



# SECOND PRESBYTERIAN PRESCHOOL

March 2022

Hello Preschool Families,

Lent (*March 1 – April 15*) can be hard to explain to young children. However, the story of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection is the central story of our Christian faith. It's through the death and resurrection of Jesus that Christians believe God's kingdom is possible among us.

I wanted to share with you a few simple ways to share this story with your children at home.

**Start a garden.** Start an indoor garden to help your children understand the death and rebirth of Christ. Explain how the planting symbolizes the death of Jesus and how the sprouting seed symbolizes His rebirth. When Easter arrives, transplant your seedlings to your yard.

**Make pretzels.** Pretzels were a common fasting food among early Christians, and they were traditionally made of flour, water, and salt. The shape of the simple food signifies the arms crossed in prayer.

**Read books about Jesus and the Easter Story.** Here are a few titles/YouTube links:

- The Story of Easter (by Brian Wildsmith) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CNFWv906PQo>
- The Jesus Storybook Bible (by Sally Lloyd-Jones) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1G3Yg9IUIZc>
- The First Easter (by Carol Heyer) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BmVmWclQNo0>

**Act out the "parade" of Palm Sunday as a family.** Read Matthew 21:1-9. Take turns being the donkey, Jesus, and the crowd of people greeting Jesus as he enters Jerusalem. Why do you think people were so excited to see Jesus? Make palm branches out of green construction paper and decorate the dinner table with your creations.

**Dye Easter eggs.** Easter eggs have been a symbol new life since ancient times. At Easter we experience "new life" in Christ. What are some ways you or your family have experienced new life? What did that feel like?

I hope that this Lenten season you find new ways to make the story of Jesus more accessible for your family.

Faithfully,  
Dr. Sally



## March Calendar Events

**Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup>**

Daylight Saving Time Starts – **move clocks ahead!**



**March 14<sup>th</sup> – March 18<sup>th</sup>**

Summer Program Enrollment for **Currently Enrolled Students**.

**March 21<sup>ST</sup> – 25<sup>TH</sup>**

Summer Program Enrollment for **Siblings, New Students (enrolled for 2022-2023), and Children of Second Presbyterian Church Members**.

**March 28<sup>th</sup> -April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Summer Program **OPEN Enrollment**.

**March 15<sup>th</sup> – March 16<sup>th</sup>**

Join your child for Daddy and Me Days. Students will introduce their dads and show them around their classrooms. Take part in special classroom activities, enjoy play time in the gym, snack on coffee and doughnuts, and if your child is in the Threes and Fours, spend some time in the workshop.

<b>Daddy and Me Days</b>		
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Classrooms</b>	<b>Times</b>
Tuesday, March 15 <sup>th</sup>	Fours	9:00 - 10:00
	Threes (5 days)	11:00 - 12:00
	Young Twos – Classroom only	8:35 - 8:55
Wednesday, March 16 <sup>th</sup>	Twos+ (3 & 5 days)	9:00 - 9:45
	Threes (3 days)	11:00 - 12:00

**Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**

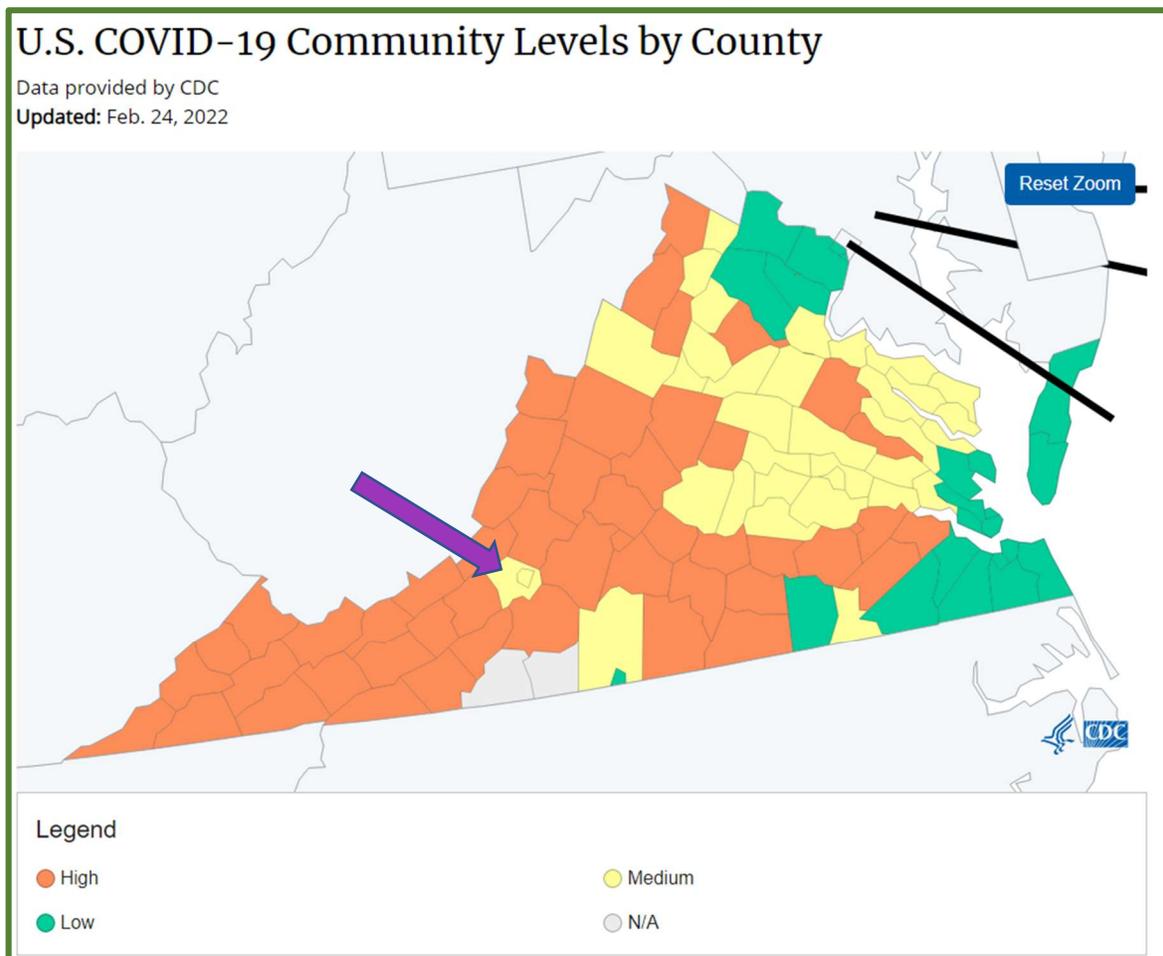
Teacher Professional Development Day – **SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STUDENTS.**

**Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>**

All are welcome to the First Floor Renovation Open House 5:30-6:30.

*Please enter through the main preschool entrance (Door 12) on Highland Ave.*

## Recent Covid-19 Updates



### Resources:

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/182/2022/01/K-12-COVID-19-Parent-Flowchart.pdf>

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/182/2022/01/K-12-COVID-19-Parent-Flowchart.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/science/Scientific-Rationale-summary-COVID-19-Community-Levels.pdf>

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/protect-yourself/isolation-quarantine/>

# Thanking our Community Helpers

During the month of February, the Threes classes studied "Community Helpers". Below are some of their fun learning activities.



As a way of showing their appreciation to the Roanoke City Sanitation Workers the students spent time creating and then displaying "Thank You Posters" outside. If your family does activities like this at home, we would love to see your pictures.



As way of saying "thank you" the students baked yummy brownie bites for the teacher. Talk about a win-win!

Learning to bake gives children essential living skills while achieving core education goals for literacy, sciences, math, art, and social science, and eating Brownie Bites makes teachers happy.

Emory Anderson, Eleanor Link, Wells Kreger (Threes 5 Day)

The students collected money as a "thank you" donation for the Second Presbyterian Preschool Custodians, totaling \$90 each.

A simple note of "Thanks" can mean so much. The children gave the Second Presbyterian Preschool's mail carrier(s) handmade Thank You Notes.



## Family Art Adventure Night

On February 24<sup>th</sup> there was a great turn out for Second Presbyterian Preschool's First Family Art Adventure. A very special thank you to our fabulous lead teachers: Martha Wheeler, Karen Brunk, Kristin Purnell, and Maria Wickham who made the event such a wonderful success. All those in attendance send a big thank you to thank Stephanie Mattox for ordering and setting up the pizza, oranges, and water.



Nathan Anderson and his mom, Heather Rousseau



Charlotte, and Carol Moneymaker



Virginia and Emory Anderson



Eleanor and Chris Link



Brianna and Jackson Gunter

### Links to Process Art Projects:

- <https://teaching2and3yearolds.com/suncatcher-nature-craft-for-preschoolers/>
- [Let's Make a Sculpture - Bright Horizons](#)
- [White Crayon and Watercolors Art Activity. TeachersMag.com](#)

## Getting Ready for the 2022 Summer Program

We are excited to offer your child once again a place to play and grow this summer.

Your child can join us while we explore the world of art, experiment with science, learn sports skills, and experience the best part of summer: spending time outside with friends.



**Detailed Information COMING SOON!**

Dr. Sally will be sending out detailed information and registration materials on Monday, March 14th.

### News from the Fours



Join us in welcoming the new Lead Teacher in the Fours classroom Dr. Leslie Floyd. Dr. Leslie has a doctorate in Education with a specialization in Early Childhood Education. She has been helping out in our Infant A room since the beginning of the year and was quick to volunteer to finish the year for Mrs. Taylor. Both of Leslie's daughters attended SPRES Preschool!

We still have a few spots left in our Fours program for Fall 2022. If you know of anyone who is searching for a great pre-k program in a fantastic preschool, please send them to us! [sally@spres.org](mailto:sally@spres.org)

### Hiring for the 2022-2023 School Year

We are looking for more great Teachers, Assistant Teachers, and Aftercare Staff to add to our rock star staff next year! If you, or a friend, may be interested please email me at [sally@spres.org](mailto:sally@spres.org).



### Looking for Local Kid Friendly Things to Do?

Visit Kids Square located at 1 Market Square, Roanoke, VA 20411 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.

In kid-sized "Tiny Town" children can role play as a banker, teacher, cashier, doctor, dentist, vet and more. "The Forest" offers tree forts, a rock-climbing wall, hobbit houses and camping activities all designed to get little ones moving. Visit "The Theatre" where the stage is ready for imaginative play. Take a tour of the "Sensory Hallway" which is specifically designed for the sensory sensitive. Enjoy the hands-on activities and magic of the glow-in-the dark "Glow Room". If your family goes, we would love to see your pictures. <https://kidssquare.org/>