

Preschool Orientation:

During the month of August I set aside several days during which you may bring your child/children to visit our classroom. I will be there to meet them, show them around and answer any questions you may have at that time. This will be a very informal meet & greet and you may come and go as you wish. This orientation should ease the transition for your child when school begins in September.



SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

From the Scholarship Committee

The money provided for scholarships to the preschool at Zion Lutheran Church is given as memorials for family members, as special gifts from members of the congregation and from groups within Zion's congregation, such as the Zion Men's Group or Zion Lutheran Church Women. Funds are given with care and consideration for the benefit of the children attending our preschool, but funds are limited. Therefore, the Scholarship Committee has instituted some new guidelines

- Noah's Park Christian Preschool will provide up to six scholarships for students, depending upon availability of funds.
- Each scholarship will be up to \$20 per month for the TTH class and up to \$30 per month for the MWF classes for tuition and is given for the year.
- If a student does not complete the year, his/her scholarship will be given to another student for the remainder of the year.
- Only one scholarship will be given per family.

If you are in need of scholarship assistance, fill out the portion of the registration form for scholarships. Write a 2-3 line "statement of need" so the Scholarship Committee will know why your family is applying for a scholarship.

Thank you for your attention to these new guidelines. Your care and honesty will allow us to be good stewards of our scholarship funds for your children.



NOAH'S PARK CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL

Parent Handbook

Zion Lutheran Church

**1732 S. Main St.
Aberdeen, SD 57401**

noahspark@nvc.net

605-225-6755 or 605-216-9806

Jami Ringgenberg-Teacher/Director



Mission

Our mission at Noah's Park Christian Preschool is: Serving each child one by one...Open to preschool children of any race, color, national or ethnic origin with diverse abilities...Striving to instill a love of God, a love of others, and a love of learning...

Philosophy

Noah's Park is a developmentally appropriate early childhood program with an age appropriate curriculum based on our belief that children learn best through direct involvement with people and hands-on experiences.

We are open to all children regardless of race, nationality or religious creed. We strive to foster and develop each child's potential to its fullest by providing age and developmentally appropriate activities.

Since preschool is a child's first educational experience, it is very important for the child to come to a place where they feel safe and loved. At Noah's Park, they will feel just that. The child will create a sense of self and belonging through play, prayer, class discussions, music, movement, art, bible stories, and books. Your child will be encouraged to create and explore. This experience will prepare your child for the educational experiences yet to come.



Admission and Withdrawal:

Children must be toilet trained and three years old by September 1st. I hope to have your child all year. However, if at anytime during the year the parents or teacher feels that the child's adjustment is not satisfactory, for medical reasons or because of a work transfer, a 30-day notice must be given.

Foster Grandparent:

Grandma Bonnie is our Foster Grandparent. She helps the children with puzzles and games, reads stories and helps with fine motor skills like cutting and gluing. We appreciate her help in our classroom.

Staff:

Hi, my name is Jami Ringgenberg and I am the preschool teacher at Noah's Park Christian Preschool. I graduated from Northern State University in 1998 with an elementary education degree. I worked at Henry Neill Elementary School and Northern State University before teaching at Noah's Park. Teaching is something I have dreamed of doing since I was five years old! I love incorporating science experiments, cooking, art and music into our preschool curriculum. I love teaching at Noah's Park and am always anxious to find new and exciting activities to share with my students. I am looking forward to working with your family!



Arrivals and Departures:

Please do not bring your child until five minutes before preschool begins. Please plan to pick up your child five minutes early. A fee of \$1.00/minute will be charged to your tuition if you are more than 10 minutes late to pick up your child.

For safety reasons, please come downstairs to drop off and pick up your child from preschool. Thanks!



School Schedule/Holidays:

We follow the Aberdeen School District schedule for holidays/breaks. Some snow days are built into our schedule and parents will be notified if additional make-up days are necessary.

Adverse Weather:

Noah's Park will not be in session if the Aberdeen School District closes for inclement weather. If the Aberdeen School District has a late start, the morning preschool class will be cancelled but the afternoon session will meet. If the Aberdeen School District has an early dismissal, the morning session will dismiss as usual but the afternoon session will not meet. Please check TV, radio or hubcityradio.com for weather related announcements.

Snack:

Your child will have the chance to provide snacks for the class on a rotating basis. I will put snack helper information in our monthly newsletter and will also send home the snack bucket as a reminder. Some popular snack ideas include granola bars, fruit snacks, pretzels, crackers and string cheese. We will have water with our snacks unless you choose to send juice or milk.

Medication Policy:

Noah's Park Preschool discourages the use of nonprescription, over the counter medication at school. Nonprescription medication should be given at home. Prescription medications brought to school must be in a properly labeled pharmacy container. The parent(s) must meet with the preschool teacher regarding the prescription medication before enrolling the child in preschool. If the need for a prescription medication arises during the school year, please contact the teacher immediately.

Our Goals:



- ◆ To develop a Christian connection between families and young children and the church.
- ◆ To promote sound physical, emotional, social, intellectual, and spiritual growth and development through planned activities by organizing the environment into educational centers and providing a balanced daily schedule.
- ◆ To provide an environment of play that is vital to a child's learning, self-expression, sense of discovery, social values, emotional maturity and ability to make choices.
- ◆ To ensure a safe, inviting environment where children feel free to speak, create and explore.
- ◆ To encourage the child to understand their world through the full use of their senses, feelings and intellects to develop positive concepts about self, family, friends, school and church.
- ◆ To help the child to extend his/her world beyond his/her immediate family and small circle of friends.

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE is available Monday-Friday mornings beginning at 8:00 a.m. for \$2/day. Please sign your child in on the Before School Care clipboard when you drop them off. Before School Care fees will be added to your monthly tuition or you may pay on a daily basis. Before School Care payments will be collected in the white tuition mailbox. Thank you!



Daily Schedule:

Throughout the week your child will be provided with: circle time, learning centers, art, snacks, music and movement, story time, prayer, Bible readings, and outside play. We will have Chapel Time once each week with the Pastor. Flexibility is necessary when working with young children, so the schedule may change daily.

Days & Hours of Preschool

3-4 year olds - Tuesday & Thursday mornings

9:00 -11:30 a.m.

4-5 year olds - Monday/Wednesday/Friday

8:45 -11:30 a.m. or 12:30 -3:15 p.m.



Tuition

2 Day Session (Tue/Thu) - \$80.00 monthly

3 Day Session (Mon/Wed/Fri)) - \$110.00 monthly

- ◆ There is a \$50.00 non-refundable registration and supply fee due when registering to reserve your spot.
- ◆ Payment is due on the 1st of each month or the next school day. Make checks payable to Noah's Park Christian Preschool.
- ◆ If payment is not made by the second school day, a reminder note will go home. If payment is not made by the third school day, there will be a \$20.00 late charge.

School Supplies:

Your child will need the following school supplies:

- 1 box of 24 crayons
- 1 bottle of washable school glue
- 2 glue sticks
- 1 ream (500 sheets) white copy paper
- 1 package of napkins
- 1 package of 3 oz Dixie cups
- 1 package of baby wipes
- 1 backpack (standard size, please)

Please contact the teacher if you have any questions regarding the supply list.



Absence:

If I am ill or unable to attend school, I will have a qualified substitute. If your child is ill or misses school, I cannot refund your money because a child's place cannot be filled during his/her absence. Please be sure to notify me if your child is not attending. Notify me if there are any physical or emotional disturbances which might affect the child's attitude.



Parent Participation:

Parents are always welcome! I encourage you to observe in the classroom. Allow your child at least a month to adjust before planning to visit. I may need some volunteers during the year to help with field trips or special occasions.

Field Trips:

Various field trips will be planned throughout the year. On field trip days, I will ask that you leave your child's carseat in the van. Information and reminders will be sent home regarding field trips.

Clothing:

Dress your child in comfortable, washable play clothes that are suitable to weather conditions. It is helpful to have your child's outdoor clothing and boots marked with their name.

Sometimes a child may need to change clothes at preschool. Please send a complete change of clothes (shirt, pants, underwear, socks) for your child during the first week of school. These will be kept at school and returned at the end of the year. Please send them in a large Ziploc bag labeled with your child's name.

Conferences:

Conferences will be held twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring. Information will be sent home when conference dates are scheduled. Sign-up sheets will be posted in the classroom to schedule conferences. Please let me know if you have any specific concerns or questions throughout the school year.

