Mom's Day Out Times

Mom's Day Out is a ministry of First Free Church dedicated to providing support for mothers of young children through quality, Christ-centered child care.

January 2012

2 pages

First Evangelical Free Church * 2223 N. Mulford * Rockford * 815.877.7046 *

MDO LION STAFF WISHES YOU A HEALTHY & HAPPY 2012!

Greetings and Welcome Back Loyal Lions and Parents! So, a new year begins – 2012! I love a New Year, starting fresh, refocusing on goals and New Year's resolutions – did you make one? We will be starting a whole new set of ideas, Bible lessons and activities in the Loyal Lions class this year, but I will get to that later.

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and joyous New Year – one that was spent enjoying your children, family and focusing on the birth of our wonderful savior, Jesus Christ. The MDO Christmas program couldn't have gone any better. I was so proud of all of my Loyal Lions up on stage singing their little hearts out. I hope you enjoyed it and took lots of pictures! Please, if you think of it, e-mail me (erinhildreth75@msn.com) any pictures that you took so we can have them on our MDO picture stock for the year. I do believe most of the children liked being on stage and singing for everyone. As we were exiting off of the stage I heard one of the girls exclaim, "That was so much fun to sing up on stage!" A good time was had by all.

In this New Year, teachers Lisa, Tiffany and I decided we need to start implementing a behavior chart as the children are getting more comfortable with us, their classmates and the classroom. As this happens, they are tending to act out or "see what they can get away with" more. This chart will be based on positive reinforcement when the children follow our classroom rules and obey their teachers and will be followed up on a weekly basis. It is very similar to what most kindergarten classrooms use – much like the green light (good), yellow light (warning), red light (loss of reward). I think it will work out well but will take some time of adjustment. Bear with us!

I just want to thank all the Loyal Lion parents for being such a blessing to us—to allow us to love on, teach and take care of your precious little ones while you get your much needed time to yourselves (as a parent of 4, I know that is a necessity – we all need time to ourselves and regroup!) We have enjoyed each one of your children – they make us laugh, enlighten us and just are so adorable to interact with and observe! If you ever have any questions on how your child is doing in the class, please feel free to ask or contact any one of us and we'd be happen to let you know how he/she is doing.

Many Blessings to You and Your Family this New Year!
Sincerely,
Erin, Lisa and Tiffany

The Lion class practice for our Christmas Program!

So, was your Christmas as peaceful and joyful as you had hoped? Or are you now looking at a lot of empty boxes, toy assembly instructions, and random stickers to some unknown gifts? Do you remember how just a few months ago we were focusing on how we were thankful for everything! Are you and your family truly content as the year of 2012 begins?

Don't you think it's odd that in December we are running around telling everyone to be merry, giving gifts, having parties, but then just one month later we are writing a list of all the things we'd like to change about ourselves, how this year will be better, and you won't make the same mistakes again. Did the way you behaved in December need to be changed?

Well, changes need to come for all of us. We look forward to changes, especially with our children: walking, sleeping through the night, potty-training!!! For me, 2011 brought different changes: my oldest daughter got married, my youngest daughter got engaged & my son headed off to college! Other changes might not be so welcomed: job changes, clothing sizes, moving, (not to mention returning gifts). But some changes are out of our control: deaths, illnesses, families separating.

As I'm sure you have heard more than once: God is never changing-He is CONSTANT!

"I the Lord do not change" Malachi 3:6

So what about you, are you willing to change? But this time make it a permanent change-a change that will affect your entire life as well as those closest to you. Make Jesus the center of life. The other changes won't seem so overwhelming!

Have a Truly Life-Changing Year!

Patti Clauson
Director, Mom's Day Out

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The mission of First Evangelical Free Church is to bring people into a life-changing and growing relationship with Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

Happenings This Month

Friday, Jan 13th ~ Pajama Day

All children are invited to wear their pajamas for a fun day of lounging and learning in our jammies!

Tumbili Playground ~ Please wear socks!

Mondays… 9th & 23rd
Friday……. 20th

Children in all of our MDO classes except Caterpillar & Butterfly will visit Tumbili on these days.

Friday, Jan 23rd~ Winter Wonders

All children in the Chimps, Fish, Lions, Giraffes & Mice will have special winter festivities with Teacher Keri in the gym.

MLK Jr's Birthday
Mon, Jan 16th
No Mom's Day Out

Mom's Day Out welcomes the following children and their families to our program:

Dillon & Leandro in the Caterpillar Class
Garrett & Ali in the Chimps Class
Sophia & Noah in the Fish Class

MoPS
Mothers of Preschoolers

Tuesday, January 10th
Heather Dellamater will be speaking about contentment.

Tuesday, January 24th
Judi Hayes will be talking about healthy, low-budget meal planning.

Contact Laura Nothnagel 815-708-7575, mrsreading@yahoo.com for more info.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

to all the families who generously brought Christmas cookies for our Christmas program. We were very thankful to all of you who came and so warmly showed your support to our program. Your children did such a great job! What a great way to end 2011!

Check out the new pictures on the MDO bulletin board behind the MDO counter!

Welcome Back Keri!

We are so happy to have Keri Early back at Moms Day Out. She has been out on maternity leave after having Baby Samuel in October. Make sure to tell her "Hi" and ask to see pictures of this handsome boy:)!

Find us on Facebook

During these winter months, the flu and colds are so easily spread. MDO wants to keep our program as germ-free as possible. Please review the basics of the MDO Health-Wellness Policy.

Mom's Day Out Health-Wellness Policy

Any child on antibiotics should have been on the prescription for **at least 24 hours** before coming to MDO.

Please keep your child home if any of the following symptoms are present. Parents will also be called if any of these symptoms occur at MDO:

Fever within the last 24 hrs
Impetigo
Coughing
Mumps & Measles
Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
Diarrhea
Active chicken pox
Vomiting
Questionable rashes
Runny nose (not clear)

Please don't forget to continue to wash your child's hands before entering the classroom for the day. This is an excellent way to help prevent the spread of germs. Thank you!