



Wesley United Methodist Church

972-542-2228-www.wumcmckinney.org

2705 Virginia Parkway. McKinney, TX 75071

November 1, 2007

Living in the Present with God

By Jayne Wolfe

God of the living, all praise and honor and glory belong to you. We praise you for the saints who have gone before us, serving you and teaching us to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. We are also grateful for the saints who live and serve among us. The Body of Christ lived out as an extended family is a blessing beyond measure. Father, we humbly pray for our courageous brothers and sisters in Christ who are being martyred, even at this moment, for their witness to Jesus. "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ..." (1 Peter 1:3). Amen

Inside this issue

Birthdays, Members 2007	Pg2
Samaritan Inn, Prayer vigil In Tough Ministry	Pg3
Calendar & Opportunities	Pg4
Library News, Wesley Writers	Pg5
Crown Financial	Pg6
Puppet, Preschool	Pg7

“Bread and Wine—Body and Blood” (Part 3)

I concluded last month’s article by saying that United Methodism emphasizes regular and constant observance of Holy Communion. This month I’ll talk about the reason for the emphasis.

Perhaps the best place to begin is with a brief thought about sacraments. “Sacrament” is a word often used in the church. “Sacraments are sign acts {instituted by Christ}, which include words, actions, and physical elements {i.e., bread, wine, water} which convey and express the gracious love of God. They make God’s love both visible and effective.” (*This Holy Mystery*, 7.) *Words in brackets added*. United Methodism, along with the majority of Protestants, claims two sacraments: Baptism and Communion. Baptism is the sacrament of initiation into the Body of Christ. Communion is the sacrament that sustains us in our faith journey.

The meaning of Communion is understood on several levels:

(1)**Communion is an act of Thanksgiving.** The early Christians broke bread with glad hearts (*Acts 2:46-47*). The term “Eucharist” - Greek for “thanksgiving” - expresses the idea. At Communion we give thanks for God’s gracious love culminating in work of Christ and the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit.

(2)**Communion is an act of Fellowship with the church.** We acknowledge that all believers are part of the same Body of Christ.

(3)**Communion is a Memorial of the suffering and death of Jesus.** During worship we recall Jesus’ words, “Do this in remembrance of me.” (*Luke 22:19, 1 Cor. 11:24-25*). “In Wesleyan terms, however, ‘memorial’ means more than merely a remembrance of Christ’s death. Time and space are no barriers to this sacramental memorial. It crosses those dimensions which separate us from Calvary. (*Basic United Methodist Beliefs*, 82). “This dynamic action becomes re-presentation of past gracious acts of God in the present, so powerfully as to make them truly present now.” (*THM*, 7).

(4)**Communion is an experience of sacrifice.** We recall Christ’s sacrifice for us. We also recognize the role of self sacrifice as we

proclaim in the liturgy, “We offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice...” (*UMW*, 14).

(5)**Communion is a Means of Grace.** Means of Grace are special channels through which grace flows. “While divine grace reaches us any time and in any way that God chooses, God has designated certain means or channels through which grace is most surely and immediately available.” (*THM*, 6). Communion is one of these means. We believe, therefore, that Holy Communion is much more than just remembering what happened. During Communion we experience and receive God’s grace in powerful ways. The sacrament offers grace that leads people to an awareness of their need for a savior. It offers grace to forgive sin as people accept the loving relationship Jesus desires to have with them. It offers grace for the believer to grow in faith and in the love and likeness of Christ. This means of grace offers conviction, forgiveness, nourishment and transformation. During Holy Communion God calls and equips us for ministry. At the Table we can experience the very gift of eternal life.

(6)**Communion is a reminder of Heaven and God’s Eternal Purpose.** The holy meal is a pledge of a greater meal that all believers will share. The liturgy reminds us to be one in ministry, “until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.” (*UMH*, 14).

How does all of this happen? It happens because Christ is present at Holy Communion. Though we do not embrace the bread and the wine literally becoming the body and blood of Jesus, we do believe in a “real, personal, living presence.” “We understand the divine presence in temporal and relational terms. In the Holy Meal of the church, the past, present, and future of the living Christ Come together by the power of the Holy Spirit so that we may receive and embody Jesus Christ as God’s saving gift for the world.” (*THM*, 12.). That’s why we call it a *holy mystery*.

Blessings,
Ed



You are a child of God, His treasured possession. He created you in His own image. He chose the day for you to be born. He has a plan and a purpose for your life. Cherish your birth verse.



Betty Dalton	11-2	Proverbs 11:2
Cayleigh Kardos	11-2	Proverbs 11:2
Terrilee Schober	11-3	Luke 11:3
Meredith Moorman	11-4	Psalm 11:4
Weston Hooker	11-4	Psalm 11:4
Elizabeth McCaskill	11-6	Hebrews 11:6
Gerald Casteel	11-10	Luke 11:10
Robert Natal	11-13	Luke 11:13
Madelynn Schober	11-13	Luke 11:13
Erin Malone	11-14	Acts 11:14
Courtney Sides	11-14	Acts 11:14
Renee Kleker	11-15	Revelation 11:15
Roger McClellan	11-16	Acts 11:16
Casey Dickson	11-17	Revelation 11:17
Joshua McFaddin	11-18	Deuteronomy 11:18
Sandra Graham	11-18	Deuteronomy 11:18
Haley Barr	11-19	Deuteronomy 11:19
Pat Malone	11-19	Deuteronomy 11:19
Shelley Sides	11-19	Deuteronomy 11:19
David Evans	11-19	Deuteronomy 11:19
Cole Pieratt	11-21	Acts 11:21
Amanda McFaddin	11-22	Mark 11:22
Brent Fowler	11-25	John 11:25
Joseph Dickson	11-26	John 11:26
Andrew Stein	11-28	Matthew 11:28
Tom Moore	11-29	Matthew 11:29
Ellen Chapman	11-29	Matthew 11:29



Congratulations to Bryan and Shannon Williams on the birth of Daughter Jenna Shae and to the proud sister Jordan Jasian



“Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice” Let us rejoice as we present ourselves before our loving creator.

**Welcome to Wesley,
Welcome to this house of God.
New Members 2007**

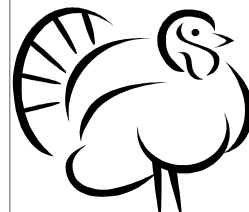
- James Sweeney
- Amy Griffin
- Simmie Belonga
- Roy and Pat Salas
- Donna Thomas
- Teresa Barker
- Carole Avallone
- Zachary Balch
- Jody Jones
- Eric Large
- Florabelle Livingston
- Sue Hudson
- Haley Barr
- Allen Breor
- Eric Brinkman
- Ryan Brinkman
- Dustin Encizo
- Roger McClellan
- Andy Peterson
- Kelsey Priestley
- Lauren Redden
- Dylan Schutte
- Gayle Wilks
- Wilma Williams
- Jeff, Janie & Lucy Breor
- Earl & Karly Jandoc
- Bryan & Shannon Williams
- Jarred & Melissa Dreher
- Dorothy McIntire
- Kelli Mullens



WAKE UP!!

Decide to have a good day. “Today is the day the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

Psalms 118:24



**Happy
Thanksgiving**

SAMARITAN INN

1710 N. McDonald Street, McKinney, TX 75071

The Samaritan Inn is the only homeless shelter in Collin County. The Inn is helping individuals and families regain independence through Homeless Prevention, Emergency Shelter, Case Management and Supported Transitional Living.

The second Saturday of each month is the designated time for Wesley UMC to provide groceries to the Inn. The ingredients are purchased based on a list provided by the kitchen and delivered to the Inn by 6:00 PM. The ingredients will be used for a future meal to be prepared by the Inn's personnel. The cost of the groceries is approximately \$125.00.

Serving the residents for the Saturday night meal is a wonderful opportunity to fellowship and to share your faith.

The body of Wesley has continually supported the Inn through the years. Please consider participating in service to your brothers and sisters that are less fortunate. A Sunday School class; Youth group; Children's ministries; Bible Study class; Men's Prayer Group; Prime Timers; Piece Makers; any of the administrative or programmatic committees or individuals are encouraged to be the "Hands and Feet of Christ".

"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me". Matthew 25:40

Blessings!

Ken Hollingsworth-Chair

DATE: HANDS AND FEET

January 13 Oasis SS Class

February 10 Koinonia SS Class

March 10 Anonymous individual

April 14 Anonymous individual

May 12 Fellowship SS Class

June 9 Tuesday Night Women's BS

July 14 Prime timers & Piece Makers

August 11 Oasis SS Class

September 8 UMW

October 13 Open

November 10 Tuesday Night Women's BS

December 8 Open



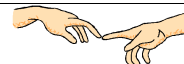
24—HOUR COVENANT SUNDAY PRAYER VIGIL

The foundation for Covenant Sunday is **PRAYER**. We have spent much time in prayer during this intense focus on our commitment to Christ. On **Saturday, Nov. 10**, the day before Covenant Sunday, we will have a 24-hour Prayer Vigil, soaking in prayer this important time in our Christian life. A sign-up board is in the Narthex. This is an invitation for the entire church (children, youth, and adults) to be in prayer for one specific thing: that the Holy Spirit will bring us to a place where we desire Christ more than we desire anything else.

Praying will be done in your home or wherever you might be when it is your time to pray.

Night owls can take the late night slots; early birds can do the early Sunday morning slots. The rest of us can do the all day Saturday slots. God will provide everything needed to soak his church and his people in prayer.

SIGN UP! PRAY!



In Touch Ministry

Our ministry is that every Senior will know that they are a vital part of Wesley UMC. They are a valuable asset in the guidance of both children and adults. If you know of anyone, whether home-bound or an active member who would like a visit or phone call please call the church office, 972-542-2228, or June Halpin 972-529-3573. Home communion is available to those unable to come to church.





MARK YOUR NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- November 4 All Saints Sunday
- November 4 Ministry Fair
- November 4 Worship Team
- November 5&6 WCP Portraits taken
- November 5 Trustees
- November 6 WCP Board Mtg
- November 10 24 Hr Prayer Vigil
- November 10 Samaritan Inn Meal/ Hands & Feet Tuesday Night Bible Study
- November 11 Sunday Lunch Bunch
- November 12 Finance Meeting
- November 15 Prime Timers
- November 17 UMW
- November 19 Church Council
- November 22 Happy Turkey Day
- November 25 Confirmation Bake Sale
- November 26 SPRC Meeting

DATES FOR KIDS NIGHT OUT

Kids Night Out is here! This is a time for parents to drop off their kids for a fun time at the church while the parents get to go out on a date or do something fun as well...just by themselves!

When: The second Friday every other month. Oct 12, Dec. 14, Feb 8, April 11

Time: The evening will run from 6:00 to 10:00 pm.

Cost: The cost will be \$10(one child), \$15(two children), \$20(three+children).

Limit: 20 children total. Reservations **HIGHLY** recommended.

Who: Children walking age thru 5th grade

Where: Fellowship Hall—Wesley UMC

Sponsored by: The Confirmation Class of 2007-2008

Come and have some fun!

Call Valerie Brinkman 972-540-6290 to make your reser-

TWO WORSHIP SERVICES

Beginning Sunday November 4, Wesley UMC will celebrate the beginning of a second Sunday morning worship service. The new schedule will be....

8:30 Worship

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Worship

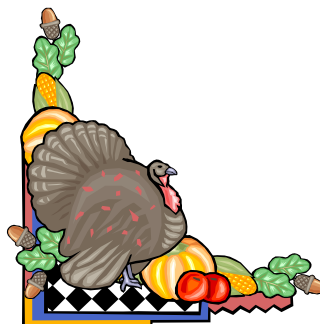


AND GOD SAID

I said, "God I hurt."
 And God Said, "I know."
 I said, "God, I cry a lot."
 And God said, "That is why I gave you tears."
 I said, "God, I am so depressed."
 And God said, "That is why I gave you Sunshine."
 I said, "God, life is so hard."
 And God said, "That is why I gave you loved ones."
 I said, "God, my loved one died."
 And God said, "so did mine."
 I said, "God, it is such a loss."
 And God said, "I saw mine nailed to a cross."
 I said, "God, but your loved one lives."
 And God said, "So does yours."
 I said, "God, where are they now?"
 And God said, "Mine is on My right and yours is in the light."
 I said, "God, it hurts,"
 And God said, "I know."

*In memory of Wesley Members who have died since last fall.
 Mary Louise Michaels, Leslie Nottingham, Otto Michaels, Frank McBride*

November 4, 2007 is All Saints Sunday. It is a time to give thanks for family members and friends who have passed through this world and have gone to Heaven. If you have loved one(s) who died since last fall and would like the name(s) read in memoriam during worship, look for a form to fill out in the bulletin or call the church office 972-542-2228.



Welcome Our Newest Families

Jarred & Melissa Dreher

Dorothy McIntire

Kelli Mullens

ANGELS IN MY LIFE

I don't know where they come from,
 These Angels in my life.
 They give me hope, encourage me
 And ease my daily strife.
 They let me know they care for me.
 My life enriched by all
 They often appear from nowhere-
 A note, a hug, a call.
 Each encounter is a gift from God.
 Each gift, a different form.
 They always seem to meet a need
 As they blend in with the norm.
 When God know I'm faltering,
 Another Angel appears.
 He adds each one like pearls on a string.
 And they alleviate my fears.
 How did I deserve them?
 My weary heart they tend.
 How lucky am I for these God-given gifts.
 How thankful for each dear friend.
 Where have they come from—these Angels Devine?
 How did God know to make them mine?
 I believe He looked down from Heaven above
 And said, "Each Angel I send you is a reminder of My
 love.

Written by Ruth Partridge Arnold (2002)

Ruth is part of the Wesley Writers Group

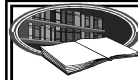


WESLEY WRITERS

Wesley Writers meets Wednesday Evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Church Library.

Our purpose is to encourage and support each other in our creative writing. Creative Writing covers a wide range of subjects from short stories, poetry, and essay on some subject, a novel, or just your personal view about something or some character.

Sharing our writing with each other on a voluntary basis allows us to receive feedback and constructive help. If interested, just show up, or call Anna or David Evans at 469-556-3003, or William or Donna Thomas at 972-548-7280.



News from your Wesley Library

by Sue Rominger

The Library has received memorial contributions from the Prime Timers for Otto Michaels and Frank McBride.

The **books selected as a memorial to Frank McBride** are:

1. *Holiness: The Heart God Purifies* by Nancy Leigh DeMoss and Randy Alcorn

How important is holiness to you? How much thought, attention and effort do you devote to the pursuit of holiness?

2. *Edge of Eternity* by Randy Alcorn

This book is a gripping, action-packed, visionary spiritual page-turner that illustrates the all-important decisions each of us must make concerning life, faith, and the world beyond.

3. *The Purity Principle* by Randy Alcorn

This book deals with "raising children to embrace sexual purity" providing an example of purity in the home "protecting purity in dating (at any age)" and maintaining purity in marriage.

The **books selected as a memorial to Otto Michaels** are:

1. *Law of Rewards* by Randy Alcorn

The author makes a clear, compelling case for an underemphasized scriptural principle: that believers will receive differing rewards in heaven depending on their actions and choices here on earth.

2. *In Light of Eternity: Perspectives on Heaven* by Randy Alcorn

With clear biblical teaching and illustrative stories and reflections, Alcorn shows how readers' lives today will impact their lives in the eternal reality that awaits them.

3. *Safely Home* by Randy Alcorn

Safely Home is the winner of the Gold Medallion for fiction, a soul-stirring story of two college friends who reconnect after twenty years. One is living life apart from God in comfortable corporate America while the other is living for Christ under intense persecution in China.

Thank You ALL for your donations and for YOU using YOUR Library.

Sue Rominger

Ways to Get Out and Stay Out of Debt

Reprinted with permission from Crown Financial Ministries, www.crown.org.

There are many ways to get into debt but only one sure way to get out and stay out of debt: self-discipline.

Debt can best be eliminated by following these steps.

1. Transfer ownership of every possession to God (Psalms 8:6, Deuteronomy 5:32-33)
2. Allow no more debt, including bank and personal loans, and cut up all credit cards if unable to pay them off each month (Proverbs 24:3)
3. Develop a realistic balanced budget that will allow every creditor to receive as much as possible monthly (Proverbs 16:9)
4. Start retiring the debt (Psalms 37:21, Proverbs 3:27-28), beginning with the smallest debt first. Once the smallest is paid off, put all the money on the next, and so on.

Generally speaking, if these steps are followed, the average family will be debt free in less than five years and the problem that caused the debt in the first place could very well have been corrected.

In order to stay out of debt, two steps need to be followed.

1. Develop a written plan of all expenditures in order of importance. Determine whether the expenditure or purchase is a need (basic necessities such as food, clothing, and housing), a want (things that make life easier, such as more expensive clothes, a VCR, or air conditioning), or a desire (more expensive wants, such as designer clothes, a new BMW, or a wide-screen TV).

2. Open a savings account and get in the habit of putting something into the savings account regularly, perhaps every week or every month. The amount of deposit is not nearly as important as the consistency in making a deposit. This savings can then be used for specific purchases or emergencies, rather than making these purchases on credit.

Establish a tithe

Every Christian needs to give something back to God as a testimony to God's ownership. A tithe is the portion of our income that we give to God and to God's work. It should be the first part. *"Honor the Lord from your wealth and from the first of all your produce"* (Proverbs 3:9). Tithe means "tenth." This is the amount most Christians use as a guide for tithing, but it really should be just a starting point for our giving. It's through sharing that God's power in finances is brought into focus. *"Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully"* (2 Corinthians 9:6).

Accept God's provision

In order to maintain true financial peace, we must recognize and accept that God's provision—all that He gives—is what He has provided to direct our lives. Many Christians are under the impression that God directs financially only by an abundance of money. This is not necessarily true. Sometimes He directs by withholding financial abundance. As such, He expects His people to live on what He provides and not be pressured by the desire for riches and material possessions.

Put others first

Christians seeking financial freedom must always be willing to put other people first. *"Be hospitable to one another without complaint. As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God"* (1 Peter 4:9-10). It is not God's plan for us to

get ahead in the world at the expense of others. Their welfare must be considered. *"Do not neglect doing good and sharing, for with such sacrifices God is pleased"* (Hebrews 13:16).

Avoid indulgence

Unfortunately, most Christians in America are self-indulgers, rarely passing up a want or a desire, much less a need. To achieve financial freedom, indulgences and the tendency to spend more than what can be afforded on things that are not needed must be avoided. Indulgence is greed. *"But immorality or any impurity or greed must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints"* (Ephesians 5:3).

Avoid snap decisions

Avoid impulse spending, get-rich-quick schemes, and other financial decisions made through intimidation. *"The plans of the diligent lead surely to advantage, but everyone who is hasty comes surely to poverty"* (Proverbs 21:5). The best way to avoid these traps is to pray about each purchase, each financial decision, and each opportunity that is intended to produce extra income—especially if the decision will affect the family's financial welfare. *"Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who carries out wicked schemes"* (Psalm 37:7).

Conclusion

Most Christians have an upside-down view of money. They feel that the money they have is theirs and that God's money is the portion that they give to the church. God has a different view. As Lord, God, and King, He owns everything—including the money that we claim as our own. As such, He has clear ideas of how He wants His people to function and to make use of His possessions—ideas that result in financial freedom for His people, if they are followed step by step.

For more visit crown.org or listen to *Money Matters* on 90.9 FM at 6:30 p.m. M-F or 91.3 FM Sat at noon or 1:30 p.m. M-F.

Puppet Team News

We would like to thank the brethren of Wesley UMC for supporting our Fall Show! God raised \$147.00 for Project Hope. Thank you so much for helping with this wonderful and loving fund. I would like to thank the Puppeteers for sharing your incredible talents and gifts with the Body of Christ and inviting God to do His work through you. You make me proud! I am also very thankful for the most awesome ministry partner anyone could have. I prayed for her for a long time and God REALLY came through...more than I could ever imagine! Thank you Kathy Billings! A true Sister in Christ! We could not have done it without you! Many thanks also to Carole Avallone, Yvonne Campbell, Carson Full, Mario Major, Wesley Choir, Zach Balch, Rob Kelly, Gina Lambert, Bill and Jody Priestley, Amy Peterson & the Puppeteer Mom's and Dad's, and Pastors Ed and Larry. All who played a huge part in our performance and were a great help to the team.

I would like to take opportunity to welcome our newest members! The 2008 Confirmation class... Whoohoo!! Jourdan Brauen, Hannah Clarke, Savannah Ehman, Cayleigh Kardos, Camille Moorman, Michelle Mullens, Cooper Natal, Madelynn Schober and Mitchel Wells. We started working with this group on Wednesday evenings after Confirmation class, getting them trained so they will be able to join the rest of the group sometime in '08. We LOVE their enthusiasm!!

Thirteen of us took an over night trip to DeSoto, the first weekend in October, sponsored by One Way Street, a Christian Puppet Group. We attended workshops, watched competitions and heard devotions that touched the heart as only God can do. It was a first time trip for eight of our group. We were blessed with accommodations at First UMC of DeSoto where they graciously let us stay in the education/athletic facility.

There has been some demand for an encore performance of our Fall Show so we are working on polishing our performance and we just might show up again down the road...or at least in part! Come and visit with us at our booth during the upcoming Ministry Fair scheduled for November 4th, we'd love to meet you and chat with you!

Please keep our Ministry in prayer. It is greatly appreciated and is the fuel that keeps our hearts aglow and our purpose in focus!



It's wonderful to have our preschoolers back in the classrooms and see art work adorning the classroom walls. We are blessed to have 112 preschoolers in attendance and 22 terrific teachers and staff.

The children began Spanish with Mrs. Holly (Malone) and started moving and shaking in Kinder fit class as well! Pastor Larry joins us in chapel this year along with our special lady visitor, "Mrs. Hush" (Yvonne Campbell). We look forward to our Scholastic book fair in the gym Oct 23-26th and our Christmas Store Dec 4th -7th.

As we prepare for our finger food feasts at Thanksgiving, we count our little blessings, naming them one by one, and we are thankful to serve the Lord through the privilege of teaching young children at Wesley.

Thankful for His blessings,

Karen Stein



1 Thessalonians 5:11 Cards

Use the cards in the pews to write a quick note to others. It may be for any of the following: an encouraging word, I'm thinking of you, I miss seeing you, a job well done, a prayer, a thank you... When done put it in the mailbox in the Narthex labeled 1 Thes 5:11 and we'll mail it for you! It's that simple.



"A Covenant Heart"

October 21, 28, November 4, 11



Wesley United Methodist Church

2705 Virginia Parkway
McKinney, Texas 75071
Return Service Requested

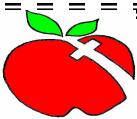
Phone: 972-542-2228
Fax: 972-542-8226
Church E-mail: wumc@wumcmckinney.org

PRST STD.
Non Profit Org.
PAID
Permit No. 228
McKinney, Texas

Church Staff

Ed Lantz, Pastor, pastor@wumcmckinney.org
Jayne Wolfe, Deacon in full connection,
jaynewolfe@aol.com
Zachary Balch, Youth Director,
youthmin@wumcmckinney.org
Curtis Clark, Treasurer,
Treasury@wumcmckinney.org
Mario Major, Director of Music,
music@wumcmckinney.org
Sandy Ragland, Administrative Asst,
wumc@wumcmckinney.org
Terrilee Schober, Interim Children's Director,
kidstime@wumcmckinney.org
Karen Stein, Preschool Director,
Wcp_karen@wumcmckinney.org

People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.



Wesley Christian Preschool

A Ministry of Wesley United Methodist Church

Licensed by the Texas Dept. of family and protective services

“Tending God’s Orchard with Love and Learning”

- 2 & 3 day programs available—low ratios
- 5 day programs available for 4 Yr. olds and Transitional Kindergarten
- Enrolling for 07/08 school year
- Christian Curriculum including Spanish, Chapel time, Music/Fitness class
- 9:00—2:00 Monday thru Thursday, 9:00—12:30 Fridays

Registration will continue throughout the summer, please stop by if you have not already done so and pick up a new enrollment packet. All new and currently enrolled students, if attending next year, will have to submit new forms. If you have questions, please see Karen or Nikki at the Preschool office.

Karen Stein (Director)

Nikki McDonald (Admin)

972-542-4778