



SARAH CORSON CHILD CARE & LEARNING CENTER

December 2021 Newsletter

Christmas Program

Our annual Christmas Program IS A GO (at the time of this printing)! Our program will be **Friday, December 10 from 6:30-7 p.m. in the Sanctuary at First Presbyterian Church**. Children in our Toddler 2, Pre-school and Pre-K classes have been hard at work preparing traditional children's Christmas songs for your hearing pleasure.



Two young Toddlers outside in the playground

Christmas Closure Reminder

A reminder we will be **CLOSED Monday, December 20 through Friday, December 31 for our annual Holiday Break.**

Special Thanks

A special thank you to Teacher Kathy's son, Tyler Hoebet, and The Point Pub and Grill, for donating a HUGE pan of Mac and Cheese for our pre-Thanksgiving lunch the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving. Tyler and The Point are always so generous and have donated to us for several years. If you haven't been to The Point, there are two locations to serve you: one in South Medford and one in Central Point. Check them out. They have delicious food and a friendly staff!



An infant sits in a rocking chair, posing for a picture

Attention Parents

I need an up-to-date copy of your child's immunization records no later than Friday, December 10. You can fax it to me, email it to me, or drop off a paper copy. Thank you.

THANK YOU

Thanks for sharing your child/children with us, and for entrusting us with the care and education of your most precious gift(s). We are so blessed to be able to be part of your village.

From all of us at the Sarah Corson Center,
MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

—Jaime Snider, director



Singing and doing family History

By PAULETTE AVERY

Meet Loretta Barker: A native of Southern California, Loretta moved to Medford four years ago to be closer to one of her three daughters. Besides preferring the climate here to other options, she knew the Rogue Valley well after spending vacations here for many years including entire summers in Howard Prairie after retirement.

Loretta was a legal secretary during the first half of her career and when her boss became a State Assemblyman, she remained on his staff. But when he became a superior court judge she chose another direction and began teaching high school business courses. "I loved it," she says.

Since moving to Southern Oregon, Loretta has found plenty to keep her busy. In addition to singing in our choir and becoming a deacon, she sings with the Siskiyou Singers and has been on their board for six months. Due to the pandemic, they have met virtually only and in order to participate in their virtual concerts, the singers must record themselves both in audio and video. The result of that challenge, as well as for a variety of other reasons, is that their numbers have shrunk from 75 to only about 20 singers. Beginning December 10 you can view their holiday concert, "The Most Wonderful Time" at www.siskiyouingers.org.

Loretta is also very active with the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society and currently serves as their secretary. The society remains active during the pandemic but the classes and interest groups meet virtually.

At home, Loretta's companion is her dog Bear whose fluffy white fur makes him resemble a small polar bear. When she decided to get a dog, she told her daughter she did not want a male, a puppy or one with terrier in it. But as such things can go, she fell in love with Bear at first sight despite his being all three of the things she thought she did not want.



Loretta Barker

Notes from Session

A big thank-you from the Building and Grounds committee for the 30-some volunteers who helped with the church building cleanup on November 20. Chair Jim Foucault called it a "good start." Lots and lots of stuff not needed in our current programs was removed, clearing the way for whatever we figure out as future use of many vacant spaces.

Session approved Christmas bonuses, to be paid this month, for all of our employees. They authorized partial tuition refunds to Sarah Corson Center families impacted by a COVID-caused closure in August, and launched a process which may expand our ministry to the hungry in Medford.

Session learned city approval is expected for placing gates at the Holly Street and Urban Center II parking lot entrances. Quality Fence Co. will be the contractor. Trane Technologies, Inc. will install a new electronic controller for the heating and ventilating system serving the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. The system's been operated manually since the 17-year-old control unit failed several weeks



Sunday School in December



Sunday School in December is sorting the scripture describing Christ's birth from the myths and folklore many of us grew up with. You are invited to sit down with facilitator Carl Hultquist at 9:30 a.m. Sunday December 5, 12 and 19 as he unpacks the words and brings insight from several commentators.

On Sunday, December 26 come at 9:30 for singing of your favorite Christmas carols. In January, adult Sunday School will begin classes on the role of women in the Bible and the thoughts of women theologians.