



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 GIRAFFE STAFF WISHES YOU A HEALTHY & HAPPY 2012!



Happy New Year! Isn't it great how God keeps giving us new beginnings? A new day, a new month, a new year... I'm not a big traditions girl anymore. I think after failing so many times it's caused me to not make such a big deal about it. I would try to do better at something, only to once again fall short, usually the next day. Lately in my Bible reading I keep coming across God repeating himself... telling me the things that HE will do. Just today I read II Thessalonians 1:11, "and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith." It is only by God's strength, power and ability that I'm able to do good things. In my own strength I fail time and time again. With faith in my God, I can do things because of him so that He gets the glory. I guess if I could do things myself, I would become prideful. My eyes need to turn to God because he is the only

right way. I hope you are trusting in God with your New Year!



The Giraffe class practice for our Christmas Program!

We had so much fun at the Christmas program! Those little drummers did great. We trust you had a fun break, spending lots of time with family and friends. As the new year begins, we will get back into practicing our letters. As you see worksheets come home, I hope you reinforce some of the lessons they learn here. A lot of them recognize letters and numbers already. We will also start working on our numbers 1-20 and then counting by 10's all the way up to 100.

Our Bible stories are so fun to share with the kids. There are so many amazing miracles and lessons to learn. I like how one teacher talked about Jesus/God being so much more than Superman, Batman and Spiderman. With all his "magic" and awesome powers! I like to think of him that way too. Bigger than any issue or problem that we might have, yet even caring for every little concern or worry. That is pretty great!

Teacher Danielle and Linda



CHANGES IN THE GIRAFFE ROOM IN JANUARY!

Unfortunately we had to say good-bye to Teacher Vanessa last month. We now welcome Teacher Linda to the Giraffe class on both days! What a blessing for us!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Aidan & Ella Faught 1/11/08
Febe LoFasto 1/20/08



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.

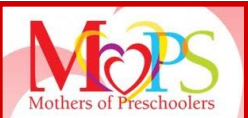


MLK Jr's Birthday
Mon, Jan 16th
No Mom's Day Out



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



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:)

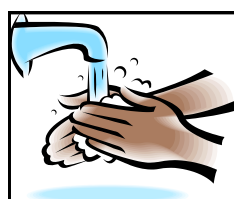
During these winter months, the flu and colds are so easily spread. MDO wants to keep our program as germ-free as possible. Please review the basics of the MDO Health-Wellness Policy.

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:

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



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!



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