



## Arcola Christian Preschool

"Let the little children come to Me . . . for of such  
is the kingdom of God."  
(Luke 18:16 NKJV)

# February 2024

### Director's Note

February! Valentines! Smiles for school pictures! Winter flies by when you are having fun. Especially because we actually got some SNOW this winter! It is amazing to see how much your children have grown and changed so far this year. They are busy making new friends, enjoying new activities, and becoming more confident. There are still lots of fun things to look forward to this school year. We are so happy to spend this time with your children each day. They are a blessing!

I have attached a "Message in a Backpack" entitled *Big Words for Little Learners*. It highlights some ways you can expand your child's learning while reading to them. Children love big words, funny sounding words, new words. All it takes is a little encouragement and their vocabulary will continue to blossom.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

*Barbara*

[BarbaraL@ArcolaChurch.org](mailto:BarbaraL@ArcolaChurch.org)  
703-327-7878 x222

### Enter in Good Health

As a reminder, when you enter the building or send your child into the building, you are

confirming that you or your child do not have symptoms of a contagious illness. Please stay home if you are unwell!

### 2024-2025 Registration for ACP

Please share our registration post on Facebook. (We just started our own page, so look for our logo!)

**If your child is a current student interested in returning next year, you will need to register again.**

The registration deadline for the 2024-2025 school year lottery is Thursday, February 8, at noon. Information and forms can be found on our website.

[www.ArcolaChurch.org/Preschool](http://www.ArcolaChurch.org/Preschool)

### Valentine's Day Note

*It is a lot of fun for the children to exchange cards on Valentine's Day. Although not necessary, we know that some families like to add treats to their cards. Please plan to be inclusive to our students with food allergies. If you send in a treat with your child's valentines, there must be a label for the parent to read and items must be nut free. However, there are children with other allergies in our preschool so, if you'd like to send a treat, we ask you to consider looking for non-food items that children would enjoy such as pencils, silly straws, stickers, etc.*



### ACP Calendar

February 9 - NO SCHOOL – LCPS & ACP Closed  
February 14 & 15 - Valentine's Day Celebrations  
February 19 - NO SCHOOL (Presidents' Day)  
Feb 29 & Mar 1 - School Pictures  
March 5 - NO SCHOOL – LCPS & ACP Closed  
March 25-29 - NO SCHOOL – Spring Break

## Lunch Bunch

Lunch Bunch is an optional program that requires advance registration and payment. It offers the opportunity for regularly registered students to extend their school day until 1:30pm while enjoying lunch, friends, and play. **The sign-up for February dates was emailed on Thursday, January 18.** Check your spam/junk mail if you don't see the email, or let me know and I will [send you the link](#).

## Clothing

Please be sure to label all clothes, jackets, and school bags with your child's name. Many children do not recognize their own belongings when there are several others that look similar. Especially new jackets!

## Snack

All snacks must be nut free – that includes peanuts and tree nuts. **This policy applies to all snacks to be consumed at the preschool, including those brought in for celebrations, as well as items to be sent home with the children in goody bags.**

We cannot serve items that have been processed or packaged in a facility that also processes or packages peanut products. Snacks must be store bought with labels we can read and be unopened. We will send home the leftovers, but we have no way of knowing if the items inside have come into contact with nuts if the package is open. **Thank you for your cooperation in keeping all our students safe.** We will send home any snack that doesn't meet our guidelines.

We will make sure your child's **reusable water bottle** is filled before snack. Do not send juice!

Due to the choking hazard, please DO NOT send grapes (cutting them into safe sizes can be time consuming).

## Tuition

Thank you for your timely tuition payments. They are **due the first of each month**. The best way to pay is on the preschool [payment page on our website](#).

## Absences

If your child is going to be out of school due to illness or travel, please email your child's teacher or the preschool office.

## Scholastic Books

Does your child love books? Reading to your child is the most important thing you can do to help them succeed in school. **Books make great gifts!** Each month, new flyers will be posted. Please take a few moments to explore the selection together and let your child help choose books he or she is excited to read. Orders will be submitted toward the end of each month (Scholastic sets the deadline.) Thank you for supporting your child's reading both at home and in the classroom! Your books will ship directly to our preschool, and we will send them home with your child.



### **SHOP OUR CLASS PAGE:**

<https://orders.scholastic.com/GZVWY>

**SHOP FLYERS:** <https://clubs.scholastic.com/prek>

## School Pictures

Victor O'Neill Studios will take individual and class photos on February 29 & March 1, based on your child's school day. All classes and children will be photographed, but there is no requirement to purchase. Please make sure to arrive on time on picture day. Victor O'Neill Studios will communicate directly with you through email to provide access to your child's portraits and purchase options.



## Arcola Church Happenings

Arcola Church is an active church with opportunities for Worship, Sunday school for all ages, a variety of bible studies, music groups, support groups, and opportunities to donate to the Hygiene Pantry and the Dulles South Food Pantry. For more information, check out our website or ask me to point you in the right direction. You do not need to be a member of Arcola Church to participate in any of our programs.

### **Playgroup for Parents & Children Newborn to Preschool Ages**

Come join us on Thursday mornings for a playgroup led by Julia Riedel and her daughter, Jessalyn. Bring your children for a casual get together where kids newborn through preschool age can play, and adults can enjoy the company of others raising young kids! We welcome all caregivers: parents, grandparents, nannies, etc. Contact **Julia Riedel** with questions. <https://arcolachurch.org/event/20308348-2024-02-01-playgroup-for-parents-and-children/>

### **Marriage Celebration February 10, 5pm**

Take an opportunity to celebrate and refresh your marriage this February with a fun night of dinner, conversation, and a vow renewal. \$60 per couple includes dinner and childcare (if necessary).

**Registration will close at midnight on Tuesday, February 6.**

<https://arcolachurch.org/event/21909173-2024-02-10-marriage-celebration-are-you-a-good-date/>

### **Women's Retreat February 24, 10am**

This February, you're invited to connect with God alongside the other women of Arcola, as we learn more about using our individual strengths, gifts, and experiences to deepen and express our faith. You'll explore connecting with Him through relationships, mission, exercise, devotion, art, and our special guest will have a creative food activity: charcuterie boards! Cost is \$30 per person; childcare is available upon request and deadline for childcare registration is February 7. Register here:

<https://arcolachurch.org/whats-happening/announcements/womens-retreat/>

## **Ash Wednesday**

**February 14**

**Worship: 11:30am,**

**Pancake Dinner: 6pm, Worship: 7pm**

We come to Ash Wednesday worship to renew our commitment to repentance with a **prayer of confession** and the **imposition of ashes** to symbolize our frailty & death. Join us for a pancake dinner at 6pm before the evening service at 7pm. All are welcome!

## **Wednesday Prayer Service**

**Every Wednesday @ 11:30am**

**Pearson Chapel**

This service is 30 minutes and designed to strengthen us until Sunday comes. During this service, we will sing some good hymns, hear a brief message, pray and share communion together. Contact **Tianna Durbin** with questions.

## **Arcola Church Job Openings –**

### **Childcare Providers**

Arcola Church is looking for adult childcare providers to provide care for infants and elementary school age children at various church events. These events include weekdays and weekends, both daytime and evening. Please contact [GinaRLatorre@gmail.com](mailto:GinaRLatorre@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Chair of Children's Ministries**

Make an impact on Arcola's littlest disciples by joining the church staff as the Chair of Children's Ministries. This part-time position leads Sunday kids programming, as well as managing nursery care, volunteers, and our annual Vacation Bible School program. [Click here to learn more.](#) Contact [ChrisS@ArcolaChurch.org](mailto:ChrisS@ArcolaChurch.org) with questions or to apply.

### **Arcola United Methodist Church**

**Pastor:** Chris Riedel

**Web site:** [www.arcolachurch.org](http://www.arcolachurch.org)

**Worship @ 9am & 11am** (Preschool & Nursery available)

**Sunday School** for Kinder-5<sup>th</sup> grade @ 9am

**Youth** (grades 6-12) Sunday School/Fellowship @ 10am