November has been a very thankful month – both in the wonderful children we have in our program as well as in the amazing volunteers we have that share their time and talent with us each week! This month we explored being thankful by preparing gifts and thank you notes for our volunteers and then by holding a Volunteer Appreciation Potluck Luncheon. The children decorated the downstairs, set tables, prepared bread and arranged flowers. It was a wonderful visiting time. We wrapped up the month talking about everyone having a voice about things that concern them. We voted on our favorite snack and on what gifts we wanted to send to our friend Bryan in the Dominican Republic that we sponsor through Children’s International.

As always, many thanks to our November teachers ~ Megan Polzin, Dave Beach, Sonja Stark, Amy Langer, Jane Seggelink, Eric Friedrich, Shelly Christensen, Susan Renner, Misty Swartz, Jeri Bodi, Emma and Maddie. You are all amazing volunteers and we greatly appreciate you! 😊

**Principle Spotlight**

This month I caught ALL of our children following the principle “We should search for what is true and good” by showing outstanding behavior in the sanctuary during our worship time together. I also caught Drew and Isobel showing “All people are important” when they remembered to make a thank you banner for me when we had our teacher appreciation luncheon. Lastly, I saw Cody demonstrating “We should treat people fairly and kindly” when he held the door for everyone at the end of the service as we went downstairs. Way to go friends! I’m so proud of ALL of you!
Our annual Children’s Pageant at the Christmas Eve Service is underway in the planning stages! It will take place during the 4pm service on Saturday, December 24th. Anyone wanting to participate only needs to show up at 3pm the day of the service and we will hand out parts and practice (a snack will be provided). All other preparation will take place in our mornings together in the Children’s Program throughout December. Any questions – feel free to ask...

Helping Hands

Helping Hands met in November to make table decorations for the Community Meal. Table turkeys and placemat runners were created to share and they turned out amazing! The counts are in for the Bake Sale as well and $262 was raised for UNICEF. Way to go Helping Hands! This week also wrapped up our Toys for Tots drive and from the looks of the ginormous pile spreading about in the sanctuary, many children will have a happy Christmas this year... We will meet again in December on the 18th so come one and come all😊

What’s Coming Up...

• Most of December will be spent preparing for and learning about our holiday pageant. The first weekend will be an opportunity to do some holiday shopping and wrapping for our friends/families too!
• During our lessons on December 4th, we will be shopping for a small holiday gift and wrapping it to bring home. Each child will have up to $5 to spend that we will provide, but if anyone wants to bring more than that, they are welcome to.
• REMINDER ~ ON CHRISTMAS SUNDAY AND NEW YEAR’S DAY SUNDAY, THERE WILL BE ONLY ONE SERVICE AT 10 AM AND THERE WILL BE NO CHILDREN’S PROGRAMMING – THEY WILL BE MULTIGENERATIONAL SERVICES FOR THE ENTIRE HOUR. We want to make sure that no one is surprised if they come out on those two very special Sundays... 😊

We are all special and unique!

Laura Duker 🌟