

# December

**Programs:** Our Winter Music Programs will be held Dec. 19 & 20. All are invited to listen to the children sing, see their snowman art projects and stay for a social following the programs. The programs will be held in the church so there is plenty of seating for everyone. After the social, children are free to leave with their parents.

Class A (T/Th Morning Jr. Preschool with Shaun) — Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.  
Class B (T/Th Afternoon Jr. Preschool with Shaun) — Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.  
Class C (MWF Morning Preschool with Shaun) — Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.  
Class D (TWTh Afternoon Preschool with Sara) — Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.  
Class E (MWF Afternoon Preschool with Shaun) — Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.  
Class F (MTWThF Morning Preschool with Sara) — Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.  
**(Children should arrive at regular class times to practice)**



**Snacks/Treats:** Following the music programs, we will move to the fellowship area of the church for a family social/party. In order to help make our social a success, **we need all families to bring a snack/treats to share.** Apple juice, coffee and water will be provided. Due to the number of food allergies our students have, we are requiring all snacks to be store bought and brought-in with the original package. Thank you for understanding the importance of keeping our students healthy and following this policy. Examples of things to bring: Veggie tray, cheese and crackers platter, box of mini muffins, pack of Oreos, Chex Mix, popcorn, etc. Please bring your item when you drop your child off at school on the day of the program. We will have carts in the hallway for the snacks to go on. Thank you so much for your help with our Winter Programs! We can't wait!

**Weather:** As the winter weather moves in, please be careful in the parking lot and on the sidewalk as it can get quite icy in the winter months. Also, please have your child stomp his/her snowy feet on the floor in the entry way before coming in. Sending an extra set of shoes is helpful for those who have muddy or wet boots. Thanks!

**Back packs full of stuff:** — If your child needs items for daycare such as blankets, stuffed animals, snowpants, boots, etc, please send an additional bag for school. Parents, please check backpacks each day after school and empty out the day's papers. Thanks!

**School Closed:** Last days of classes will be December 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Classes will resume after the new year on January 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>. We wish you all a wonderful holiday season!

**Registration:** We will continue to take names for our 2020-2021 mailing list through January. Currently enrolled families will automatically receive updated registration information when it is available. Please let us know if you have any questions. Thank you!

**Gifts:** Many families graciously give us gifts around the holidays, which is so thoughtful and always appreciated. However, we are asking that instead of giving us a gift, please find a way to do something kind for someone else. Spread some love and holiday cheer. Thank you!

**Kindness Cubbies:** The Kindness Cubbies program was developed as part of our Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum. Research shows that teaching empathy in early childhood years can have incredible, long-lasting effects. Our goal is to introduce the concepts of empathy and compassion to our students while encouraging family engagement. During in-class discussions we talk about kindness and how our actions impact those around us. We encourage our students to discover their unique abilities and help them learn how to share their gifts with others. Through Kindness Cubbies, we hope to help our students and their families create connections with others in our community and offer a place for families to introduce the idea of charitable giving to their young children. Most importantly, we hope to share the idea that everyone has something to give. If we work together spreading kindness and connecting with each other, we can help create a more empathetic world.

For the month of December, we'll be collecting gifts for the Giving Tree at the Minot Community Christmas Day Meal. Attendants young and old will be able to choose a gift from the Giving Tree to take with them after they enjoy the free Christmas Day buffet meal. This is a wonderful event held each year in our community. All families are invited to celebrate at the community meal. Volunteer opportunities are also available for Christmas Day. While the Giving Tree will mostly be for children attending the event, there will be many adults who would also like to take home a gift. Ideas for items to donate (any used items must be in very good condition) — toys, trinkets/figurines, jewelry boxes & jewelry, blankets, craft supplies, markers/crayons, books for all ages, puzzles of all types, stuffed animals, DVDs, lotion, games, etc. We hope to provide a nice assortment of gifts for all to enjoy. If you'd like more information regarding the Minot Community Christmas Day Meal, visit [www.minotcommunitymeal.org](http://www.minotcommunitymeal.org). Donated items can be placed in and around the Kindness Cubbies in the hallway. THANK YOU!!!

Happy Holidays! ~Sara & Shaun