



**St. John's**  
Lutheran Church



First of all, we want to thank all of you for your patience and understanding as the CKP board, teachers, staff, and St. John's leadership have been working hard to determine a clear plan for the fall. We have been working around the clock exploring ways in which we can open and operate while keeping the kids and staff safe, as well as functioning as a Christian preschool and maintaining our amazing program to only deliver the possible best education and care for your child. **With leaps of joy, we are blessed to announce that we will be starting our 22nd year of Creation Kids Preschool!**

Please thoroughly read through this letter, as well as the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan, as it contains vital information for the 2020-2021 school year.

After a complete review of MDH, CDC, DHS, and local health agency recommendations, it became apparent that significant challenges (equipment, space, staffing) would exist with the current model for our program. As a result, it became necessary to make several changes to the program. These changes were made first to provide a program that protects the health and safety of our children, families, and staff. Second, a program that would continue to sustain the goals of nurturing the intellectual, spiritual, emotional, social, and physical development of each child was determined to be of continued importance. Last, given the continued unpredictability of the continuing pandemic, it became necessary to consider a program plan that would provide stable and reliable childcare offerings. We will outline the plan that we believe can meet those goals while also meeting licensing requirements and following health and safety recommendations.

As recommended by MDH, a model that creates small, consistent cohorts of children and staff is desired. This allows for decreased potential exposure, which increases safety and allows the program to continue to operate if one grouping of children is exposed and required to quarantine for 14 days.

In our program, it became apparent that the need to meet goals left us with several difficult decisions.

1. Having 4-5 Preschool Groups coming in and out, in addition to Little Lambs, created a situation that would not allow for those groupings to be consistent. As a result, it became necessary to have a requirement that any child requiring child care and participating in any portion of Creation Kids' programming will be required to use our program as their only outside the home, child care provider for this year (example: could not also attend Project Kids/other center, or in-home daycare, in regular attendance or drop-in) in order to minimize cross-contamination between multiple group settings. You will also be required to commit to a 3-day contract or a

5-day contract. Schedules may vary; however, NO drop-in days will be allowed. If additional care, beyond 3 days, would be required on particular weeks, it would be necessary to commit to a 5-day contract.

2. It also became necessary to limit groups. 3 groups of children were created.

Teal Turtles. 3/4s, who receive care at Home Only (Home=care provided by parents/family ONLY. For safety, this group will be required to provide documentation stating that they do not attend another center or in-home daycare provider).

Preschool Class: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 8:15-11:00 AM.

Purple Parrots. Pre-K. (Must meet school-age cutoff of birthday prior to September 1, 2016), who will also attend Little Lambs (Again for safety, we will require attendance at Little Lambs ONLY for this class).

Preschool Class: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 12:00-2:45 PM. and Wednesday, 8:15-2:45 PM (full day for readiness for Kindergarten)

Orange Otters. 3s. This is NOT an in-person class for Fall. This class is to keep our new 3 year olds engaged with CKP. We will offer pick-ups of light activities. These kids will have access to our weekly Chapel and videos of book readings and projects here and there. This class will be complimentary for those who sign up.

3. It also became apparent that the current staffing and space were limited for the start of the school year. As a result, it was determined that a focus on providing necessary school, classroom readiness for our Pre-K students, who will transition to Kindergarten in 2021, was essential. Given the limitations, a decision was made to welcome back the Pre-K, Purple Parrots, on September 21st. The 3/4s Home Group, Teal Turtles, as outlined above will start on October 5th.
4. The 3s group, Orange Otters, will again NOT be an in-person class in the fall given noted limitations. We will continue to provide updates as appropriate about additional educational opportunities for this group.

The board will continue to meet on a regular basis to re-evaluate the safety plan, staffing and space limitations and to discuss timing for resumption of all classes. Information will be provided as appropriate and updates will be provided every 6 weeks.

We fully understand that each family situation, comfort level, and change in the model will require thoughtful consideration. In order to move forward, and all programming to occur as described, we will require a minimum commitment. Considering these factors, we ask that each family re-register for the program. Know that space will be limited. Re-enrollment for classes will be based first on St. John's families, previous families and then on a first-come, first-serve basis. Re-enrollment will serve as your official commitment to participate in programming for the 2020-2021 school year.

## Pricing and Policies

Preschool Programming:

Pre-K (Purple Parrots): \$185/month

3/4s (Home) (Teal Turtles): \$150/month

Little Lambs:

3-Day contract: \$100/week

5-day contract: \$150/week

Preschool Payment will be at the start of each month. 1st payment is due October 1, 2020. Little Lambs payments are due on the start of care for your family each week. Payments via Tithe.ly are also strongly encouraged due to office staffing changes. Monthly schedules for Little Lambs must be provided on the 15th of the month prior (example October schedule is due Sept 15, November due October 15). Note, You must provide a schedule for both a 3-day and 5-day contract. This must include anticipated drop-off and pick-up times. If you are a 3-day contract and would like to vary your days, a monthly schedule must be submitted to the teacher. If you are a 5-day contract, you will be required to pay for all 5-days but please specify on your schedule if you will not be attending on a particular day. To assist in scheduling, please also provide your September schedule as soon as possible after your enrollment is confirmed.

**Note:** In the event that CKP has to close due to COVID-19 or a cohort is required to quarantine for 14 days due to a case in that group, you will not be required to pay for that period of time. If your family experiences a case of COVID-19, illness, or an extended quarantine period for reasons outside of CKP, you will be required to pay your contracted weekly amounts.

Additional Information/COVID-19 Plan. A full COVID-19 Preparedness Plan will be provided to you. The plan will include specific exclusion criteria, check-in policies, drop off and pick up, etc. Teachers will be required to wear masks. Students will not be mandated to wear a mask; however, it is highly recommended and a thoughtful consideration of loving your neighbor as Jesus calls us to do. Your child will also be provided with 1 cloth mask with their enrollment.

## Registration

● Again, your prior registration is not current, and we will need ALL parents to re-register. Orange Otters, Teal Turtles and Purple Parrots. An email will be sent on **Thursday 8/20/20 at 7 pm**. At that time, registration will open to all families, including ones previously waitlisted.

We strongly encourage enrollment on that day as space is limited to 10 students/class.

For placement into the Pre-K Program (Purple Parrots), St. John's families and previously enrolled families will have priority until Sunday, 8/23/20. Placement into the program will then be determined

**based on the outlined priority registration criteria: St. John's families and previously enrolled families, then new families and enrollment time.**

**For placement into the 3/4s (HOME) program (Teal Turtles). Placement priority will be for 4 year old students (birthday before September 1, 2016) and then 3 year old students.**

**You will have until 8/23/20 to register, but please again remember enrollment will be based on first-come, first-served basis. You will be notified via email of your admission status on a daily basis. Please note that if you are waitlisted that we will continue to reach out to you in the future.**

Again, thank you for your patience and understanding through this unimaginable time. We appreciate your willingness to join us during this trying situation full of change, hope, and making memories in new ways!

Thank you and God's Blessings.

CKP Board and Teachers