



The Loud and Quiet Christmas

You are warmly invited to join us in the sanctuary for our Christmas Programs! Come and experience the gift of God's love through the eyes of the children.

KinderPrep (Ms. Kathy & Ms. Sydney) —
Friday, December 12 at 9:15 am

Older Multi-Age and Intermediate Multi-Age (Ms. JoEllen, Ms. Moriah, Ms. Kelly, & Ms. Daisy) —
Monday, December 15 and Tuesday, December 16 at 9:15 am

Monarchs and Swallowtails (Ms. Jessica, Ms. Jena, Ms. Laura, & Ms. Aaliyah) —
Monday, December 15 and Tuesday, December 16 at 11:15 am

Please join your child in Fellowship Hall for our reception, following the program.



SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

Wednesday, November 26 - Friday, November 28: Thanksgiving Break — No School

Sunday, November 30: Music to Serve Benefit Concert (See pg. 7)

December 1: Tuition due — A \$15 late fee will be assessed for payments received after December 5th.

Wednesday, December 3 & Thursday, December 4: St. Luke Spirit T-Shirt Days

Friday, December 5: Family Pizza and Pajama Party With Andy Mason — 5:30 pm (See pg. 3)

Monday, December 8: Fire / Property Evacuation Drill at 11:15 am

Friday, December 12, Monday, December 15 & Tuesday, December 16: Christmas Programs

Wednesday, December 3, 10, and 17: Advent Soup Suppers at 5:00 pm (See Page 5)

Friday, December 12: KinderPrep Christmas Program and Reception (See Page 4 for Reception Request)

Monday, December 15 and Tuesday, December 16: Christmas Programs and Receptions (See Page 4 for Reception Request)

Monday, December 15: Preschool Committee Meeting over Zoom at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, December 17 & Thursday, December 18: Shelter-in-Place Drills at 11:20 am

Monday, December 22—Monday, January 5: Christmas Break — No School, Preschool Offices Closed

Monday, January 1: Check www.aps.edu/schools/transfers for APS Transfer Form (See Page 4)

Monday, January 5: Teacher Inservice Day — No School

Tuesday, January 6: Welcome to 2026! First Day Back to Preschool

Please note: Due to Christmas Break, January tuition will be due by January 7. A late fee will be assessed for payments received after January 9.

St. Luke Preschool is joining St. Luke Church in a Giving Tree project to benefit families in need, through Saranam. Saranam works locally to "Empower families to end their homelessness and poverty through housing, education, and supportive communities." You can learn more at saranamabq.org.



From Now — December 12, you are invited to take a gift tag from the Christmas tree that is located at the preschool front entrance. Simply purchase the item listed on the tag and bring it to the collection box at the preschool.



We very much enjoyed our conference time with you.
Thank you for joining us!

As we move into the colder months, it's time to be aware of how closures and delays work. *If APS cancels or delays school, we will too.* This is for APS CITY SCHOOLS ONLY. East Mountain Schools could be cancelled while APS in the city still remains open.

If **APS in the city** announces a 2 hour delay:

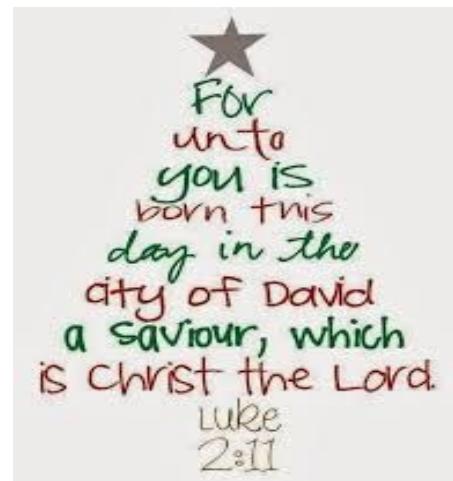
- ♦ Students enrolled 9:00 — 12:00 or 9:00 — 12:45, classes will be cancelled.
- ♦ AM Extended Care begins at 9:00 am for students who are enrolled in AM Extended Care and 9:00 am — 3:00 pm.
- ♦ Students enrolled in the 9:00 — 3:00 programs — class begins at 11:00 am.
- ♦ PM Extended Care ends at 4:30 pm for students who are enrolled in PM Extended Care.

The safety of families and staff is our priority. In the event we have a delay or a closure for the day, you will be notified by e-mail and Brightwheel no later than 6:00 am.



Thank You for Helping Us Play Outside!

Thank you to everyone for bundling up your children! Hats, mittens, and temperature appropriate jackets make it possible for us to get fresh air, Vitamin D, and large motor play each day. Please help us by **labeling all winter wear items**. This helps us to get the right items to the right child.





You are warmly invited to a
Family Pizza and Pajama Party,
featuring children's musician ***Andy Mason!***

Be sure to wear your pajamas for this fun evening of yummy pizza, children's activities, and singing and dancing to Andy's whimsical music.

When: Friday, December 5
Time: 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm
Where: Fellowship Hall at St. Luke

The PCC (Preschool & Church Cooperative) will be providing dinner, and a free will offering will be accepted to cover the cost.

For more details, contact Lori at stlukesc@thuntek.net.

You can listen to Andy Mason's music on Spotify or iTunes! His children's books, including *Everybody Likes Pizza, Smile, Monkey See, Monkey Do, and Where is Your Nearest Bear?* can be found on Amazon.

Treat Donations Needed For Our Christmas Program Receptions

Be watching for a Sign Up Genius link to come your way soon, as we welcome your help with providing snacks for our receptions.



LOOKING AHEAD TO KINDERGARTEN

If your child will be five by August 31, 2026, and you are interested in an APS elementary school that is not in your district, you will want to be watching the APS website for transfer information. Typically, APS begins accepting transfers online on January 1st. You can find more information and learn about the transfer process by visiting APS.edu/schools/transfers.



The Preschool and Church Cooperative (PCC) has asked each teacher and staff member for a "wish list". This list includes some of the teachers' favorite things, such as restaurants, stores, sweets, flowers, etc. At your request, we can share these via a link. Please let the preschool office know if you would like the link. You can also request a copy of your child's teacher's Favorite Things by emailing PCC member, Mary Fidler at mefidler@gmail.com.

Children's Worship

- Wednesday, December 3 — On the Way to Bethlehem (Luke 2: 1–20)
- Thursday, December 4 — On the Way to Bethlehem

Throughout December, we will be learning about Baby Jesus. You and your child may wish to read about the birth of Jesus from a children's bible. A child friendly nativity set can lend itself well to the retelling of the story. When children can move and interact with the pieces, including Mary, Joseph, Baby Jesus, angels, shepherds, donkey, sheep, Magi, and more, the story becomes meaningful for them.



Parents and Family Members Are Welcome to Join Us!

KinderPrep (Kathy & Sydney) - 9:30 am
Wednesday only

Older Multi-Age (JoEllen and Moriah) and
Intermediate Multi-Age (Kelly & Daisy) - 10:45 am

Monarchs (Jessica and Jena) and
Swallowtails (Laura & Aaliyah) - 11:15 am



You are warmly invited to
Wednesday Evening Soup Suppers and Worship Services
at St. Luke Church

5:00–6:00 pm — Soup Supper — Wednesdays, December 3, 10, and 17
6:00–6:30 pm — Worship Service



You are warmly invited to the
Family Friendly Christmas Eve Service
Wednesday, December 24 at 4:00 pm
St. Luke Lutheran Church

Open House and Pre-Registration for Next School Year!

Please let your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers know about our Open House that is scheduled for **Sunday, February 1, 2026**, from **3:00 - 5:00 pm**. Current and prospective families will have an opportunity to tour the classrooms, talk with the teachers, and ask questions about our programs.

Pre-registration for the 2026-2027 school year will open to our current families, and church congregation members on Monday, February 2, 2026. Pre-registration for the public will open on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

Class offerings for the 2026-2027 school year will be similar to this year and are as follows:

Younger Multi-Age Swallowtails Class: (younger two year olds) — Potty trained not required.

Younger Multi-Age Monarchs Class: (older two and younger three year olds, all children to turn 3 by December 31st) — Potty trained not required.

Intermediate Multi-Age Class: (three year olds) — Fully potty trained is required.**

Older Multi-Age Class: (older threes and four year olds, all children to turn 4 by December 31st) — Fully potty trained is required.**

KinderPrep: (five-day-a-week program for children who will be four years old by August 31, 2026 and moving on to kindergarten the following year) — Fully potty trained is required.**

**Please note that our Fully Potty Trained policy states: "St. Luke enrolls children who are not yet potty trained into our youngest classes, where the classrooms are set up for diapering and potty training opportunities. Only children who are fully potty trained may move up into our older classes. Fully potty trained means the child does not wear diapers or pull ups for any portion of the school day, that there is no pattern of accidents, that both urination and bowel movements take place consistently in the toilet, and the child is able to navigate restrooming successfully with a level of independent skills."

Final class placements will take place in April and will be based on where the child is, with respect to being fully potty trained, at that time.

Summer Preschool

Again this summer, we will be offering **Summer Preschool**

for the currently enrolled children whose families have exhibited the need for consistent care — Monday through Friday, 8:00 am — 4:00 pm.

In January, we will be reaching out to these individual families with an invitation to join us for

Summer Preschool
from May 26th — July 10th, 2026.

Be watching for more information soon!

St. Luke T-Shirt Spirit Days!

- Wednesday, December 3
- Thursday, December 4

Your child can wear his/her St. Luke t-shirt for Spirit Days or any day!



**We wish you and your family
Christmas joy
and the peace of Christ
in the new year.**

Illness Policy

Thank you for your help with the health and wellness of the preschool community.
Together we make a difference!

- Send a Brightwheel message or an e-mail to **both Lori and Jane any time your child will be absent, even if he/ she is not sick, as we are required to track absences.**
Lori — stlukesc@thuntek.net Jane — stlukepreschool1956@gmail.com
- In order to return to the preschool following illness, children (and staff) must be: **fever free (without medication), diarrhea free, and vomiting free for 24 hours, and able to participate in the school day successfully with respect to energy level and engagement. Children with excessive amounts of mucus and coughing should remain at home to help minimize illness at the preschool.**

If your child becomes ill while at school, you will be called to pick him/ her up within 30 minutes of receiving the call. Please be sure to keep your local contact information updated with us. If we are unable to get in touch with a parent, we will continue calling down the list of emergency contacts until we reach someone.

More detailed information about illness, health, and safety can be found in the Family Handbook starting on page 20.

Benefit Concert

MUSIC TO SERVE

SUNDAY NOV 30th at 7:00 PM
ST LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH SANCTUARY
9100 MENAUL BLVD NE, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87112.

We're collecting food for the Lobo Food Pantry and collecting hygiene products for CNM Distribution Day.

Let's make a difference!

Suggested donation for admission:
\$15 or 3 donation items

USE QR CODE TO SEE A LIST OF ITEMS TO DONATE

St. Luke LUTHERAN CHURCH

CNM Central New Mexico Community College

campus
LOBO FOOD pantry

Books Make Great Christmas Gifts!

A large body of research supports that one of the most important things parents can do to help their children become readers is to read aloud to them, from the time they are infants.

Here are some suggestions for making the most of your read aloud time together:



- read aloud at least once every day and read favorites again and again.
- talk about the story before, during, and after reading.
- find out what kinds of books and authors your child likes best.
- visit the public library with your child.
- share a variety of literature (stories, poems, and informational books) over time.
- suggest activities that go with the books you read. For example, "In this story, Yoko brought sushi to school for lunch. What special food would you like to take for lunch?"
- offer books throughout your home and even outdoors.
- be sure to provide books that reflect your culture, and that are written in your home language as well as in English.
- offer books that address social and emotional issues such as *When Sophie Gets Angry — Really, Really Angry* By Molly Bang.
- offer books about diversity such as *The Colors of Us* by Karen Katz.
- offer books about faith, such as children's bible stories.

Great book choices for young children include:

ABC and counting books — look for engaging colorful illustrations of the alphabet and numbers such as *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault.

Wordless picture books — stories told through pictures with few or no words such as *Good Dog Carl* by Alexandra Day.

Concept books — pictures or photos of familiar objects or ideas such as colors, shapes, opposites, or sizes such as *Color Dance* by Ann Jonas.

Pattern books — repeating text and predictable plots that allow children to join in, such as *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin Jr.

Information books — realistic pictures or photographs that introduce facts about a specific topic, such as *Bugs* by Nancy Winslow Parker and Joan Richards Wright.

Traditional rhymes and stories — nursery rhymes, fairy tales, fables, and folktales from various cultures, such as *Abiyoyo* by Pete Seeger.

Picture books — words and pictures that tell a story about realistic or imaginary characters and events, such as *Abuela* by Arthur Dorros.

Poetry — illustrated poems for young children, such as *I Love* by Eloise Greenfield.

Easy-to-read books — limited vocabulary, rhyme and repetition for beginning readers, such as *The Foot Book* by Dr. Seuss.

Children's bibles — a variety of children's bibles are available, including the *Frolic Preschool Bible* and the *Spark Story Bible*

Resources: NAEYC for Families—www.NAEYC.org and *Read With Me*, a RIF Parent/ Teacher Partnership