



February 2026



OPEN HOUSE

You and your child are invited to join us for our Open House on Sunday, February 1 from 3:00 pm — 5:00 pm

Open House is the perfect time to visit classrooms and talk with the teachers of the next class up from the class your child currently attends. Enrollment for current families will begin on Monday, February 2, which offers a two week priority before open enrollment begins on Tuesday, February 17. *Please note that children who are enrolled this year are not automatically re-enrolled for next year.* Enrollment must take place each year to secure your child's spot.

Enrollment takes place on a first come, first served basis and classes can fill up quickly. If you need a specific schedule, please plan to register early!

The enrollment form can be downloaded from our website or picked up from the preschool office. Forms and fees will be accepted starting on Monday, February 2 at 7:00 am.

Final class placements for next school year will be made in late April and are based on age eligibility, development, where the child is with respect to the potty-training process at that time, teacher recommendations (if applicable), and parent input.

SCHOOL HAPPENINGS

February 1: Private Pay Tuition Due — A \$15 late fee will be assessed for payments received after February 5

Sunday, February 1: Open House from 3:00 pm — 5:00 pm (See pg. 6)

Monday, February 2: Registration begins at 7:00 am for currently enrolled families

Saturday, February 14: Happy Valentine's Day!

Monday, February 16: Presidents' Day — NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, February 17: Registration opens for the public at 7:00 am

Tuesday, February 17: Preschool Committee Meeting at 7:00 Over Zoom

Wednesday, February 18: Ash Wednesday (See pg. 4)

March 2 — 6: Lutheran Schools Week

March 2 — 6: Scholastic Book Fair (See pg. 2)

Friday, March 6: Literacy Night, 5:00-6:30 pm (See pg. 2)

Monday, March 30 — Friday, April 3: Spring Break — No School

Thursday, April 9 & Friday, April 10: School Photos

Please invite your family and friends with young children to our Open House!



Join us at the Preschool on
Friday, March 6
from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm
for an evening of
literacy themed fun!
Be watching for more
details soon.

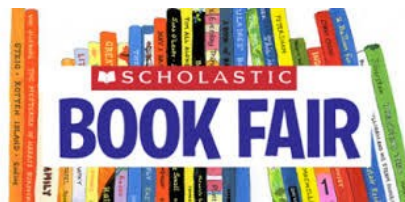
In preparation for this event,
we are accepting donations
of gently used children's books.

Upcoming St. Luke Spirit Days!

- Thursday, February 5
- Friday, February 13
- Thursday, February 19
- Friday, February 27



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



Come and shop onsite at our Scholastic Book Fair the week of
March 2 – 6!

You may wish to stop and shop at pick up or drop off times,
or when you come for Literacy Night.

A wonderful array of preschool books will be available for you to choose from.
Enjoy some reading fun together and benefit the preschool at the same time!

Cash and credit or debit cards will be accepted. No checks, please.

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 in the 9:00 —12:00 or 9:00 —12:45 programs, 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 of a delay or a closure, e-mail and Brightwheel notifications will be sent no later than 6:00 am on the day of the closure.

Children's Worship

- Thursday February 5 — Zacchaeus (Luke 10: 25—37)
- Friday, February 13 — Zacchaeus
- Thursday, February 19 — The Good Shepherd (John 10:11-18)
- Friday, February 27 — The Good Shepherd

In February, we will be singing "Jesus Loves Me". Written by Anna Bartlett Warner in 1859, this song has been an enduring favorite for over 100 years! If you'd like to listen to it or sing it with your child, you can find many versions on Spotify.



Parents and Family Members Are
Welcome to Join Us!

KinderPrep (Kathy & Sydney) - 9:30 am
Fridays 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

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 ahold of a parent, we will continue calling down the list of emergency contacts until we reach someone.

**What is
Ash Wednesday?**



Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026

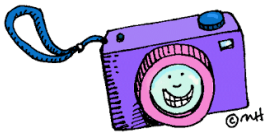
On Ash Wednesday, we are marked with the cross using ashes and the words from Genesis, "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return," reminding us that God loves us and forgives us.

Children can be very curious about the idea of adults wearing ashes in the shape of a cross on their foreheads. Children may wish to have their own ashes as a sign that "I am part of this, too". We are first marked with the cross using water (and sometimes oil) at our baptisms. At that time, to be marked with the cross is a wonderful thing as we are identified as the loved children of God.

At St. Luke Preschool, Pastor Brad will be dispensing ashes for interested parents, children, and staff from 8:45-9:10 am at the preschool main entrance. Whether or not you are Lutheran, whether or not you've had ashes on your forehead before, you are invited to request ashes, to ask questions, and to join the Lenten journey of self-reflection and faith, if you would like to.

Ash Wednesday services at St. Luke Lutheran Church will be observed on Wednesday, February 18 at 12:00 noon and 6:00 pm and are open to all who wish to attend.

2025 tax statements will become available by January 31st through your child's Brightwheel portal. Please contact the preschool office if you need assistance.



School photos will take place on Thursday, April 9 and Friday, April 10

More details to come!

Happy
Valentine's
Day

FINE MOTOR SKILLS



Children who enjoy school the most are those who are ready to learn – both mentally and physically. During the preschool years, children’s minds and bodies develop at an astounding rate! As young children grow, whole body activities such as crawling, walking, climbing, and dancing lead to fine motor activities such as stringing beads, cutting with scissors, and playing with playdough. By exploring and working with their hands, children develop the strength, dexterity, and coordination necessary to write and draw – skills that will be needed for success in school. Preschool children benefit from many experiences with a variety of materials that promote the development of the fine motor skills that will serve them throughout their lives.

Fine Motor Play at Home

Exploring and playing with simple items found around the house can be the most fun and reap the most fine motor benefits! Here are some ideas:

- Spray Painting Fill a plastic spray bottle with water and let your child “paint” with it outside.
- Clothespin Clipping Give your child some clothespins to clip around the edges of an empty container. How many clothespins fit around a large container? A small one?
- Sponge Squeezing Fill a bowl with water and teach your child to suck up the water using a sponge. Move the sponge filled with water to an empty bowl and squeeze it empty. How many full sponges can be moved from one bowl to the other?
- Dropper Art Teach your child to suck up liquid using an eyedropper. Food coloring added to water can be used to “paint” with drops on a coffee filter or paper towel.
- Turkey Baster in the Tub Let your child suck up and squirt water using a turkey baster while taking a bath.
- Tweezers and Tongs Make games out of picking up and moving items with tongs or tweezers. For example, place cotton balls into cups of a muffin pan using tongs.
- Tearing Box Allow your child to tear strips of scrap paper (junk mail works well) into an empty box.
- Bird Feeders Let your child string o-shaped cereal onto yarn to hang on a branch as a bird feeder.
- Playdough Let your child practice using scissors to cut Playdough. Pounding, squeezing, and shaping dough builds strength in fingers, hands and wrists!

As a child’s abilities grow, so do feelings of delight in what their bodies can do.

**Spend time together, playing and exploring,
and watch your child’s abilities and confidence flourish!**



Sunday, February 1, 2026 | 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Join us to explore our classrooms and meet our teachers!

- 2026-2027 School Year
- Faith-based
- 5 Star NAEYC Accredited
- Registration forms, Universal Child Care information, and tuition rates are available online or in the office
- Tours are required for placement in our program
- Ages 2 – 5
- Full and Part-time Programs
- Inclusive
- Low Ratios
- Monday, Feb. 2: Registration for currently enrolled students begins at 7 am
- Tuesday, Feb. 17: Public open enrollment begins at 7 am



St. Luke Preschool
Growing with God Since 1956



505) 292-8812 | STLUKEPRESCHOOL1956@gmail.com | stlukepreschool.org