



SARAH CORSON CHILD CARE & LEARNING CENTER

August 2020 Newsletter

Pre-K Graduation

Our annual Pre-K Graduation is *Friday, August 7 at 6:30 p.m. at Holmes Park on Modoc Avenue in East Medford*. We will graduate seven five-year-olds, many of whom have been with us since infancy. There will be a very special treat for all in attendance. Mahalo Shaved Ice will be here, parked alongside Modoc Avenue. They will be selling and serving Shaved Ice. Shaved Ice for our Graduates will be free of charge. All others need to pay with cash or card. We hope to see our graduates and families at the park.

Revised State Guidelines

As of August 14, we can expand back to full enrollment. With Fall right around the corner, this couldn't have come at a better time. New to the guidelines: All of our staff will be wearing masks as of August 14 to comply with the Early Learning Division Office of Child Care guidance. Jaime will email parents more detailed guideline information.

Center Closed August 13 and 14

We will be **closed to students Thursday, August 13 and Friday, August 14** for our annual Staff In-service. All staff will be participating in a three-hour professional-development Webinar: "Understanding Behavior and Development from a Neurological Perspective." We will view the recent documentary "No Small Matter" and discussing it afterwards. We will have a local Kindergarten teacher come and talk to us about "Kindergarten Readiness." We will clean, organize, develop curriculum plans for the year, and bond as a group. We are looking forward to getting a lot done!

Closed for Labor Day

A reminder — we will be closed Monday, September 7 in observance of Labor Day.



A Pre-K girl draws with chalk on our playground



Welcome New Staff

We would like to welcome Lilian as our new Pre-K Aide. Lilian will start just as soon as her background check clears. At deadline time for this newsletter copy, I'm still searching for a new Infant Aide. We will keep you posted just as soon as someone is hired.

—Jaime Snider, director

Service and creativity

By PAULETTE AVERY

Becky Jones, a regular at the 8:30 a.m. service until COVID-19 sent our worship to YouTube, grew up in Klamath Falls. She graduated from Oregon Institute of Technology with an associate degree in the arts and another in science and office systems. She



Becky Jones peeks out from behind her mask

also attended the University of Oregon as an English major.

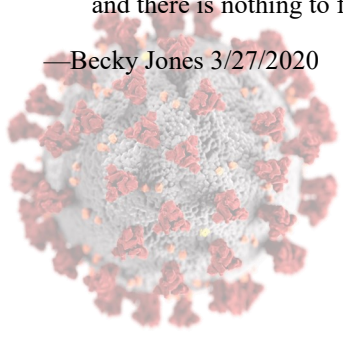
As a child Becky wanted to be a missionary and a writer, and she's done both. Her desire to be a missionary was met when she went on a trip to Mexico with a church youth group and again later when she worked with Liberation House ministering to students in Eugene. She expresses her creativity by writing poetry and her work has been published in this newsletter, the Christian Journal, and the Journal of the National Alliance on Mental Illness which was edited at that time by our own Mike Hubbard.

Becky worked for Jackson County as a medical records clerk and in the Veterans Services office.

As COVID lockdown began

When I am broken
 healing God has spoken
When God is hard to find,
 He is near and kind.
When it's hard to see
 God cradles me.
When my heart is dim
 I can lean on Him.
When I cry for an hour
 He lets me feel his power —
I know He is near
 and there is nothing to fear.

—Becky Jones 3/27/2020



Prior to joining First Presbyterian in 2010, Becky was active at Cornerstone Christian Church and did a lot of work with their soup kitchen. With our church she worked for many years with the Food Bank and currently serves us by helping prepare communion elements. She made coffee for the 8:30 a.m. service and ministered to the homeless by talking to those who came to get coffee. Becky helped make the bag lunches assembled after the 8:30 a.m. service.

In her free time, Becky likes to read mysteries and watch them on the Hallmark Channel and is a big fan of contemporary Christian music. May her service and creativity continue to enrich her life and the lives of those around her.

A doc's advice

Alan Jones spent a career as an emergency room physician and assisted in countless surgeries. He reflects on six months of COVID-19 amongst us.

First, my congratulations to the church for its emphasis on safety of the congregation, including using masks, and moving the services on-line.



Alan Jones

I suspect that one of the problems causing people not to follow the important guidelines of using masks and social distancing is that so many people are not affected directly by the virus. In the United States we have 330 million people, of whom, so far, about 300,000 have needed hospitalization, and around 150,000 have died. Therefore, "only" about one in 1,000 people in the US have needed hospitalization for COVID, and "only" one in 2,000 have died.

Most people, therefore, don't have any acquaintance with a person who was hospitalized or died from COVID, so news about this can seem like news about injuries and deaths from a hurricane on the other side of the country: Sad, but doesn't affect any one I know.

—Al Jones

Education opportunities

Our second adult education class by Zoom video conference is half-way through. Patti Sprinkle is leading the Wednesday study of a Walter Brueggemann book.

This Fall, Barbara Haddon will lead a four-week-long study of Mark's Gospel. She'll decide later in August about whether the class will be face-to-face (with appropriate social distancing and masks) or by video teleconference. The class will start the second week of September.

Please call the office, or send an email to clerk.firstpresmedford@gmail.com, if you are interested and let us know if you'd be comfortable with either a Zoom class or a face-to-face Thursday evening class.