



Westminster United
Presbyterian **Preschool**

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Parent's Letter for the 2021-2022 Preschool Year

Westminster United Presbyterian Church is pleased to sponsor a preschool for the children of the community. In the fall of 2021, we will offer a three-day a week program for the four and five-year-old class and a two-day a week program for the three-year-old class.

Students at the preschool will learn to read and write their ABC's, the mathematical skills of counting and number recognition, as well as social skills, using manners and sharing. Through classroom activities, they will study seasons and the usefulness of scientific objects such as magnets. Together in community, classes will cover holidays, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the valuable contributions of vocation. Every session also includes a story, a fine motor skill activity, a large motor skill activity, plus lots more.

As a Christian preschool, children will learn to pray before their snack time. They will also learn about the church's celebrations of Christmas and Easter. They will also have opportunities to hear an occasional bible story throughout the year.

The Four and Five-Year-Old Class:

To register for the four/five-year-old program, the child must be four years old by September 1st of the registration year. The four/five-year-old class will meet on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.

The tuition for the three-day a week class is \$120.00 per month.

The Three-Year-Old Class:

To register for the three-year-old program, the child must be three years old by September 1st of the registration year. The three-year-old class will meet on Thursday and Friday from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.

The tuition for the two-day a week class is \$100.00 per month.

***We reserve the right to change class schedules due to low or increased enrollment.*

School Year Calendar:

The four/five-year-old class will be Monday, September 13, 2021 through Wednesday, May 25, 2022. The three-year-old class will be Thursday, September 16, 2021 through Friday, May 27, 2022.

The WUP Preschool follows the Seneca Valley School District calendar and decisions for all holidays and closings. You will be provided with a list of the scheduled closings.

Registration Checklist:

Please submit the following documents to reserve your child's placement:

- Completed registration form
- A copy of your child's birth certificate
- Updated immunization records
- A copy of your child's health insurance card (in case of an emergency)
- Custodial agreements or court-appointed guardianship documents (if applicable)
- \$20.00 non-refundable registration fee to Westminster United Presbyterian Church

***The above documentation is required for the health and safety of students and staff. Please contact the preschool with any questions or concerns.*

Tuition Payments:

All checks are to be made payable to Westminster United Presbyterian Church with "Preschool" and your child's name on the memo line. The first tuition payment is due on or before the first day of school. Subsequent **tuition payments are due by the first of each month**.

In the event of a late payment, notice will be given after the fifth of the month. A late fee may be applied to any payments received after the tenth of each month. If your child misses part or all of any month, the fee is still charged, reserving your child's space in the program.

Any tuition that is paid with insufficient funds must be paid in full within one week of notification plus an additional \$10 fee to reimburse Westminster Church for bank fees.

Enrollment in each class is limited. There is a waiting list for any full classes. A non-refundable **\$20.00** registration fee is required at the time of registration.

Financial Assistance:

The WUP Preschool now offers a scholarship fund to provide financial assistance. To apply for aid, please contact the Preschool Director for more information.

Additional Information:

All children must be potty trained before attending school. Children must be able to independently show initiative to use the bathroom, be able to dress/undress, and be able to clean themselves with minimal assistance. We understand that accidents happen, and we are prepared to handle those situations with care.

All teachers have criminal background checks concurrent with Pennsylvania law and Westminster Personnel Policies.

**Westminster Preschool
Communicable Disease Policy**

Westminster Presbyterian Church endeavors to create a safe environment for all children and youth, and pledges to continually seek ways to create a safer building and environment for children's programming.

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Westminster Presbyterian Church is committed to providing a safe and healthy place for children and adults to grow in the Christian faith, and we do so from our distinctive Presbyterian and Reformed traditions. These traditions affirm God's gift of the intellect and science to further God's purposes. Medical science provides for the growth and health of children, protects against disease and death, and medical procedures are used to intervene when appropriate to prolong life.

We have a theological, moral, and ethical imperative to especially protect children and immunocompromised adults from disease because they are most vulnerable. Our commitment leads us to offer a healthy environment for the children who attend the preschool and the adults in leadership positions. That commitment includes ensuring that communicable diseases are not transmitted to those using or visiting the preschool.

Therefore, it is the policy of Westminster Presbyterian Church that all children enrolled in the Westminster Preschool are immunized against the diseases listed in Pa. Code. § 23.83- Diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis; Poliomyelitis; Measles (rubeola), mumps and rubella (German measles); Hepatitis B; Varicella (chickenpox). A medical exemption to this policy may be requested via signed documentation from a licensed physician. Acceptance or denial of the exemption are at the discretion of the Preschool Director.

COVID-19 (Extra Cleaning and Special Practices):

Due to the ongoing pandemic, we have already implemented extra cleaning practices before, during and after preschool. Highly touched surfaces will be sanitized frequently. Upon arrival the children will get their temperatures taken and sanitize their hands. Children will be spaced out during circle time, snack time and centers (smaller groups). The children and teachers will be wearing masks, washing hands and using hand sanitizer frequently throughout the preschool day. As always if your child is sick, keep him or her home. Donations of hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes and any other cleaning supplies are greatly appreciated, as we will be going through a lot more this year.

The WUP Preschool follows the Seneca Valley School District. If the school district cancels all in-person classes, the WUP Preschool will as well. The preschool will not conduct classes virtually. We will be on a temporary break. Our classes will resume once the school district has in-person classes.

We ask that pickup and drop off occur outside of the building. We require all parents and children to wear masks during pickup and drop off periods. All visitors are required to wear a mask inside the building. Any child with a temperature of 100.4 or higher will be asked not to attend preschool that day and must be fever-free for 24 hours without medication in order to return to school.

Parents must notify preschool staff if the child, or any family member has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or has been in contact with anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19. If you are feeling sick or your child is feeling sick and there is a possibility your illness could be related to COVID-19, do not come to the preschool and do not bring your child to the preschool. Notify the preschool staff immediately for guidance on when your child will be able to return.

Parent/Guardian shall sign the Westminster United Presbyterian Church and Preschool COVID-19 Program Waiver attached to enrollment forms.

We please ask that all families be understanding and flexible during this challenging time as we may have to adapt our policies according to the recommendations provided by the CDC. Thank you!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions and/or concerns regarding the information provided. Additional information is available upon request.

Tara Weisgerber
Director/Lead Teacher
Westminster United Presbyterian Preschool
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Dear Families,

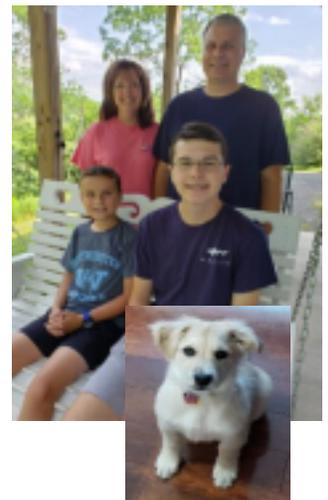
My name is Tara Weisgerber, and I am super excited to be the new Director/Lead Teacher of the Westminster United Presbyterian Preschool. My husband, Chip, and I have been happily married for 22 years. We have two boys: Andy (17) and David (11). I am originally from Cambridge, Ohio where I grew up on a small farm. After graduating from Cambridge High School in 1993, I attended Muskingum College. In 1997, I earned my Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Music. My Ohio certifications include Pre-K, Elementary grades 1-8 and Special Education grades K-12. I taught for 16 years in Ohio. During those years I taught preschool, middle school and high school inclusion, and fourth grade. I wanted to be the best possible teacher I could be for my students, so I went back to school for a Master of Education degree from Urbana University in 2002.

Beyond the classroom, my teaching extended into the Presbyterian Church where Chip and I teamed up to work with kids of all ages. Life became even more fun in 2004 when our son, Andrew, was born. Our family continued to grow as David arrived in 2010.

When an opportunity came along for Chip's work, we decided to move to Tennessee. It was an adventure! I was able to stay home with David (age 3). It was the first time I had not worked outside of the home. We were blessed to be a part of rebuilding Cub Scout Pack 508. We joined Covenant United Methodist Church where I volunteered in the Children's Ministry. Later, I tutored in David's kindergarten class and started subbing for the elementary school.

We continued to enjoy sharing our music with our church, but we also enjoyed new adventures as a family. Tennessee was the perfect place to enjoy the outdoors. We explored the trails of Cumberland Gap and the Smoky Mountains. Spending time on Norris Lake with friends and seeing the wildlife at Cades Cove were moments to remember. Camping near Gatlinburg, TN was our absolute favorite! At the same time, David was enjoying soccer, and Andy was involved with Cub Scouts.

As much as we loved Tennessee, in 2017 it was time for us to be closer to our family once again. We happily settled in Harmony, PA. Chip is employed with La Roche University and our boys are finishing another year at Seneca Valley Schools. (Andy is a sophomore, and David is a 5th grader.) David continues to play soccer for the SV North travel team and enjoys playing clarinet. He recently completed his Arrow of Light with Cub Scout Pack 457. Andy is a soccer referee for SV North and enjoys playing trumpet in the SV marching and symphonic bands, as well as for church services. We found our new church home with Westminster UPC and enjoy being involved with the children's and youth ministry. As a family, we still love to camp and try new activities such as kayaking. We have also added a new furry member to our family. Nala is a 7-month-old golden retriever/husky rescue whom we adore.



After helping the boys get settled into their new routines, I had the pleasure to work for the Royhab Child Care Center. I will always treasure my time with the RCC families and the memories we have made together. I will certainly miss working with those families and watching their precious children grow. However, I am excited and thankful to serve the families of Westminster United Presbyterian Preschool! I look forward to meeting all of you very soon.