

THE PARENTS' PRESS

Duke Memorial Weekday School | November 2019



MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- Nov 5: Parents' Council Meeting
- Nov 11: Veteran's Day—No School
- Nov 15: Storyteller; Board of Directors Meeting
- Nov 19: Dining Out at Pompieri Pizza
- Nov 26: Christmas Market Donations Due
- Nov 27-29: Thanksgiving Holiday—No School

LOOKING AHEAD

- Dec 6: Kindergarten Open House for Prospective Families
- Dec 8: Children Sing in Worship



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 919.688.5130
www.dmws.org

Autumn is here! DMWS has certainly been a busy place recently. We've had visits from fire fighters and a storyteller, pumpkin and leaf activities, and our annual Halloween Parade. The children have celebrated the change of season with songs, art projects, movement activities and cooking experiences. The pre-k classes and our kindergarten visited Brown Farms while younger children enjoyed their own pumpkin patch on the church lawn. On October 18, our staff joined colleagues from Durham and Chapel Hill preschools in an excellent set of workshops.

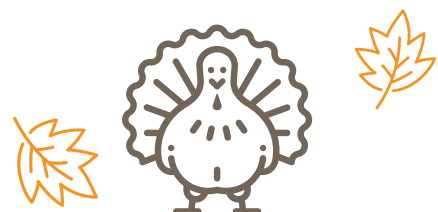
Many thanks to all of you who helped make this year's Fall Gathering and Book Fair a success. The children always enjoy showing their families their classrooms and special artwork. The teachers also appreciate the books many of you purchased for the classrooms. The magic show was a big hit as well!

November is shaping up to be a busy month. Classes will be feasting in honor of Thanksgiving and the storyteller will return. Our music classes will be preparing to sing in worship on Sunday, December 8.

Parents of our pre-k classes are invited to attend a Kindergarten Open House on Friday, December 6 at 9:30am. This gives parents an opportunity to learn more about our kindergarten program and observe the class in action. Since it is a regular instructional day for the children, parents are asked to attend without siblings.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving Holiday!

Julie Allen
 DMWS Director





Fall Gathering



We had a wonderful time at the Fall Gathering on Sunday, October 13th! **Congratulations to the Childers family**, our winner of one month's tuition! Thanks to all who participated in the raffle. We are grateful to all who attended and supported our school by visiting the classrooms, shopping at the Usborne Book Fair, enjoying the performance from Happy Dan, and buying drinks from CW Coffee Company.

We hope everyone had a great time and enjoyed the chance to spend time with so many DMWS families. **THANK YOU to everyone who helped make this event possible, especially all the parent volunteers!**

Carpool Reminder



For the safety of the children, please keep the following in mind:

1. Carpool line is a cell free zone.
2. Do not exit your car from the driver's side while your car is in a loading/unloading position. After you pull up to buckle, you may exit your car if needed. Memorial Drive is a city street and is used by many cars daily.

October Teacher Workdays

Each fall, our school includes 2 teacher workdays in our calendar. **These days are a great mix of planning and learning for our staff.** On October 17, our staff met as age levels to plan activities for the children and worked hard to get curriculum ready for the upcoming months. We also practiced a lock down drill. On October 18, we joined with 250 other preschool teachers from Durham and Orange Counties for workshops. We had three speakers.

The first one was Carol Van Hise who inspired us to be the best teachers we can be. Next, we heard from John Panepinto on Understanding the Hearts and Minds of Boys. Our last speaker was Aviva Starr. Her talk was titled toxic Stress on the Developing Brain. Our teachers will have in-house staff development training in early March.



DUKE MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

CHRISTMAS

MARKET

SATURDAY, DEC 7

Gift collection: now – Nov 26

An event for families* in Durham to shop for gifts at affordable prices. All proceeds will benefit local agencies.

**families referred by local agencies*

weekday school giving guide

ways to give...

1. Choose tags from the Weekday School giving tree.
2. Use our Target gift registry (online and in-stores).
 - a. Search for Duke Memorial as the organization OR visit tgt.gifts/dmumc-2019christmasmarket.

general guidelines...

- Items should be left by DMWS's giving tree.
- Online orders may be shipped directly to the church, but must be received by Nov. 26th.
- Tree tags list broad categories so that your children have the experience of selecting a gift that will be kid approved.
- The goal of the market is to have the bulk of gifts priced at \$1–\$3 (75% off retail price). We would rather have more lower priced than big ticket items. (ie. \$15–\$20 lego set vs. \$40).

guidelines for new items...

- Gifts should be unwrapped.
- **DO NOT** remove price tags.
- If you get an item requiring batteries, consider attaching batteries to the package.
- We **DO NOT** accept weapons (including Nerf).

items we are short on...

- 16" dolls
- Arts & crafts
- Sports equipment and balls
- Dramatic play
- Games and wood puzzles



Want to learn more about the Christmas Market or how to volunteer?
Visit dukememorial.org/christmas-market.html

Giving Tree 2019

With just a little over seven weeks until Christmas, it's already time to start thinking about our annual Giving Tree! The Giving Tree is our way of giving back to the community and fostering the sharing and caring spirit with our children.

We are excited to be partnering with our very own Duke Memorial United Methodist Church and their Christmas Market again this year. The Duke Memorial Christmas Market is a one-day, low-cost holiday shopping event for Durham families with limited financial means. It gives parents an opportunity to give Christmas gifts to their children and honors their dignity by letting them to do the shopping themselves. It gives donors a chance to share God's love and experience the true meaning of Christmas.

Families who receive services from our partner agencies are invited to shop at the Christmas Market. Agencies (Urban Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, IHN, etc.) distribute Shopper's Passes to families (1 pass per child) based on need and circumstance. New and gently used items are accepted and sold at 75% off retail. Proceeds from the market go back the partner agencies.

This year's Christmas Market will be held on Saturday, December 7th, so we will be collecting gifts during the first few weeks of November. The Giving Tree will be set up in the hallway of the Weekday School, so please plan to stop by the "tree" with your child(ren) to select an ornament (or two) to donate to the Market. Once purchased, please bring the unwrapped items back to the school or church office (there will be a collection bin located outside of the church office). Please do not remove price tags.

The organizers of the Market have also set up Target Wish List for hot ticket items. You may shop in stores or online using the gift registry. To shop online, go to: tgt.gifts/dmumc-2019ChristmasMarket

The registry is an excellent resource since it is customized to include items we have learned are most desirable and to exclude items we don't allow or already have plenty of.

Please be sure to bring your gifts back to DMWS by no later than Tuesday, November 26th!

For additional information regarding the Christmas Market, please go to:

<http://www.dukememorial.org/christmas-market.html>

THANK YOU so much for your participation and generosity! Wishing you and your families all the best during this holiday season!



Fitness Update

October was a busy month in Fitness Class. We worked on throwing and catching skills. Corn Hole was so much fun as we worked on aiming at a target with our pumpkin bean bags. We continued to hone our skills with pumpkin balloons by throwing and catching, and then using our "flyswatter" tennis rackets to volley the balloons in the air to each other. Activities were capped off with our toilet paper ghost pyramid bowling. We practiced hitting our targets and knocking our silly ghosts down. We finished strong in October by playing "Spider's Web," our own version of Hungry Hippos on scooters as we pretended to be spiders.

Please remember to send your child dressed in appropriate fitness shoes and clothes on fitness day. If your child wears boots or slick bottomed shoes, please send in athletic shoes to change. Thanks and I look forward to November.

Kindergarten Open House

Friday, December 6, 2019 at 9:30am*

DMWS will hold an Open House for parents to learn more about DMWS kindergarten. There will be an opportunity to see the classroom, speak with the lead teacher, and ask questions.

Please call the office at 919-688-5130 or send an email to julieallen@dmws.org to attend. Since this is a regular school day for students, we ask that only parents/caregivers attend.

**other time slots may be added if there is demand*

November Dining Out

Join us at **Pompiery Pizza** on **Tuesday, November 19, 5-8:30pm** and 10% of the sales will go to DMWS. Be sure to mention DMWS and place your receipt in the bucket provided at the registers and bar!



DMWS Inclement Weather Policy

When the **Durham Public Schools are closed due to inclement weather, Duke Memorial Weekday School will be closed.** If Durham Public Schools are delayed, the Director will determine if Duke Memorial Weekday School should be open, closed, or operate on a delay.

Factors considered when assessing whether to close, open on time or on a delay include, but are not limited to: teacher availability to fulfill Safe Sanctuaries requirements, the condition of Memorial Drive/sidewalks along Memorial Drive, and timing of the inclement weather event. Parents should check for cancellation/delay information on WTVD and WRAL. Attempts will be made to notify all families by email and by using the REMIND texting service. The decision as to whether or not Duke Memorial Weekday School opens on a delay will be made with the utmost consideration of safety for all of our families and staff members. Use of these makeup days is at the discretion of the Director.

Did You Know?

- + DMWS students vacated the building in 3 minutes and 38 seconds when we had a fire drill in October.
- + The Durham Public Library Book Mobile visits us on the first Friday of each month.
- + In October we had some generous donations including Play Mobile Toys and books for classrooms
- + Property manager Joe Stevens has been helping with carpool during the closure of Gregson Street for the bridge raising project.
- + Teachers had a lockdown drill on our October workday.