PURPOSE - Christ Lutheran Church Preschool's (CLCP) curriculum is age-appropriate; both learning instruction and play are planned with developmental goals in mind. The Preschool provides a learning experience with challenges and stimulation to promote social, cognitive, and intellectual growth in a loving atmosphere with a Christian emphasis. The program provides a variety of enjoyable, creative activities such as art, music, Spanish, literature, science, cooking, and free play. Classes provide both structured and child-directed exploration activities to develop critical thinking, problem solving skills and positive self-confidence.

Our licensed facility is bright, cheery, and spacious, with a large, well-equipped playground. Class sizes are small with staff to child ratios exceeding state requirements; a good indicator of a high quality program.

Christ Lutheran Church Preschool is open to children of all faiths and is an outreach program of Christ Lutheran Church. Chapel time meets twice a month with a warm, loving Christian message shared by our Youth Director or Pastor. Bible stories are integrated with songs, prayer, arts and crafts throughout the month.

Children who are happy, engaged, and well-loved rarely have discipline problems. However, when necessary, a teacher will talk with the child and use redirection as the next step. All discipline will be positive, developmentally appropriate, and follow logical consequences.

**PROGRAM GOALS** – Our staff is here to meet the cognitive, social, emotional, physical, developmental, and spiritual needs of children. This is accomplished through positive, loving guidance and instruction by our qualified staff in a safe, secure environment.

**ENROLLMENT** - Enrollment is open to all children between the ages of 2½ - 7 years, regardless of race, nationality, ethnic origin or religion. Current families, alumni and church members are given priority during the registration process.

# CLASSES AND FEES

Registration Fee - \$75 per child **non-refundable** \$100 per family \*\* This fee reserves your child's space. A 10% discount for tuition is given for second sibling. (Excludes Kids Klub Program)

Scholarships are available if needed. We are open from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Kids Klub (Extended Day)

AM 8:00-9:00 \$10.00/ Day PM 1:00-5:00 \$10.00/hour

We offer classes for 2.5 - 6-year-olds. We also offer two different choices for a Friday class option. There is a yearly supply fee along with a monthly tuition fee.

See insert for class and fee schedule.

<u>CREATIVE CORNER FRIDAY CLASS</u>- This class is designed for the creative heart with art, music, and story activities. You can register to attend every Friday or pre-arrange a drop- in day!

THINK TANK FRIDAY CLASS- This class is designed for the 4- and 5-year-old to extend their learning week. This class will focus on needed academic skills along with building social skills. This is a regular Friday class and not a drop-in option. This class is a good opportunity to acclimate your child to the schedule and skills for the following year since Douglas County has 5 full days of Kindergarten.

YOUNGER PRESCHOOL- The 2.5 -3-year-old class offers a "first exposure to preschool" experience in a warm and nurturing environment. Children learn how to best acclimate to school through purposeful play and exploration opportunities. They will learn how to sit for longer periods of time, transition, take turns, and play together. They will participate in Spanish, music, chapel and other school wide activities. They will learn through art, music, play, and centers.

PRESCHOOL - The three-year-old class offers first preschool experience in a warm, safe, and nurturing environment. Children learn social skills through "purposeful play," having many opportunities to participate in varied centers and projects. Our curriculum includes a schedule of center time, circle time, story time, sharing, exploration time, outside play, art, lunch, and "Specials" – Spanish and Music. Letters, phonics, numbers, colors, shapes, and name recognition are introduced.

PREKINDERGARTEN- The four-year-old class provides a structured experience in a fun learning environment. Our curriculum includes Kindergarten Readiness Skills that focus on recognition and writing of letters and numbers utilizing the Handwriting Without Tears program. Literacy activities are integrated throughout the day that enhance our students understanding of concepts. We also use a "hands on" approach by using manipulatives to develop the cognitive skills needed for math readiness. The day is divided into teacher-instructed time as well as child-directed exploration. Other classroom activities include circle/calendar time, show and tell, outside play, stories, art/crafts, science units and "Specials"; Spanish and Music.

**JR. KINDERGARTEN** - This program is geared to the skills and abilities of a slightly older group of children who miss the cut-off for Kindergarten or who are not quite ready to move on to Kindergarten. This class is more structured than our Pre-Kindergarten and places greater emphasis on academics in all areas of learning. Junior-Kindergarten utilizes the Handwriting Without Tears Program along with journaling to enhance our student's writing ability. Literacy and reading readiness skills are integrated throughout each day. We also use a "hands on" approach using manipulatives that will develop your child's math readiness abilities. The day is divided into teacher instructed time and child-directed exploration. Classroom activities include circle/calendar time, show and tell, outside play, stories, art/crafts, science, cooking, and "Specials"; Spanish and Music.

<u>LUNCH/SNACK</u> - Children need to bring a nutritious lunch to eat with their classmates if they are enrolled in our AM or Full Day Classes. If in a full day class, we ask that you also provide an afternoon snack in your child's backpack.

\*We do supplement the afternoon snack for our Kids Klub\*

# **SECURITY**

Access is gained by a security code or ringing the doorbell. Everyone is videotaped when entering the school.

# **CLCP CALENDAR**

Our nine-month calendar follows the Douglas County School District schedule; CLCP begins in August and ends in May. We observe the major holidays: Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, MLK Day, President's Day, as well as Fall and Spring Break.

# PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

We hold two parent/teacher conferences a year. In September, you will meet for a goal planning conference with the teacher. Then, in the spring a formal assessment is completed and is discussed at a second conference.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS

We have so much fun! Join us for Halloween parade and party, special guests, Thanksgiving Feast, Christmas program, Western Lunch, Valentine's party, Bookfair, Art Show/ Auction, Graduation and so much more! We encourage parents to help plan and participate in our activities.

# **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

We are members of organizations who advocate for enhancing Early Childhood Education programs, such as NAEYC and ECCDA, because we strongly believe in continuing education and professional growth of our staff in order to maintain a quality program with outstanding teachers who are up to date on the most current educational trends. (Teachers are required to complete 15 hours of continuing education per year.)

# STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Christ Lutheran Church Preschool welcomes families of all faiths, creeds and ethnic origins to its program. The programs are developed from a common desire for meeting the needs of children and their families for nurturing growth and development of relationships and understanding.

- -We believe in helping children achieve their full potential in the context of relationships that are based on trust, respect and positive regard.
- -We believe that the dignity and worth of each child and family is important.
- -We believe that each child should be helped to develop a positive self-image.
- -We believe that our educational decisions and guidance for children must be based on our knowledge of child development. We recognize the needs of children change as they grow and our program must respond in content and structure.
- -We believe each child is a unique individual with special gifts. We believe that it is important to meet each child's needs for physical, social, emotional and intellectual growth.
- -We believe that children deserve a nurturing, safe, and happy environment which promotes their natural curiosity, and desire to learn. We believe creativity, self-expression and curiosity are expressions of individuality and they should be encouraged and developed in all people.
- -We believe that children deserve to have teachers who are capable and caring, and whose values enable them to be excellent role models.



# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL

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