



# SARAH CORSON CHILD CARE & LEARNING CENTER

October 2017 Newsletter

## Pumpkin Patch Field Trips

Our annual Pumpkin Patch Field Trips are scheduled for mid-month. The Toddler 1 and Toddler 2 classes head to the Pumpkin Patch on Tuesday, October 10. Preschool and Pre-K classes go on Thursday, October 12. Both excursions begin at 3 p.m.

Parents, you are responsible for transporting your child. *We cannot provide transportation.* The cost is \$4.75 per person, which includes a hayride, pumpkin, apple cider, and more.

## Happy Halloween

We will celebrate Halloween on Tuesday, October 31. Children can wear their costumes to school. Please bring play clothes for children to change into later in the day. We will be trick-or-treating around the Center to all of our different classrooms.



## Professional Training for Staff

Did you know that our teachers are required to take eighteen hours of professional development training annually? (Many of us do even more.) We accomplish this mandate through online classes, college courses, and training offered through the Child Care Resource Network, Rogue Community College, and Southern Oregon University. We also do some training at every annual in-service day. This past August, for example, we brought in a trainer, and the entire staff participated in a three-hour class on Positive Discipline.

## Thanksgiving Closure

The Center will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 23 and 24, in observance of Thanksgiving.

## The Christmas Holiday Program

The Center's annual Christmas Holiday Program will be Friday, December 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the Church Sanctuary. All Toddler 2, Preschool, and Pre-K children will be singing traditional children's Christmas songs. We hope you can join us. More details to come.

## Holiday Closure

Reminder: The Center will be **CLOSED** Friday, December 22, 2017 through Tuesday, January 2, 2018 for the holidays. *The Center will reopen Wednesday, January 3, 2018.*

## Volunteer Painters Needed

We are going to paint the inside of the Child Care Center in late December. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Jaime if you are able to help. More details to come.

—Jaime Snider, director

## A woman of many talents

By PAULETTE AVERY

Musician, librarian, wife, mother, teacher, and leader are some of the roles that describe the life of Pat Collins. Pat grew up in Coalinga, Calif., a small agricultural town west of Fresno. Because Coalinga is also rich in oil, it was the third richest school district in the country! Her parents were both teachers and musicians and she began playing instruments at age eight, becoming proficient with both the clarinet and oboe, one of the most difficult instruments to play. During her high school years, she ran the Coalinga City Library in the evenings.

Thanks to her talent playing the oboe, she won a full scholarship to the University of Oregon, and during her freshman year met her husband Dana who was beginning his graduate studies at OSU.

They married, had three children, and once the kids were all in school, Pat began working as a substitute teacher all over the Rogue Valley. Although a musician by training, she taught almost any subject except chemistry. "I had visions of explosions," she says. After school, she taught private music lessons.

Pat was active in the American Association of University Women where she served as president of the Medford branch, and was a leader for their two daughters' Girl Scout troops. She and Dana enjoyed racing sail boats and during their membership in the Rogue Yacht Club, she became Oregon's first female commodore.

Somehow in addition to all her other activities, Pat played in three bands, helped to found the Rogue Valley Symphonic Band, and continues to play there as well as the Ashland City Band, and the Southern Oregon Concert Band. She and Dana have been members of Medford First Presbyterian since 1960.



## Come early

The Sanctuary is going to fill up fast for this Sunday's 10:30 a.m. worship service. We welcome the Midiri Brothers and Bob Draga who are in town for the Southern Oregon Music Festival. Their gospel music draws festival patrons as well as friends and members of this congregation.



Two foursomes of First Presbyterian golfers played the Stewart Meadows course September 23 in a scramble tournament. Jerry Lambo won the closest-to-the-pin competition. He reports the winning ball was just over 19 feet from the hole, hardly on the green.

## Jazz Vespers



The Paul Jenny/Tom Freeman duo returns to Jazz Vespers October 7. The musical worship service is at 5 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The Ashland musicians have played

together for forty years, and began work as a duo in 1990.

Jenny does guitar and vocals. Freeman is a drummer.

Our visual artist is the late Robin Alice Blomquist. The display will feature several newly-discovered pieces by the Sacramento Valley artist.

## Caring & casseroles

The Women's Fellowship is sponsoring a November 4 retreat for all women. Signup information is at the Connecting Point table in the Narthex after Sunday worship services.

Ministering to each other in times of transition will be the theme of the day-long gathering. Rev. Carol Miller, a former chaplain at Rogue Regional Medical Center, will present the keynote talk. For more information, contact Caren Lea at (541) 646-8487.

## Bible study starts

A new adult education opportunity, the Covenant Bible Study, kicks off at 7 p.m. Monday, October 2. It's a 24-lesson look at the Bible, augmented by video segments led by a Methodist and a Presbyterian pastor.

There's a workbook, and in this digital age there's also an e-book or a smartphone app that substitutes for the study guide.

Pastor Murray plans to do three sets of eight lessons over the year.