



Co-Op Chronicle

*The Newsletter of the Church of the Saviour
Co-Operative Nursery School*

News and Notes

★ The January Workshop is Wednesday, January 13th at 7:00 p.m. Attendance by at least one parent is mandatory. If you have questions, please contact Stephanie at StephanieDeLine@aol.com.

★ Our annual Open House is January 20th at 7:00pm. This is a great opportunity to show others how much we enjoy the Co-Op. If you can volunteer to give a tour or be on hand to answer questions, please contact Holly Pangrace at hollypangrace@yahoo.com.

★ An important note for those who use the church nursery while parent helping: Parent helpers MUST find a Co-Op parent to cover their absence while signing siblings into the nursery. State guidelines require specific adult to child ratios and the teachers need help watching the children at all times, but especially while on the playground.



From the President

Winter has finally found us and it is beginning to feel like the Holiday Season. If the cold and snow didn't remind you that the holidays are just around the corner, you can see it in the classrooms where the children have been making menorah's and holiday gifts, and practicing songs for the Sing-a-long.

I would like to thank everyone who helped out with two major endeavors that have taken place since the November Newsletter. Co-Op Sunday was a great success. We have had great feedback from the Church and both Mrs. Kennell and Mrs. Manring were delighted to see how their efforts to create our school all of those years ago are still appreciated nearly 55 years later. We also had a wonderful time and a successful fundraiser with our Advent Festival breakfast and gift wrapping station on December 5th. A special thanks to Stacey Hren for all of her efforts organizing the event and to all of you who donated your time and your casseroles to the effort.

Looking forward, January is a busy month at the Co-Op with Priority Registration, the January Workshop and the Open House. (Look for more information regarding all of these events in this newsletter.) This is an important time to prepare for the next semester. If we all pitch in, the work goes faster, so rest up over the upcoming break and come back ready to dive in.

I wish all of you and your families a blessed and peaceful holiday and may we all find health and happiness in the New Year.

Jill Barr

Calendar

December 15	Lunch Gang Sign-Up (for January 5-February 11)
December 17	Holiday Sing-a-long
December 21-31	NO SCHOOL: Christmas Break
January 4	School resumes
January 13	Priority Registration (6:45 p.m.) January Workshop (7:00 p.m.) - MANDATORY
January 20	Open House

Monday 3's and Three Day 3's (Mrs. Collyer)

Our classroom tree is covered in sparkling snowflakes and we finally have snow outside to match. So, we will be parking the bikes and pulling out the snow shovels on the playground - dress warmly! Winter weather came just in time to inspire us as we began preparing for the holidays. Our Monday Threes and Three Day Threes made beautiful handprint wreaths to help decorate at home, and we all made presents too (but those are a secret!) The Three Day class enjoyed building (and tasting) life saver menorahs - yum! They also used "paintsicles" to create ice art for our holiday cards. We have been working on learning the songs for the Holiday Sing-a-long, and we can't wait to see you there! This is such an exciting time of year for the small people in our lives. Be sure to take a moment from the chaos of orchestrating holiday magic for your children to enjoy it with them. Happy Holidays!

3's and 4's (Mrs. Bartz and Mrs. Stefanak)

The month of December seemed to appear so quickly on our calendar this year. We have really enjoyed the month so far and the children are already very excited about all of the holiday preparations taking place in their homes. We have heard about elves, decorations and trees going up and even a tree in someone's kitchen - how wonderful!!! We hope that everyone takes a few minutes to enjoy the true meaning of the holidays and not let all of the work that goes along with them completely take over.

We began the month by making some wonderful pinecone Christmas tree decorations. The children worked very hard decorating them and we love having them brighten up our classroom. We also worked hard on our pinecone birdfeeders and Menorahs for Hanukkah. Next week we will be wrapping the children's gifts to the parents; we hope that you love them as much as we love making them for you.

How lucky you all are to have such special children in your lives for the holidays. They really do make it all so much more fun. We hope you all have a wonderful and peaceful holiday season!!!

Pre-K (Ms. Day)

We have been talking about the changes occurring during the shortened days during the month of December. We explored the night sky with discussions (what *is* a "falling star?") and art projects during the first week of the month.

December is also an exciting time because of the festive holidays. For some reason, there has been much talk about Rudolph, the red nose reindeer this year in the pre-k class! The children are doing a great job with their holiday show and tell. It is always fun to hear about the different things families do in their homes for holidays.

The gingerbread man will visit our class and just might try escaping from us again! I wonder where he'll end up this time? We will have to go look for him and keep him tucked away while we create our own gingerbread man in the classroom.

On Wednesday, December 16th, we will enjoy the story The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg, while we hop aboard our own (imaginary) train. Children are encouraged to come dressed in their pajamas on this day, just as the children do in the story. Finally, we're singing some holiday songs in the classroom, including "Frosty the Snowman" for our annual sing-a-long. Amidst all the wrappings and ribbons, enjoy the true spirit of the season . . . peace and love to all.

Advent Festival Thanks!

Thank you to all who helped make the Advent Festival a success! We fed over 115 people and wrapped more than 40 gifts on December 5 - and raised almost \$400 for the Co-Op. The church raised close to \$5,000 in support of its missions.

We were most grateful this year that John Zagara and Zagara's Marketplace donated ALL our breakfast food. We even have enough left for our Fat Tuesday fundraiser. BJ's also donated to the event this year. **Please pick up a thank you note (on the cubbies), sign it from your family, and pass it along to your cashier the next time you shop at Zagara's or BJ's.**

Many thanks, as well, to all the wonderful, generous hands that made the day so much fun:

Kitchen and cashier crew: Jill Barr, Catherine Bransky, Lindy Burt, Amy Fischer, Joan McGervey, April Schlegelmilch, Elizabeth Smolin, and Cleo Warren;

Gift wrappers: Kate Baker, Molly Burke, Kara Lemoine, Shirley McCormack, and Holly Pangrace;

Egg dish bakers: Jill Barr, Catherine Bransky, Molly Burke, Lindy Burt, Stephanie DeLine, Kerri Dray, Julie Feeny, Pasqualeen Kessinger, Kara Lemoine, Monica McMahon, Amanda Plavan and Ryan Alabaugh, Kirsten Rosebrock-Hayes, and Elizabeth Smolin.

Happy Holidays to all!
Stacey Hren

Christmas Quiche (Cranberry Sausage Quiche)

1 pre-made pie shell
½ lb. Bob Evans' Savory Sage sausage
1/3 cup diced yellow onion
Small bag Craisins (at least 1 cup)
8 oz. Monterey Jack Cheese (shredded)
3 eggs, lightly beaten
1 ½ cup half & half



Take out pie shell and let stand at room temperature (at least 10 minutes). Preheat oven to 400°. Unroll pie shell in deep pie dish, do not prick shell. Bake pie shell for 7 minutes. Remove shell from oven and set aside. Reduce oven temperature to 375°.

In a large skillet, crumble and cook sausage with onions over medium-high heat until sausage is browned. Remove sausage from heat and stir in Craisins. Place shredded cheese in the bottom of pie shell and top with sausage cranberry mixture.

In a medium bowl, combine eggs with half & half. Whisk until well combined but not frothy. Pour egg mixture over other ingredients in pie shell. Bake 45 minutes to an hour (until a knife inserted in the middle of the quiche comes out clean). Let stand for 10 minutes before serving. Enjoy!

Note: Quiche reheats well and can be made a day ahead then warmed up.

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(Extension 247)

(Voice-mail is checked regularly. Please leave a message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.)

Church Office Phone:
(216) 321-8880

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.coopnurseryschool.org

We're on Facebook!

Join our group (Church of the Saviour Cooperative Preschool) at:

www.facebook.com

From the Registrar

It is hard to believe that it's already time to start thinking about registering our children for next year! **Priority registration for the 2010/2011 school year will be held on Wednesday, January 13th at 6:45 p.m.** (A reminder: you may not register if you have any outstanding bills due to the Co-Op, including Lunch Gang fees). You will receive a registration packet in your child's cubby after the first of the year explaining the registration process. Should any questions come up before then, please call me at (216) 932-1183.

- Genevieve Kenealy



From the Church Liaison

You are all cordially invited to a Birthday Party for Jesus! We will be having cake and ice cream in the Great Hall on Friday, December 18th at 6:30 p.m. If you would like to, you can bring a birthday present for Jesus in the form of a new hat, mittens or scarf or a non-perishable food item for those in need. Following the cake, we will be singing Christmas Carols in the Great Hall or in the neighborhood for those ready to face the winter chill.

You are also invited to come and worship at Church of the Saviour on Christmas Eve. There are two family friendly services with a live nativity tableau held in the Sanctuary at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. There is also a traditional candle light service with music provided by a string quartet and the Chancel Choir that begins at 11 p.m.

Finally, you may have noticed the mitten tree outside of the Great Hall. Once again the Church is collecting new mittens, hats and scarves for the West Side Community House. You are welcome to hang items on the tree with your children anytime from the beginning of Advent through Epiphany. This is a great opportunity to remind our children that Christmas is the season of giving. Happy Holidays!

- Jill Barr