

# CHAMBLEE METHODIST KINDERGARTEN

4147 Chamblee-Dunwoody Road  
Chamblee, GA 30341  
(770) 457-2527  
mokeefe@chambleeumc.org

December 2018

Dear Parents,

It is almost December! Our classrooms will soon begin to bubble with Christmas spirit, and our stories, art and music will all 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. Please know how much these gifts of love and sharing will be appreciated. We hope, too, this will be a meaningful and happy experience for the children.

Also, on Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> during Chapel, our Kindergarten students will perform a special program called "This is The Stable." The Kindergarten children will also perform this program Wednesday night at the church Wednesday supper. Feel free to join us starting at 6:00 in Fellowship Hall for a chicken finger with mac and cheese dinner. Dinner reservations are required if you plan to eat and must be made by **Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Call the church office at 770-457-2525 to make your reservation (adult - \$8.00, children - \$4.00)

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

Wednesday, December 5	Chapel 9:15 am, Bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate
Thursday, December 6	School closes at NOON for staff Christmas luncheon (NO LUNCH BUNCH)
Monday, December 10	Mr. Greg Music show, 9:30 am
Tuesday, December 11	Last Cooking class for the semester
Tuesday, December 11	Last Amazing Athletes class for the semester
Wednesday, December 12	Last Playball and Ballet (Wed class) for the semester
Thursday, December 13	Chapel 9:15 am, Bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate
Saturday, December 15	CFUMC Breakfast with Santa – Fellowship Hall, 8:30 -11:00am
Sunday, December 16	CFUMC Live Nativity, outside on the gym lawn, 6:00 pm
Monday, December 17	Last Ballet class for the semester (Monday class only)
Monday, December 17	Last Game Day with Ms. Dee class for the semester
Tuesday, December 18	School closes at NOON - Christmas break(NO LUNCH BUNCH)
Tuesday, January 7	School re-opens
Wednesday, January 9	Parent Meeting for more about Kindergarten at CMK; 9:15am
Thursday, January 10	Parent Meeting for more about PreK at CMK; 9:15 am
Tuesday, January 15 - 18	Registration for Church families, current CMK and PMO families
Wednesday, January 16	Chapel 9:15 AM
Thursday, January 17	School closes at NOON for staff meeting (NO LUNCH BUNCH)
Monday, January 21	No School – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
Tuesday, January 22	Registration open for Alumni CMK families
Thursday, January 23	Registration open for all new families
Thursday, January 24	Chapel – 9:15 AM
Monday, January 28	David Ginn Magic Show, 10:30am

## CFUMC FOOD DRIVE



Many thanks for your generous outpouring of food donations at our November Chapel services. With your help, the church congregation made Thanksgiving baskets for almost 550 people in the community and delivered almost all of them in person. We tried to let the children know that this type of giving demonstrates our love for Jesus: "I assure you, when you did it to one of the least of these, you were doing it to me" (Matt. 25:40).

## CHRISTMAS PROJECT FOR CROSS CULTURAL MINISTRIES

Our CMK children are invited to bring one or more unwrapped items to Chapel in December for children enrolled in the after-school program of Cross Cultural Ministries (PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> grade.) Suggested items are:

- games -(CandyLand or Chutes and Ladders)
- toys - baby dolls (12"-18"), doll stroller, cradles for baby dolls, tea sets (plastic or tin for 4), balls (soccer – size 3,4,5), basketball, baseball glove/balls, cars & trucks (6" to 12" size), Legos, Megablocks, stuffed animals, and plastic animals (especially dinosaurs)
- books -("Ready to Read" books (level 1-3)at the School Box Store or early reader books
- arts and crafts - crayons & coloring books, watercolor paint sets, colored pencils, markers, simple craft sets (beads, planes, etc.) for age 5-8
- other - fleece throw or blanket, gloves, scarves

These gifts will be delivered to Cross Cultural Ministries for distribution to qualified families in our community. If your child is a 4 or 5-day student and will attend both Chapel services, please know that s/he is not expected to bring something both days. 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

### Breakfast with Santa, December 15

Santa is visiting Chamblee First on Saturday, December 15! Come enjoy a pancake breakfast in the Fellowship Hall from 8:30 am -11 am and be sure to tell Santa what you would like for Christmas. Breakfast is free, but donations are welcome. Kristin Boyer will be there to take pictures, but you can also bring your own camera.

This Breakfast would not be possible without our wonderful volunteers. If you would like to help, please contact Michelle Watts ([mkandcer@gmail.com](mailto:mkandcer@gmail.com)). In addition to needing volunteers during the event, we will also need help with setup on Friday the 14th and cleanup after 11. Be sure to find Mrs. O'Keefe and say Hi!

**Live Nativity** - We invite you to join us for our Live Nativity on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. on the Gym Lawn. This wonderful Christmas experience features live characters, live animals and beautiful Christmas music. Afterwards come inside to enjoy some hot cocoa and cookies. Be sure to find Mrs. O'Keefe and say Hi. If your child wants to participate in this special program, contact Mellie at [mokeefe@bellsouth.net](mailto:mokeefe@bellsouth.net) for more information.

## **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](mailto:mokeefe@chambleeumc.org) if your child is not going to continue with enrichment.

Space will be available in all enrichment classes: Ballet on Mondays (noon for 3's, 1:00 for PreK and K) and Wednesdays (1:00 for 3 – PreK), Amazing Athletes (Tuesdays at noon), Play Ball (Wednesdays at noon), Cooking (Tuesdays at 1:00) and Game Day with Ms. Dee (Mondays at noon.)

## **CARPOOL REMINDERS**

Thank you so much for your cooperation in making sure your car is in PARK before a staff member opens the car door. As we enter into the season of long lines in stores and heavier than normal traffic, please make picking up your child on time a priority.

## **NEW KINDERGARTEN HOURS FOR 2019-2020**

After reviewing many sets of data the Kindergarten committee recently voted to approve a proposal to change the hours of our Kindergarten class for the upcoming school year. We are excited to announce that the kindergarten class (our 5 year olds) will have new hours for next school year. Starting next fall (2019), the kindergarten class hours will be 9:00am to 1:00 pm, Monday thru Friday for the entire school year. We feel these new hours will allow us the best use of our school time together and for our students to get acclimated to longer school hours for the entire school year.

## **REGISTRATION FOR '17-'18 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 **Tuesday, January 15**. You'll have about a week or so to register before we open registration to the public on **January 23**. ALL currently enrolled PMO students, 2's, and 3's are guaranteed a spot in the program if you register before January 22. 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.

## **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 Kindergarten will be on **Wednesday, January 9** at 9:15 am. The information meeting to learn more about PreK will be on **Thursday, January 10** at 9:15 am and 6:00 pm. 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 Pre-K 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.

## TUITION INCREASE

The Kindergarten committee met in the fall to look at all aspects of CMK and felt it was necessary to raise tuition for next school year. The school does its best to keep tuition costs down but realizes that with the cost of living increase, the need to keep teacher salaries competitive and the slight increase in the cost of the materials that we use we need to increase tuition for the 2018-2019 school year. We also have increased our overhead donation to the church to help cover the cost of utilities and facility maintenance. The increase is approximately a 3% in all classes. Tuition for each age level will only increase by \$15.00 per month. The exact cost of each class will be included in your registration packet. If you need more information about the tuition increase before registration in January, please contact Mellie.

### MUSIC CLASS with Mrs. Weaver

This season has been an exciting one in music class. It has been such a pleasure see your children twice a week, and see them get used to our class routines.

We have been working on developmentally appropriate skills like moving to music, clapping time, counting rhythm and repeating melodies. Depending on age, we use clapping, stomping, and a variety of instruments like rhythm sticks and shakers. The children have had a chance to play my "big drum" (djembe), strum the guitar, and count the strings on my mandolin. They don't always sing in full voice, but I can tell especially our younger ones are getting more engaged with singing and instruments. We've been singing a variety of songs: familiar tunes like Twinkle, Twinkle or Itsy Bitsy Spider; old CMK favorites like All Night, All Day, and Tic Toc; in addition we've already learned some new and seasonal songs like Welcome Song and Leaves are Falling. Christmas season will mean more holiday songs, jingle bells and new instruments. Here are a few songs we have been singing together the past few months.

#### Tic Toc

Tic Toc Tic Toc Goes the Big Clock  
Tic Toc Tic Toc Night and Day  
Tic Toc Tic Toc Goes the Big Clock  
God Watches Over Us Night And Day

#### Welcome Song

Welcome, Willkommen, Bienvenidos  
Welcome, Willkommen, Bienvenidos  
Welcome, Willkommen, Bienvenidos  
Welcome all our friends to music class.

#### Wiggle Praise

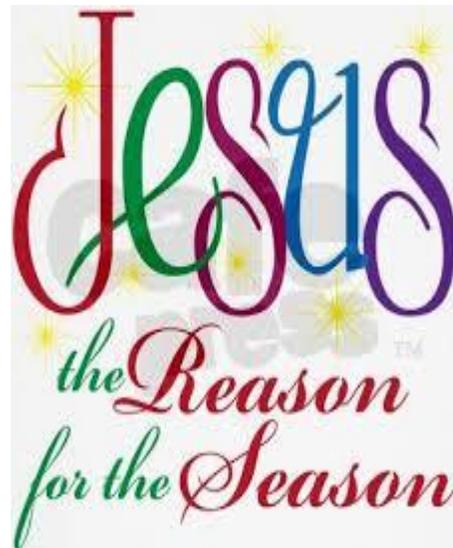
I Wiggle and I Wiggle and I Praise the Lord  
I Wiggle and I Wiggle and I Praise the Lord  
I Wiggle and I Wiggle and I Praise the Lord  
Sing Hallelujah!  
(I clap... I jump...I whisper...)

#### Shukaru (a Thank You song in Arabic) Shukaru, Shukaru Jesu (x4)

#### Leaves Are Falling Down

Leaves are falling do-own  
Leaves are falling do-own  
Leaves are falling down to the ground  
It's fall. (jump) Crunch!





### 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.