

CONTACT INFO
COMMUNICATION

Mrs. Karen: Cell (612)385-9552 karen@mtolive-anoka.org

Classroom: (952)600-1257 School office: (763)421-9048

Class closed group Facebook page—I will send you an invitation to join

School Facebook page: Mount Olive Christian Early Childhood Center

School website: www.mtolive-anoka.org (Preschool)

WELCOME

Welcome to Mount Olive Christian Preschool! We are excited to work together, learn and grow together this year. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns you have. We look forward to learning and growth this year. Thank you for entrusting your children to us and our class!

MRS. KAREN



My name is Karen Wachholz. I live in Brooklyn Park with my husband Tim and our children. Jeff is a sophomore in college. Megan is a Senior in High School. Steven is a Sophomore in High School. I love to bake, take pictures and spend time with family and friends.

MRS. TRACY



My name is Tracy Colestock. I live in Andover with my husband Scott. I have 1 daughter away on a discipleship gap year program, 1 daughter getting married in October and 2 married sons and 3 grandchildren. I love to hike, bake and craft.

COMMUNICATION
AND
INVOLVEMENT

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me. I like to have open communication on a daily basis so we can work to resolve issues when they are small and easy to fix. We have the best school year possible when we are all involved in it together.

ARRIVAL

When you come in to school in the morning, please sign in on the clipboard in the hallway. Adults, please sign your name and the time you come. Please make sure that your child has used the bathroom before drop off. Children must be accompanied into the classroom for drop off and not come in alone or be left alone.

SEPARATION

I would love to say all drop offs are easy, but they aren't. Quick drop offs make it easier. Even if your child is crying, it makes it a smoother transition to leave them in tears vs lingering around for a long time. If you need peace to know that your child is ok we can call you or text to confirm that your child has calmed down.

LARGE MOTOR

Every day we will be doing large motor activity. Please dress your child to be able to move and run successfully. Let your child wear shoes that they can easily run in. If your child is wearing a dress, please wear shorts underneath for the ease of climbing and sitting on the floor.

REST TIME

Full day friends will have rest time every day. Please bring a small blanket or beach towel for rest time. Blankets will go home to be washed about once a month. This is a quiet time, very few children fall asleep during the school year. It is an opportunity to rest and relax. If a child needs to sleep, they are able to.

DISMISSAL

We will walk the children out to the Nature Center and dismiss them from there. Parents, you are able to just drive into the turn around driveway by the Outdoor Nature Center and we will dismiss your child to you there.

If you know that you will need to pick up your child early, please let us know so we are able to get your child's supplies together before you get to school.

MONEY AND NOTES

If you are sending in tuition, notes or money, you can leave them in your child's home folder and we will take care of it during the morning. If you prefer to turn in your tuition to the office, you can also do that.

GOD'S SPECIAL CHILD

When we celebrate your child's birthday or half birthday, it is their turn to be God's Special Child. We will send home a form to be filled out and you can return it along with five pictures to be hung outside our classroom. After hanging up for about a month the pictures will then be sent home.

SNACK AND LUNCH

You will get the opportunity to pack and bring your child's snack and lunch every day. We encourage them to eat the healthy food first. If your child doesn't eat their food, we send it back home with them. Meal time is very social and sometimes it is a big adjustment eating with friends vs. family. Children will get the opportunity to open their own containers and packages. They will pour their own beverages. Milk and water are provided. We will have spills. It is all good. We will also help them with all of these tasks too.

CLOTHING

We are working on self help skills this year. Your child will get the opportunity to put on their own jackets, zip and button them, hang them on the hooks and be responsible for their belongings.

Our classroom temperature varies. You may want to dress in layers or have a sweatshirt available for your child. It is a good idea to send in a set of extra clothes in their backpack in case of accidents.

HWOT/LWOT

We will be learning our handwriting through Handwriting Without Tears or Learning Without Tears. We will be talking about Mat Man, big lines, little lines, big curves and little curves. A great place to help your child start is by working on his/her name and being able to identify all of the letters in his/her name.

MONTHLY CALENDAR

At the beginning of every month a new calendar will be sent home. This will come home in the home folder, on our class Facebook page, school Facebook page and on the school website.

VOLUNTEER

Please let us know if you would love to volunteer this year. There are so many different opportunities, just ask. For sure there will be opportunities to help at our class parties. We are excited to have you volunteer and be part of our school community.

THANK YOU

Thank you for your help and patience this year. We are all slowing down and giving our children the opportunity to learn and do things for themselves. We might end up with spills and mistakes and things taking us a lot longer, but our children are going to learn so much. Thanks for working on this with us! Thank you for letting the children try, make mistakes and learn and succeed!

SNOW CLOTHES

Before we know it, it will be time to get our snow clothes on. Half day friends will only go outside if I specifically tell you to bring in snow clothes that day. Full day friends, plan on bringing in snow clothes every day. You will need a separate bag to hold your snow clothes, a winter jacket, snow pants, hat, mittens, boots. If you are looking for a good place to find good affordable waterproof mittens, keep your eye out for the mittens at Costco.

SHOW AND TELL

Once a month we will be having show and tell. The children will each get the opportunity to bring one item from home to share with the class. When you get to school, just leave the show and tell in your back pack until show and tell time. We look forward to seeing and hearing about all of the fun things that will make it to school.

9/20, 10/11, 11/8, 12/13, 1/17, 2/21, 3/6, 4/10, 5/8

CLASS PARTIES

We will have several class parties this year. A Harvest Party on November 16 (also hot lunch day), Christmas Party on December 21 (no gift exchange), Valentine's Party on February 14 (we exchange cards) (also a hot lunch day), Easter Party on March 28. These are great opportunities to volunteer and be part of your child's school year.

SPECIAL DAYS

October 30 Prince/Princess/Superhero Day

December 20 & 21 Singing Christmas songs for parents at 9:30

January 24 Beach Day

February 7 Pajama Day

May 15-16 Bike Days

May 22 Field Day Jamboree 10:00-12:00

HOT LUNCH

A couple times during the year we have a special "hot lunch". The children can pay for hot lunch, parents can come and join us for a special meal. This is a great volunteer opportunity too.

November 16 and February 14

CHRISTMAS BOUTIQUE

The Christmas Boutique is an opportunity where the children get to go Christmas shopping for their families. We need several things to happen to make this successful. We need volunteers to help set it up, volunteers to shop with the children, people to donate the items that the children will buy, wrapping paper, gift bags, tape, and paper grocery bags to carry the gifts home. It is a special day for the children and the volunteers.

SINGING IN CHURCH

This Winter/Spring the children will be singing in church at the 10:30 service one Sunday, watch for the date to be announced. Our preschool is a ministry of the church. This is an opportunity for the preschool to give back and sing during the worship service. We are excited to have your family worship with us and be part of this. Thank you for making it a priority to be here this day.

SPRING PROGRAM

April 23 at 7:00PM all of the children from Mount Olive Christian Preschool will be singing in a program for their families. The children will sing songs. We will have a slide show of the children and activities they have done this year. Then we will end the evening with refreshments and the children's art work will be displayed. Parents can also help by donating refreshments.

FIELD TRIPS

At this point we are planning in house field trips for this school year. If you have a connection for a good cost effective/free field trip, bussing or someone to come in to our school, we would love to hear new suggestions too. You can share a hobby or occupation with our class also.

CHAPEL

Once a month our children will go to Chapel. Families are invited to join your child for Chapel. 9/21, 10/26, 11/16, 12/7, 1/18, 2/15, 3/21, 4/18, 5/2. There is also coffee connection for parents before Chapel on those days. Meet other parents, connect and build friendships. Our offering will go to Coated in Love—3,000 Acts of Kindness. We are also collecting coats/winter gear especially for children until December.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Mark your calendars for Friday, February 9 from 5:30-7:00 for Family Fun Night. Bring your whole family for a fun evening of games and activities. You can play the games with your family, talk with other families, volunteer and help throughout the evening.

PARENT NIGHT

October 10 at 6:00 is our Parent Night. This is an Open House where the children can bring their families and show them their school. We will have been in school for about a month at this point so the children have found a new comfort level at school. They can show their families around and show them their favorite activities.

GRANDPARENT'S DAY

We will send out invitations closer to the date, but we wanted to give you a heads up that we are having Grandparent's Day on November 2. We will begin in the sanctuary at 9:30. The children will sing some songs for our Grandparents. Then we will come back to our classroom and make a project together and enjoy a snack in the classroom. Grandparents can see and try out some of our favorite activities. Grandparents can stay up until 11:45 but don't need to stay that long if they don't want or aren't able.

CONFERENCES

Parent Teacher Conferences will be held on November 20 and 21. We will have sign up sheets for these closer to conferences. We don't have school on these days. If there are other times throughout the year that you want a conference, please just reach out to the teachers and we will set up a time to meet. There isn't a formal conference in the Spring but they are available if you would like a conference.

OPEN HOUSE

Open House on January 9 from 4:00-6:00 is an opportunity for families to visit classrooms and talk with teachers regarding classes available for the following school year.

BOOK ORDERS

Every month you have the option of ordering books from Scholastic. Go online to www.Scholastic.com. Our class code is GPCDF. You can look through books for various age groups and order and pay online. When the class order goes in, the order will come into our classroom and I will send your books home with you and your child. If they are a gift we can privately hand them to you.

SELF HELP SKILLS

This year our children will have the opportunity to try a lot on their own...

- ~Carrying their own backpacks
- ~Putting on their own jackets
- ~Putting on shoes by themselves
- ~Opening their own lunches and cleaning up at the end

*We will help the children, but we let them try on their own too.