

the Academy

First Press

December in the Preschool

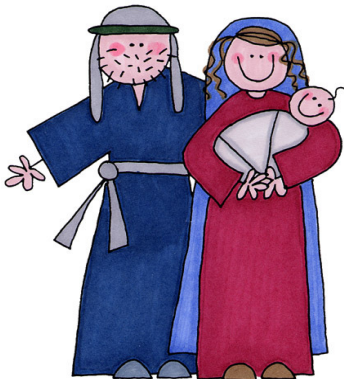
"The star which they saw in the east went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding great joy." Matthew 2:9-10

"Great joy" is what we find throughout the Academy as Christmas approaches. Advent, the weeks of expectation, is celebrated daily as the children anticipate the birth of the baby Jesus.

Young children are filled with wonder. Their eyes and hearts are aglow with excitement. Yes, part of the expectation is for Santa Claus, presents, stars and lights. But even in these they can see Jesus' birthday.

We teach them about God's present to us in the gift of His Son. Stars and lights remind them of that bright star on that first Christmas night.

The Academy is a joyous place to be this season!



Friday, December 16
is the
Christmas Program!

To avoid the many tears, K-2's will not participate in the program. They are welcome to come with their parents to see their older friends and get in the Christmas spirit! There will be school for the 3 & 5 day K-2's on Dec. 16. Twos will dismiss early at 11:00 a.m. No Lunch Buddies or Late Stay!

K3-4th Grade will participate in the Christmas program. **ALL CHILDREN ARE TO BE PICKED UP FOLLOWING THE PROGRAM IN THEIR CLASSROOMS. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT SAFETY ISSUE!**

MMO will be providing childcare for those under 2, provided space available. To make a reservation, please contact Tina Jones at tjones@firstpresgreenville.org Cost will be \$15 9:00-12:00..

Dates to Remember:

December 1-15—Mitten and Hat Tree. See below.

December 5-9—Candyland Shop

December 16: Christmas Program 9:30 am. School closes immediately following the program (11:00 am). No lunch buddies or late stay.

January 9: current student registration begins

January 16 - 2yr enrollment begins

January 10: Academy Open House (K2-3rd Grade) 9am—11am and 4pm—7pm

January 13-16 School Closed Parent conferences and MLK, Jr. Holiday

January 23: Current Student enrollment deadline. Open Enrollment begins!

Mitten and Hat Trees

Because God gave us his gift in the birth of Jesus, we are emphasizing giving rather than receiving. This can be a difficult learning concept for young children. Since they learn best through concrete experiences we are putting up Christmas trees in both buildings where they can hang mittens, gloves, and caps to be given to less fortunate children. These trees will be up Dec. 1—Dec. 15. Please talk with your children and let them help you purchase these items to bring and hang on the trees. These items will be given to Greenville County Foster Parent Association to distribute to needy foster children in the area.

Thanks again for all the canned and non-perishable items donated for our food drive. We were able to fill up the back of Mr. Garrison's pick up truck to deliver to The Salvation Army! Excellent job. Many homes will be helped by our students!



Candyland Shop

This year we once again have teamed up with the Vineyard to provide a special store where your child can shop for gifts for his or her loved ones. Please refer to the information sent home on Nov. 21 for more specific details. Each class will visit the store to shop during the week of Dec. 5—8. Elves and teachers will be with each class to help the children select and stay within their budget!

Message from Marty

We will begin our enrollment process for the 2012-2013 School Year on January 9, 2012. Space is limited so get your applications and fees in early!

As we take time for family and friends this Holiday season, let us remember the reason we celebrate this joyous season. God loved us so much that he gave His only Son. He was here to teach and lead us by his example. Let us love one another and treat one another the way Jesus would have done.



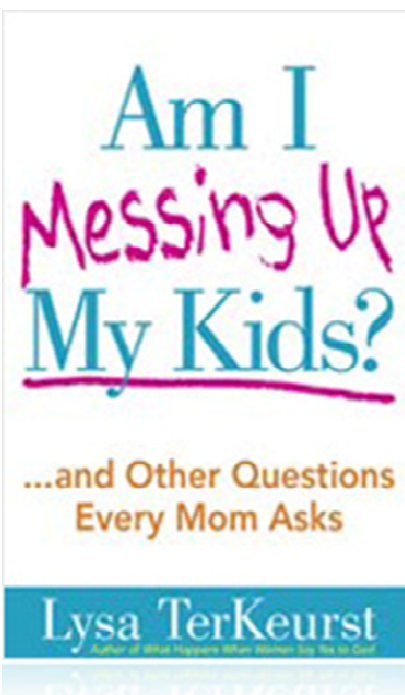
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!



Weather Reminder:

In case of bad weather we close when the public schools close for the first day only. If schools are delayed 2 hours, we open at 10:00 a.m. with early stay beginning at 9:00 a.m. Also, watch WYFF Channel 4 TV. Marty or Claudette will call them by 6:30 am. We will also e-blast from home assuming Claudette's internet is working! Also, look on Facebook and our website!

News from The Church



Join us on Thursday mornings for this excellent 7 week video lead, group study, starting Thursday January 5 9:30 to 11. Tina Jones is the facilitator. Call 672-0347 or email her tjones@firstpresgreenville.org to register and arrange child care. Workbook will be available for purchase in The Vineyard.

DECEMBER 2011

the Pto newsletter

The Academy at First Presbyterian Church

*Joy
to the
World*

Fall Festival Report

Again, a HUGE thank you to all that supported Fall Festival 2011! Because of you, we raised \$2,200.



Book Fair...A Recap

4,500 Scholastic Dollars

- Book Return Bin
- Book shelves
- Listening Stations
- Books & teacher resources
- Computerized reading program "Scholastic Reading Counts"

Simple Saving for EPA

Use a Publix Partners card when grocery shopping. Please see Claudette if you do not have one.

Night Out for The Academy

FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2012, 7PM

At the Upcountry History Museum

Parents you don't want to miss out on the biggest event of the year! It is going to be an amazing evening of food & fellowship while supporting THE ACADEMY. Put it on the calendar now!

PTO meeting
Tues., Dec. 6th
@ 5:30 pm

Marty Flynn
Fri., Feb. 3rd
Author
-in-
Residence

Lunch & Learn
Fri., Feb. 10th
11:30a-1p
All parents invited.
Look for details in
the New Year.

Box tops & Labels for Education

Keep clipping for collection in the Spring