22nd: step-up day for students*
- *January 23rd: Early Childhood movie and popcorn 10-11 a.m.*
- *January 29th: 8-9 a.m.: Parents step-up day*
- *Save the date :Preschool Parent Day, February 3rd:8-10 a.m.*





January Transitions

Transitions are hard for all of us. It does not matter what age we are, change is hard. The younger we are, the more vocal we seem to be about it. Please do not be alarmed when the first couple weeks back to school are hard on your child. It is very normal for them to cry or act grumpy when school starts back up. Over break life is usually a little different than our normal routine. Often we sleep in, have later bedtimes, have different food habits, and spend more time together as a family. On top of all of that, there are a lot of special things happening and change in schedule. Even for adults, change of pace can add stress in our lives and make us grumpy. The best way to combat

this is to try to keep some things consistent over Christmas break. Try to keep bed times as normal as possible. If they take a nap, keep up with it (maybe even join in for your own sanity.) Try to make sure that they eat healthy foods and get plenty of water. Fun special Christmas snacks are fine but moderation helps their little bodies not get too out of sync. When you come back to school talk about how wonderful it will be to see their friends and learn new things. Talk about how their teachers missed them and might need hugs and high-fives. If tears do happen remind them that you love them and want them to learn and grow

and you will look forward to seeing them later in the day. Even if they cry, hugs and kisses are great and then walk down the hall. The teachers are very aware that this happens and are sensitive to the children. They just need to get back into the routine. For friends in the three year old class, parents can peek through the one way glass to see how your little one is doing. If you need a phone call, let me, Jen, know and I would be happy to let you know how they are doing later that morning.

Thank you to our wonderful staff!

I saw a teacher hug a crying child, help resolve a problem, put out snacks, load and unload backpacks, put a band aid on a skinned knee, help button pants and jackets, clean tables and clean tables again, set-out lunch, help problem solve, show a child how to deal with frustration in a healthy way, read a Bible story, teach pre-reading, teach numbers, teach about the world and how it works, reading books, bringing smiles, listening to a child, playing with purpose, song singing, developing large and small motor skills, cleaning up messes, developing imaginations, skill fostering, child nurturing, and help form the future.

I saw the love of God today in the early childhood staff at Holy Cross



Christmas Program Recap

Thank you to all the parents and family that attended our Christmas program. It was the largest one I have lead yet. I was so proud of how well the little ones did for the time of day and the amount of people they were in front of. I often wonder what little people think and I couldn't help but chuckle. I am sure their first program is an odd event for them. Thank you

again to everyone who brought food to share. I apologize that I did not have enough room set-up and will do better next year.

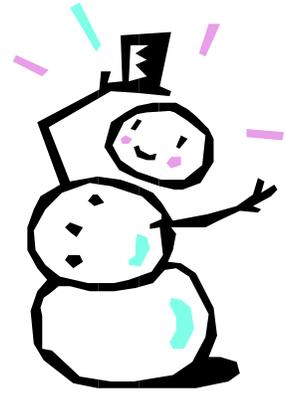
A huge thank you to David Drew for the photos. The group shots are on the preschool blog. It is at <http://prek.lovemyschool.net/>. Students names will not be posted with photos on the blog.

Due to so many students, we did not get any close-ups. I do update students photos monthly on our bulletin board though.

Please subscribe by going to the web address and scrolling down on the left side. By subscribing you are emailed a notification when I update the blog. If you have any questions, please contact Jen Myers.

Plans for 2016-2017

We are so thankful for a wonderful school year! This time of year we start making plans for our next school year. Enrollment for 2016-2017 will start January 8. We open enrollment first to current families, and then to the public. Our school has been growing and we want to best meet your needs. In 2014-2015 we had 49 preschool students. Our enrollment filled up quickly last spring. We jumped to the 75 preschool students that we are currently are serving. Our kindergarten class also quickly filled-up. We would highly suggest early enrollment to secure your spot. Our early enrollment will affect our classroom configuration. In order to make the best choices for the next school year, we would love to have your input. We value you. We want to do our best at serving students and families in the name of Christ. I will be sending my yearly evaluation home with second quarter assessments the first week of January. I read each, pray over them and make plans for the following year. Please take time to fill out the evaluation and make sure to fill in what your intentions are for next year. We do listen to your input and highly appreciate it. My doors and email are always open to you. I would love to answer your questions.



Preschool Parent Day February 3rd: 8:00-10:00 a.m.

You are invited!

Please come join us as we celebrate your child.

8-8:15 Centers with your child in their classroom

8:20 Chapel

Parent reception following chapel

9:15-10 join your child for a fun activity in their classroom

If you cannot attend another special adult may in your stead.

This is a special time for you and your preschool child. We would like to be a blessing and help watch any younger children. The Blessing Place will be available; please mark on RSVP if will be using this service.

Please RSVP by your child's sign in by January 27, so we will be ready to serve you.

