

Director's Notes

Developing a Grateful Heart

A Grateful Heart! How can we help children develop a grateful heart when we live in a society that cultivates us to want more, more and more? Our current culture encourages us to feel we are entitled to whatever our neighbors have.

How can we at school, and you, as parents help develop grateful hearts? An article taken from *Parenting* magazine titled "Raising a Child Who's Thankful (Not Spoiled)", lists 5 ways.

1) Make Manners Count: We can help children develop the habit of saying, Please and Thank You. We can do this by modeling, correcting and reinforcing manners and building responsibility in helping with chores.

2) Count Your Blessings: Make people more important than things. Be grateful for the love and support of the people in our lives, not our possessions.

3) Teach Them to Listen: Have them ask you how your day was and talk about the best thing in your day. Give them your undivided attention and let them tell you about the best part in their day too.

4) Teach Them the Value of a Dollar: During preschool years this is difficult, but learning to make choices between items of what they want to buy may help. "This is the money you received for your birthday, you can buy this or that but not both." Learning to wait will help develop delayed gratification.

5) Expose Them to Those Less Fortunate. Here at Zion we do this through our monthly Chapel offerings. Young children may not feel the pain of those who have less but they can learn to feel empathy and find ways to help. As they grow, helping others become a way of life. This teaches children to expand their perspective in thinking and problem solving as they learn more about other people..

Reading Night/Open House

To develop into life long readers, children need opportunities to learn to love books. Come join Zion Lutheran's Early Childhood Teachers for Pete the Cat bedtime stories. The children are welcome to wear their pajamas and rotate through the classrooms for story time. Pete the Cat will be there serving a bedtime snack. November 14th 5:30 – 6:30pm. I hope to see you then, feel free to bring a friend.

**We're thankful for you and your children,
Have a blessed Thanksgiving
with family & friends!**



November, 2018

Zion Lutheran ECEC

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Upcoming Dates:

- ☺ November 5, Chapel @9:10
- ☺ November 8, Photo Orders Due
- ☺ November 13, Chapel @9:10
- ☺ November 14, Pete the Cat Reading Night/ Open House 5:30-6:30
- ☺ November 21–23 No School Happy Thanksgiving

The full School Calendar can be found on our school website.



"The mission of Zion Lutheran Early Childhood Education Center is to open the door to a lifetime of learning In a Christ-centered community."