

Zion Lutheran Early Childhood Education Center

OUR PRESCHOOL CONCEPTS	OUR CHRISTIAN VISION	HOW OUR VISION IS REINFORCED BY OUR REGGIO APPROACH	HOW REGGIO IS COMPLEMENTED BY MUSIC TOGETHER®
Our Image of the Child:	Each little one is a child of the living God; uniquely gifted and unconditionally loved.	Children are strong and capable, interested in constructing their own learning. They have rights, which include high-quality care and education that supports the development of their potentials.	Children are highly competent, co-creators of their own learning, innovators, joyful and expressive, open to suggestions, emulators of their surroundings, and significant influencers of people in their lives.
The Role of the Environment:	Our program is designed to promote the growth of the total child in a nurturing family environment. Because Jesus Christ is the head of our family, the classroom atmosphere is one of love, joy and peace.	The classroom is a warm and beautiful home-like space where everyone has a sense of belonging. The environment is a "third teacher" that encourages problem solving, exploration and discovery.	The learning environment is compelling and reinforces an energetic, joyful, and productive experience, with musical instruments and supportive materials. It also provides for equitable participation by all children.
The Importance of Relationships:	Relationships with God and one another, and love for God and one another, provide the focus of our lives.	The environment is intended to support relationships and communication between teachers, children and parents as well as with the natural world and learning materials.	Music Together guides and supports productive group processes and assists children in taking leadership and in learning how to become effective group members.
Cooperation and Collaboration:	Our role as Christian educators is to support your family; continuity between home and school is important to your child's educational success.	Parents, children, teachers and support staff work together at all levels to support one another's growth and development.	Children and adults collaborate to explore new areas of learning, revisit known areas, and find new ways for expressing ideas, feelings, and possibilities for enhanced relationships.
Our Journey:	As Christians we have the analogy of disciples on a journey, "we walk by the spirit."	"Learning is a journey, not a destination." Learning is not a linear process, but a spiral progression.	Children are immersed in several of the over 100 "languages" that children experience and can develop as part of their multiple intelligences.