



SARAH CORSON CHILD CARE & LEARNING CENTER

October 2020 Newsletter

COVID Halloween Celebration

We will celebrate Halloween on Friday, October 30. Unfortunately, due to COVID regulations limiting items coming from home, ***WE CANNOT ALLOW CHILDREN TO WEAR COSTUMES TO SCHOOL.***

If you would like your child to “dress up” in some fashion, we suggest Halloween or Harvest-themed play clothing (t-shirts, onesies, outfits). We cannot have children changing out of a “Halloween outfit” into other clothing, so these items would need to be clothes your child can wear all day long. Halloween masks are not allowed.

We typically have children Trick-or-Treat around the Center to each classroom, but that also must be cancelled for this year. We WILL celebrate Halloween in individual classes! We WILL have special snacks and teachers will plan special activities. Please see your child’s individual teacher and your child’s class newsletter for class party information. Treat and Goody Bags will be sent home with each child.



Welcome Rebecca

We would like to officially welcome Rebecca, our new Infant Aide. Rebecca comes to us having worked at three other local Child Care Centers. Rebecca has been assisting our Infant and Toddler 1 classrooms. She has a positive attitude and is eager to learn. We are lucky to have her!

Thanksgiving

We will be **CLOSING EARLY**, at 3:30 p.m. on **Wednesday, November 25**. *All children must be picked up no later than 3:30 p.m.* We will be CLOSED Thursday, November 26 AND Friday, November 27 in observance of Thanksgiving.



A toddler plays outdoors on a crisp fall day

Holiday Break

We will be **closed Monday, December 21 through Friday, January 1** for our annual Holiday Break. We will re-open Monday, January 4.

Updated Emergency Procedures

We have recently updated our Emergency Procedures to include information on Evacuation Levels. If the Center is at a Level 1, we are still in operation, but parents must be close by. If we get to a Level 2 or Level 3, we will close, and remain closed until we are back to a Level 1.

—Jaime Snider, director

Gimme shelter!

By MIKE HUBBARD

*... a storm is threatening
my very life today.
If I don't get some shelter
... I'm gonna fade away*

-- Keith Richards/Mick Jagger

They came seeking shelter, a trickle at first, just three the first night. Food for 25, sleeping mats for 25, donated food and clothing for twice that many. Was it worth the effort? Yes.

By week's end, the Fellowship Hall floor was as full as social distancing allowed. Snacks, coffee, and water were being enjoyed. Hot meals were served; the inevitable petty disputes mediated, and our guests were grateful.

Was it easy? No, it wasn't. Communication was sketchy, expectations shifted, and precise scheduling was nonexistent. Outside our



Donations kept coming in -

walls, the community-at-large faced similar challenges. And, above it all, First Presbyterian became *Jehovah-jireh*, the place where the Lord provided.

The Lord provided sleeping bags and pillows. The Lord provided water. The Lord provided food; the Lord provided willing hands. During that first smoke-filled week Pastor Murray's phone hardly stopped ringing. Over 100 people called offering everything from food to volunteer hours. A goodly amount of that support came from folks in our congregation. Throughout the week familiar faces could be seen dropping off supplies, checking temperatures, filling out registration forms, making coffee, and, most important, loving our guests as Christ loves us.

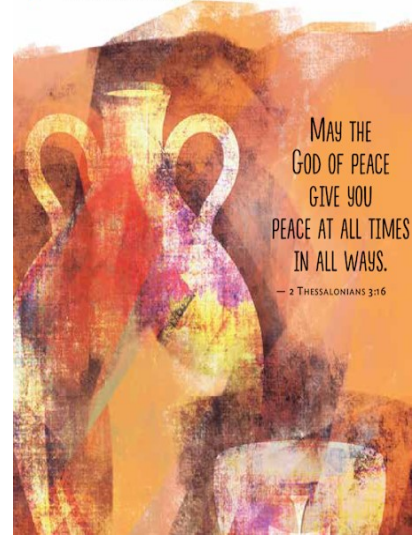
In the first days after the fire, we were asked to shelter displaced

families, so many of the donated items were for children—toys, games, clothing, and baby formula. When it seemed we would be overwhelmed and no children showing up, one of the many well-connected volunteers stepped in. She knew who to call. That morning, with the help of one of our guests, a compact pickup load of supplies disappeared from our hallway.

Likewise, a donation of institution-sized cases of canned goods were passed on to the Set Free Ministries. Their cook, with tear filled eyes, turned to a co-worker and said, "It looks like we'll have something to eat tonight."

Some might say, that, given the scope of the disaster, our role amounted to little more than a drop in a bucket. They would be wrong. Sometime during that smoky week, Jesus slept on the floor of our Fellowship Hall. One morning, Jesus woke before dawn to a hot cup of coffee. One evening, Jesus ate lasagna. One night, Jesus came to our door and said, "Gimme shelter." And we did.

 PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



This Sunday, join with Presbyterians around the globe in celebrating peace. Peace is active, not passive. Peace is doing, not waiting.

Use the envelope attached to share your gift, or just write a note on the memo line of your check. This annual offering is divided three ways. One-fourth remains in our community dedicated to our partnership with the Resolve Center for Dispute Resolution and Restorative Justice. It goes toward anti-bullying education of school children. One-fourth is shared with Presbytery of the Cascades for peacemaking grants like the one we received last year to launch the Resolve partnership. The remaining half supports work for peace and reconciliation being done by Presbyterians around the globe.

Phoenix help

In the aftermath of the September firestorm which destroyed over 800 dwelling units in Phoenix, people are putting their lives back together. You are invited to help by bringing your electronic device to First Presbyterian Church in Phoenix and assisting people enter their applications for assistance or restore documents needed for applications. Contact Evonne Hubbard at (541)778-3501. She'll get you – and your device—scheduled to work.