

Our Shepherd
Lutheran Preschool

GROWING IN GOD'S LOVE

Our Shepherd

An Accredited Lutheran School

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2010-2011 School Profile

Our Shepherd Lutheran School is a coeducational Christian day school for children from preschool through eighth grade. At Our Shepherd, we know that every child is a precious gift from God, and we strive to make a positive difference in the life of every student.

For more than 50 years, Our Shepherd has provided a safe, nurturing, loving environment where a child feels secure. Our Shepherd Lutheran School is located on 8 acres in a quiet neighborhood in Birmingham, Michigan.

Growing in God's Love

Special Days and events in Four Year Old Preschool

- Children anxiously await their turn to bring in the “Mystery bag”. The bag holds a special show and tell brought from home.
- Preschoolers enjoy an opportunity to go to the school library once a week to check out their favorite books.
- Families enjoy the games, hay ride and pumpkin painting that are a part of “Pumpkin Palooza” each October.
- The Valentine’s Day Tea is a memorable event for both mother and child.

My favorite memory of preschool was when my son came home and shared with his brothers the “Jesus” songs from circle time. The loving, caring atmosphere in the classroom was evident the moment you walked in the door.
Stephanie Morrison

Special Days and events in Three Year Old Preschool

- Children work on an art project every day using a variety of mediums.
- We offer a twenty minute session in our school computer lab once a week to introduce preschoolers to the use of the computer.
- Families are invited to join us for “Pumpkin Palooza” in October, and a Thanksgiving Feast in November.
- “Dad’s Day” is on a Sunday afternoon in March.
- May brings us the “Mother’s Day Tea”.

Our Shepherd Lutheran School was a wonderful preschool for our son. He was provided with such a loving and caring environment, always surrounded by caring teachers, and above all, the love of Christ.
John & Veronica Klausmeier

Accreditation

Our Shepherd Lutheran School is accredited at both state and national levels. We are recognized by the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools, the Michigan District of Lutheran Schools and the National Lutheran School Accreditation.

The Preschool is licensed by the State of Michigan, Department of Human Services, Bureau of Children Licensing.

We strive to make a positive difference in the lives of children by:

- Providing a loving Christian atmosphere.
- Teaching children about God, themselves, and what it means to live a life of faith.
- Witnessing to the child through Christian teachers who are interested in the development of the whole child.
- Establishing a productive foundation for more formal education.

Preschool Curriculum

Religion

The Concordia Publishing House *Voyages—Exploring God's Word* curriculum is used for religion. Preschoolers participate daily in Jesus Time. They listen to stories from the bible, sing songs in praise to God, and take part in group prayers and echo prayers. They come to know Jesus as their friend who died and rose for them. The children are taught to show God's love to others throughout the day.

Science

The preschool children use their senses to discover the world around them. Through hands-on activities, the children make new realizations about the world they live in. Through preschool educational themes, the children learn about the weather, health, plants and animals.

Social Studies

The preschool classroom environment encourages each child to have a healthy sense of self and a positive self-esteem. The social skills of children are fostered through daily activities. Children are guided into self-regulating their emotions and behaviors. Children are taught how to effectively communicate with others. Through preschool educational themes, the children learn about themselves, their friends, families, our country and holidays.

Art

Preschoolers have opportunities to work with a variety of medium: pencils, crayons, markers, paints., tissue paper, construction paper, scissors, glue, etc. The children are encouraged to create their own unique works of art. The focus is on the process rather than the product.

Physical Education

Children take part in daily activities that promote large and small motor development. Large motor activities include running, jumping, throwing, galloping and balancing. Children participate with scooters, beanbags, hula-hoops and other equipment. Fine motor activities include lacing, stringing (beads, buttons, etc.) drawing, and working with play dough.

Language Arts

Preschoolers are provided with experiences in oral and written language. Oral language experiences are provided throughout the school day. The teacher engages children in conversations about real experiences, current events and projects. The teacher listens carefully and responds clearly to the child.

Children are given opportunities to talk with other children and to speak to the whole class during show and tell and group time. Dramatic play activities are set up to encourage experiences with oral language. Such activities are playing with puppets in a puppet theatre, playing house with friends or pretending to be a cashier or customer in a store. Learning opportunities are provided for the children to enhance their ability to listen. Children are also asked to follow simple directions.

Various experiences are provided in the area of written language. Children are read to on a daily basis using books, charts, magazines, etc. Books are available in the classroom library for individual reading experiences. Children are given tools for expressing themselves through drawing. Children also dictate real experiences and stories to the teacher for the purpose of making collaborative class books.

Math

Math concepts are taught through daily routine (snack, lining up, etc.) and small group activities. The children participate in hands-on activities that involve number concepts, counting skills, sorting, and numeral recognition.

Technology and Foreign Language

Children benefit from a session in the school computer lab each week to gain experience on the computer as well as an introduction to beginning Spanish.

Music

Music is incorporated into the preschool day. Children are given opportunities to sing, play, listen and move to music. The children sing religious songs during Jesus Time.