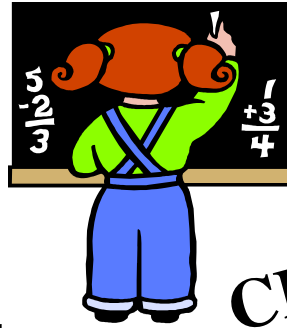




www.celebrationchildrenscenter.com

Our Saviour's Celebration Community Life Center



From
The
CHALKBOARD
April 2009

The Chalkboard is a monthly publication of The Children's Center. Editor: Sharon Koplinski



Easter Services - Saturday April 11th Main Campus 815 South Washington, Naperville

- **For Children with Special Needs Saturday, April 11 - 3:00 pm** The Oasis worship service is designed for families with children who have special needs. The Easter story will be told by puppets through story and song in a quiet, intimate setting.
- **Saturday, April 11 - *5:00 pm** Brass and Men's and Women's Chorales

Easter Services - Sunday April 12th Main Campus 815 South Washington, Naperville 6:30 am - Ensemble

- *7:45 am - Sanctuary Choir, Bach Ringers and Brass
- *9:00 am - Sanctuary Choir, Bach Ringers and Brass
- *10:15 am - Eagle's Wings Choir, Praise Express, Praise Bells and Brass
- *11:30 am - Brass, and combined Children's Choirs
- **Celebration! Campus 919 South Washington, Naperville (One block south of the Main Campus)**
*10:00 am - Contemporary Singers and Band - *The Gathering*
- 6:00 pm - Contemporary Singers and Band - *Element*

Holy Communion is offered at all services. *Childcare Available

Highlights from the Month of March

My Back Yard ... Bulletin boards were turned into backyards with various expressions of grass; grass prints made from a potato smasher dipped in green, scissors cut green blades, or a semblance of grass blades seen in a quick brush of green tempera. There was a variety of good green turf. Fences out of brown rectangular shapes or popsicle sticks put the defining boundaries on our backyards.... And just what do we find in a back yard??? There are squirrels and rabbits who like to play. One class viewed a back yard through the eyes of a squirrel! That squirrel saw lots of ants playing. We found marching ants in some of our rooms. They were made out of egg cartons! But there were different kinds of bugs. Some of the children could even imagine new ones after listening to the book, *Feely Bugs*. A class learned about backyard butterflies. Using pasta noodles, colored paper, clothes pins, and paper bags, they took a butterfly from cocoon to chrysalis; then into the back yard. Some classes brought in photos of their yards. Did you know back yards have play structures????? "What kind of creatures play on those!?" Math flip books were made showing the number of animals children have seen in their back yard; and rubber stamp art put bugs in a paper jar print; even more creatures to count! Did you know a yard has feet!? 3 of them! ... and each foot is 12 inches! .What a great family project; to find out how many "yards" there are in the back yard????? Is it enough space for all who play there? We had days off in March because moms and dads came to talk to the teachers, and there was a book fair, too! ... We had our school pictures taken by Ms. Nicole for school picture days. We celebrated Lutheran Schools Week with flowers and fun planned by moms and dads! We went to church with our families at Celebration, and we sang for the worship service, too. Parents provided food for the teachers that week; and families had lunch with the teachers, too.! March was busy!!

“..a green read and a must readfor parents”

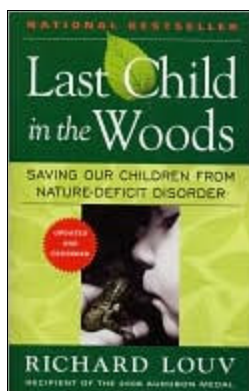
Richard Louv is a child advocacy expert who directly relates the lack of nature in the lives of children to some disturbing trends such as childhood obesity, attention disorders and depression; and it's supported by a growing body of research showing that a direct exposure to nature is essential for healthy childhood development and for the physical and emotional health of children *as well as adults*. This author was the first to identify what we all know exists but can't quite articulate: ***nature-deficit disorder***.

Louv's book, **Last Child in the Woods** has created national conversation about the disconnection between children and nature; resulting in a growing movement with *Leave No Child Inside* initiatives, not only in the United States, but also in Canada, Holland, Australia, and Great Britain.

The book isn't just a wake-up call to parents, educators, and health professionals. Louv also offers practical solutions and simple ways to heal the broken bond —and many are right in our own backyard!!!

From another perspective, we are linked very closely to nature simply because we're created as part of it. The children can tell you about that. They've had the Creation Story in Godly Play, and they know people are a link in all that was created. To be disconnected from the rest of it; to see nature as something out there instead of a part of us, then, might understandably be an unhealthy disconnect in a variety of directions.

Last Child In the Woods is available for check out in the Children's Center office; also at local bookstores or Amazon.com.



"BEST SUPPORTING VOLUNTEERS"



Thank you to all our volunteers who helped at our book fair:

Karen Davis, Robin Ingstrup, Michelle Claudio, Jodie Kueppers, Sherilyn Hebel,

Cathy Wafford, Brooke Wedding, Chrissy Ball, Chris St. John, Karin Kukis, Jamie McCarthy, Helen Lee, Erin Schaaf and Ward & Lou McClelland.

Thank you to all our parents and families that supported our book fair.

Our Book Fair cleared just under \$600 for The Children's Center. We'll be purchasing some additional hand drums for our music program plus CD and/or music and story tapes for the classroom listening centers.

Manna Schedule 2009

Manna is our school year fundraiser providing over 150 local and nationwide grocery, retail, restaurants, gas stations and specialty gift cards/certificates to The Children's Center at a discount. These are things families purchase regularly; and when you purchase through The Manna Group scrip program The Children's Center makes a profit – It's that simple! Percentage to us varies from vendor to vendor, and those percentages are listed next to each vendor on our order form. Orders are due to the Children's Center office by noon on the days below. Order forms may be found outside each classroom, as well as in the offices of The Children's Center and Our Saviour's.

Monday, April 13

Monday, April 27

Monday, May 11





Pastor Profiles

Have You Met
"Pastor Janelle"
Hooper?

Pastor Janelle Hooper was born and raised in Houston, Texas. As a youth she served as President of the Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Lutheran Youth Organization, putting on middle and high school retreats for the 165 churches in the region. As a result of being empowered by the church at a young age, she felt a call to ministry by the time she was 14. She attended Syracuse University in New York for two years and graduated as a Longhorn from the University of Texas at Austin with a B.A. in African-American Studies in 1998. At both colleges she sang in the Black Gospel choir. Pastor Janelle attended Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus Ohio, serving as a youth minister at a nearby church. She received her M. Div. degree from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago in 2003. She has served as associate pastors at both St. Paul Lutheran Church in Wheaton, IL and St. Timothy Lutheran Church in Naperville.

Pastor Janelle feels passionate about helping people be whole. She sees herself as helping midwife people in faith; walking alongside them to point out the Holy in the ordinary of life. As Pastor of Spiritual Formation she hopes to encourage people to ask any and all questions so that she may walk with them in discovering a God of boundless compassion, who is full of mystery and who challenges us to love our neighbor and live justly. Pastor Janelle is our Children's Chapel Pastor the second week of each month.

She is married to Brad Hooper, an elementary school teacher. They live in Wheaton with their dog Tex. They both take pleasure in reading, walking the dog, spending time with family and friends, and following the Cubs! and the Hoopers are expecting their first child this summer.

*April Learning Through
Literature*

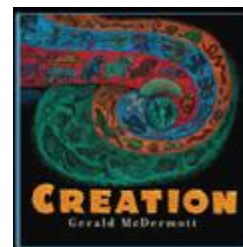


April 17th -
*The Great Kapok
Tree*

by: Lynne Cherry

April 24th -
Creation

by: Gerald
McDermott



Remember

There is no May tuition payment. You paid that as a tuition deposit last June or when you started with us. Families returning in the fall have a tuition deposit due this June.

Dates For Your Calendar

April 23-24 ... Vision/Hearing Screening
(please make checks out to Celebration Children's Center, \$4 for each test. Please spend some time reading the newsletter insert)

May 7 & 8 ... Mothers' Day Classroom Celebrations (last 1/2 hr of the session, 11:00 & 3:00)

May 17 Children's Center Sings at Our Saviour's campus at 10:10 worship, celebrating our Children's Center year

May 21 & 22 The Last Slide & Ice Cream (last hr of the session, 10:30 & 2:30)

