



# Little Willows News

Volume 3, Issue 9

May, 2010

## From the Staff...

As the sixth year of our Little Willows program comes to an end, we would like to thank you for allowing us the opportunity to care for your children. We have been blessed by our time with your children, and it has been a joy watching them grow and develop over the past nine months! If your child is moving on to another pre-school program or kindergarten next year, we wish you lots of fun and blessings! If you plan on returning to Little Willows, we look forward to seeing you in September with many new and creative ideas. We hope you and your child had a rewarding year with us at Little Willows. Moms (and Dads), we hope that you enjoyed those three hours on your mornings, whether it was spending quality time with a good friend, getting some errands run, or just enjoying a quiet moment alone! We hope your child had fun playing and learning with us, and that some of what they learned in our classroom has carried over into your home. Best wishes for a safe and fun-filled summer. Happy Mother's Day and God Bless!

### Willow Hill UMC Mom's Day Out Staff

**Director:** Gina Hulett  
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**Wee Willows:**  
Gina Keele (*Asst. Director*)  
Laura Hobbs

**Winsome Willows:**  
Julie Manning  
Linda Shapland

**Wondrous Willows:**  
Lisa Henrich  
Lisa Liening

## Special Announcements

**Special Sharing Days will be May 10th-13th. Winsome and Wondrous will celebrate from 9:00-9:45, and Wee will celebrate from 11:15-12:00. Please join us for a fun-filled morning. Siblings are welcome!**

**2010-11 Little Willows Registration-**Little Willows is adding a fourth classroom next year to better accommodate the varying developmental levels of children in our program. We will have a class for 2's, (2 by 1/1/11), Transitional 3's (3 by 1/1/11), 3's (3 by 9/1/10 and potty trained), and 4's (4 by 9/1/10 and potty trained). If you have any questions about your child's placement, please contact Gina Hulett.

**We have received several applications for the Little Willows teaching positions and hope to have these positions filled by the end of May. We are looking forward to a great year with our new staff members!**

## Current Classroom Focus

**Wee Willows:** We will continue talking about Spring, and we will also talk about Mother's Day and the many ways our Moms are special to us! We are looking forward to seeing everyone at our Special Sharing Day the week of May 10th!

**Winsome Willows:** We will celebrate Mother's Day by reading Eric Carle's *Does A Kangaroo Have A Mother and Are You My Mother?* We will explore animal mothers and their babies and review all our shapes and colors during calendar time. Finally, we will end our year talking about how Jesus loves us and how we can be more like Jesus!

**Wondrous Willows:** This month we will be busy little bees learning about bugs and nature, and practicing our songs for Special Sharing Day! We would like to thank you for sharing your wonderful children with us this past year. We will miss them all very much. Have a safe and FANTASTIC summer!

## Last Month's Highlights

**Wee Willows:** We had a great time celebrating Spring in Wee Willows by talking about all the wonderful and colorful things that come back in the Springtime! We worked on our fine motor skills by decorating colorful kites with stickers. Be sure to check them out on the walls inside and outside our classroom! We also worked on stringing beads, coloring with markers, and playing with Mr. Potato Head. We continued working on our gross motor skills in Romper Room and outside (yeah!) by throwing and kicking balls, playing on the slides, and climbing on our playground equipment. Thank you for sending your child to school in appropriate outdoor clothing!

**Winsome Willows:** We spent April learning about different ways we can praise Jesus, such as singing, praying, and giving to others. We read Eric Carle's books, *The Little Cloud* and *The Tiny Seed* to help us learn about weather and how a seed becomes a plant. To further our knowledge, we planted seeds, recited rhymes, made a cloud craft, and observed clouds and plants. Have you noticed the double rainbow on our calendar? Yes, it was there! The children had the opportunity to observe the colors of the rainbow on the calendar through a special "peep hole". Finally, we have been very busy working hard on a special present for our fantastic moms!

**Wondrous Willows:** We had fun in April planting seeds and reading *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle. We also enjoyed learning about Earth Day and the many ways we can take care of our Earth, such as recycling and turning off lights to conserve electricity. We made litter bugs and talked about how litter can make animals sick. We also enjoyed making our caterpillar/butterflies; first it's a caterpillar, then like magic, there is a butterfly inside! We read *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle and talked about metamorphosis. See if your child remembers what metamorphosis means! We completed the alphabet and continued to review our letters, numbers, and sorting. We also continued working on our cutting and matching skills.



### Birthdays

*Let's wish them all a very happy birthday!*



Jacob Hunt turns 3 on May 1!	Aaron Miller turns 5 June 24!	Shaye Feeley turns 5 on July 20!
Corvin Davis turns 3 May 10!	Kayden Minnich turns 5 on June 27!	Jake Koenig turns 4 on July 20!
Emma Matson turns 5 on May 11!	Ryan Hammelman turns 3 on June 29!	Audrey Heil turns 4 on August 7!
Cayla Graham turns 5 on May 12!	Landon Cowper turns 3 on July 1!	Nick Dahlin turns 3 on August 14!
Mackinzi Beccue turns 3 on May 15!	Olivia Morris turns 5 on July 4!	Caden Ulrich turns 3 on August 16!
Bryson Leach turns 3 on June 9!	Olivia Cushing turns 4 on July 6!	Kate Nymark turns 5 on August 19!
Sadie Sheets turns 4 on June 14!	Nathan Teaney turns 4 on July 13!	Rebecca Gordon turns 3 on August 22!
Katie Donnelly turns 4 on June 19!	Blake Smolarchuk turns 3 on July 17!	Isaac Reetz turns 3 on August 31!
	Audrey Maston turns 3 July 19!	
	Drew Lueddecke turns 3 on July 20!	

***Have a wonderful and safe summer!***