

October 2023

October News

Fall is here (even if the temps aren't showing it), and everyone seems to be settling into a new routine. We are so grateful that we are able to share our space with our Hopewell Jr. Students and appreciate your understanding. We will continue to keep you posted with information about their time at our school.



We have lots of great things planned for you children this month! Please be sure to read this newsletter, your class newsletter, and any emails or brightwheel messages so that nothing is missed! As always, reach out to me or your child's teachers with any questions.

Authorized Pickups

Please add **authorized pickups** to your child's brightwheel profile. All students must have at least one that is not their parents. When in the app:

1. Click on **My Children** from the left-hand menu
2. Select the desired student's account by clicking on their name
3. Scroll down to the Contacts section and click **Add Contact**
4. Select Authorized Pickup from the dropdown menu
5. Add the new contact's information & click **Save Contact**

Brightwheel Messaging (Admin vs. Staff)

We've noticed a little confusion when parents are attempting to communicate with us through brightwheel, so we want to clarify who is receiving messages. First, whether replying to or creating new messages, only teachers and administrators will see the message. Parents of other children do not receive your messages.

When creating a message, there are two options. One is for communication between you and all staff (teachers) assigned to your student's classroom. The other thread is for communications between you and Admins only - teachers won't see this message thread. When creating an Admin only message, it can only be read by Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Rader, and Mrs. Gardner. Most messages should be sent to all staff.

T-Shirt Orders

T-Shirt Order Forms will be coming home next week and will need to be returned by October 20. Each class is designated with a specific color. T-shirts can be worn on special days like Faith JAM, all-school assemblies, in-house field trips, etc.

Stay in Touch

Mindi Williams
Preschool Director

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Preschool Website
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"Like" Faith Community Preschool on Facebook

October Calendar

October 16-17
No School—Fall Break

October 19 & 20
Faith JAM

October 26 & 27
Fall Parties/Trick or Treat

Coming in November!

November 2 & 3
Fire Safety Assembly

November 4
VIP Day—Faith, Family, Football!

November 7
No School—Election Day

November 8-10
Fall School Pictures

November 16 & 17
Faith JAM—Grateful

November 22-24
No School—Thanksgiving Break



Fearless (Pumpkin Prayer)



October 19 & 20
11:15 AM

Faith JAM

We are so happy to get Faith JAM started back up this month! Faith JAM is our monthly worship time where a member of our church's ministry team presents a Bible Story to the children. We also sing songs, dance, and pray.

Faith JAM is held from 11:15-11:35 am, and families and siblings are welcome to join us!

- October 19 & 20: Fearless (The Pumpkin Prayer)
- November 16 & 17: Grateful
- December 7 & 8: (The Christmas Story)
- 2024 SCHEDULE WILL BE SENT HOME IN JANUARY

Fall Parties and Trick or Treat

Children in all classes will have the opportunity to dress in costume for their class Fall party and go trick or treating throughout the church building. Please read the messages from your child's teacher regarding the specifics of the day. Remember when bringing in candy for trick or treating, **NO peanut butter or nuts are allowed!** Thank you!



Weekly Opportunities

- Sunday School | **9:30a & 11:00a** (*birth-6th grade*)
- Contemporary Service | **9:30a** **Christian Living Center**
- Traditional Service | **11:00a** **Sanctuary**
- Sunday evening small groups | **5:30-6:30p**
(*NEW Men's & Women's groups begin Sept 10*)

Seasonal Events

- Children's Christmas Musical | **rehearsal Starts Sept 10**
- Grandparent Sunday | **Sept 24, 10:30a**
- Big Bible Event | **Oct 21**
- Upward Basketball & Cheer | **Fall 2023**
- Father-Daughter Dance | **Feb 2024**
- Easter Celebration | **March 2024**
- Vacation Bible School | **June 2024**
- Faith on the Lawn | **August 2024**

We'd love to connect with you!

Sarah.Messner@faithcommunityumc.org | *Children's Director*
Jenn.Crowder@faithcommunityumc.org | *Children's Coordinator*



VIP Day

Saturday, November 4

9:30-10:30 am—Honey Bears & Busy Bees

11:00 am-12:00 pm—Dino-Fours, Puppy Pals, & Froggy Pals

Invite 2 of your favorite (adult) VIP's

10/13 — Mrs. Gardner
Preschool Support Asst.
& Busy Bees Asst.



RightNow Media

Learn more about the true stories of the Bible at RightNow Media! A **FREE** gift from Faith Community UMC!



Scan the QR code for the link and instructions to create your

Meet Our Team



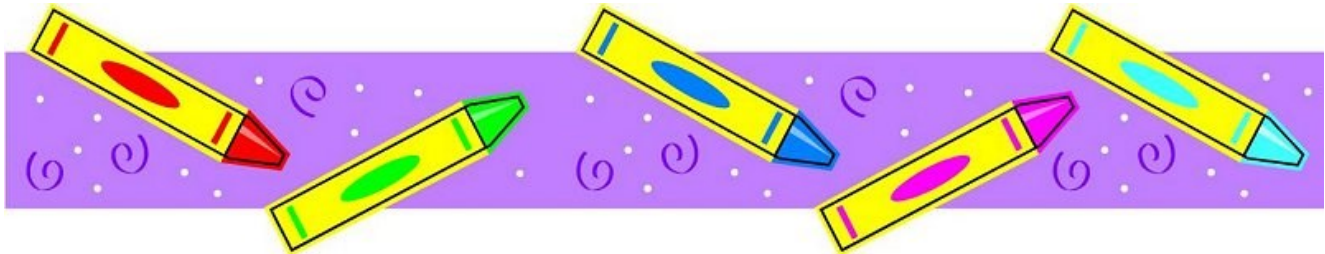
Admin Team

Mindi Williams — Preschool Director and Lead Teacher for the T/TH Busy Bees — This is my 7th year at Faith, 11th year teaching, and second full year as Director. I have been married to Jerry for almost 26 years, and we have 2 grown boys, Sam is in Denver, and Adam is in Oxford, so the nest is mostly empty except for Teddy, our 3 1/2 year-old goldendoodle. When not working I enjoy working out, spending time with family and friends, time outside, pickleball, and cheering on the Ohio State Buckeyes!

Megan Brown — Assistant Director—Curriculum Specialist and Lead Teacher for the Froggy Pals — I have over 20 years of experience in education. My daughter, Abbey, is a freshman at ONU, so I'm a recent empty nester who enjoys the great outdoors, a good cup of coffee, singing in church and cheering for Kentucky sports. Go Big Blue!

Teresa Rader — Assistant Director—Purchasing and Lead Teacher for the Puppy Pals— I have been teaching at Faith for 14 years. I'm blessed to have a husband, Leo and two daughters. Carmen works full-time as a Medical Coder. Carrie is in her third year at Rochester Institute of Technology, studying Industrial Engineering. We also have a cat named Miles. Outside of preschool, I enjoy seeing plays and musicals and playing Bunco with a close set of friends. I love going to coffee shops to meet friends or to read a good book.

Jackie Gardner — Preschool Support Assistant (T/TH) and Assistant Teacher for the M/W/F Busy Bees — This is my third year teaching at Faith. I have two grown children. Ann lives in Wisconsin with my two grand dogs, Bentley and Baxter, and is a Registered Dietitian. Sam is in his fourth year at The University of Kentucky studying Mechanical Engineering. Since I am now an empty-nester, I have a 1 1/2 year old old Golden Doodle, Oliver. In my free time, I love to read, spend time with my family, take long walks, complete jigsaw puzzles, watch Dayton Flyer basketball, and travel to Wisconsin.



Teaching Team

Maria Bowling — Lead Teacher-Honey Bears (T/TH) — I am an Occupational Therapist that used to work with preschool in Lakota schools and am now in my 4th year at Faith. I have been married 46 years and have 3 sons, 1 daughter, and 5 granddaughters! I spend a lot of time at soccer, basketball, and volleyball games. I love to read, do puzzles, craft, and try new experiences.

Terri Beerens — Asst Teacher-Dino-Fours (T/TH) — This is my 2nd year at Faith. I have been married for 29 years, and have two children, a son who is 24 working in Texas, and a daughter who is 20 and a senior at OU. We also have three cats. I grew up in South Jersey. My hobbies include, aerobics, pickle ball, walking, hiking and traveling, especially to the beach!

Julie Byrge — Lead Teacher-Dino-Fours (M-F) — I am in my 25th year teaching at Faith. I am married to Ron and have 2 daughters, Kristen and Chelsea, and 2 granddaughters, Mackenzie and Kaylee. I have 2 dogs, Max and Cooper. In my free time I enjoy reading, camping, going to the beach, and spending time with family.

Meet Our Team... Continued

Teaching Team- Continued

Lori Fehr — Asst Teacher-Puppy Pals (M-TH) — I have been teaching at Faith for some time. I am married to Mike and have 4 children, Matthew, Emily, Michelle, and Maria, and 2 grandkids, Layla and Noah. I enjoy spending time with family and friends and love to travel. I also enjoy going to sporting events and reading.

Brittany Monds — Asst Teacher-Honey Bears (T/TH) and Busy Bees (M/W/F) — This will be my 3rd year at Faith Preschool. I have been married to my husband, Mike, for 16 years and have 3 kids who also attended Faith- Mackenzie (13), Olivia (11), and Liam (8). In my free time we go camping A LOT as a family, hang out with family and friends, and just enjoy being in the outdoors.

Sarah Hysong — Asst Teacher-Froggy Pals (M-F) — I have my Bachelor's degree in Psychology and have worked with children my entire adult life. My own children both went to Faith preschool. My son, Ethan, 17 and my daughter, Maddie, 14, are both in the Lakota school district. We've got two wild dogs, hamsters, a bunny and fish to keep us busy. My free time is usually spent with my family. We love to go to King's Island, the zoo, museums or just stay at home and enjoy some quiet time. I'm always happy to be out in nature, gardening, photography, swimming or enjoying a good book.

Holly Portwine — Asst Teacher-Busy Bees (T/TH) — I am a wife to Jeremy and mom to Luke, a High School Senior, Whitney, a 2nd grader, and Levi, a kindergartner. I have worked with children for over 20 years and have been a Children's Pastor for 17 years. I love being my kids' full-time taxi service and enjoy sports, mostly football, and treasure making memories with my family and doing home projects with my husband.

Kara Saylor — Asst Teacher-Honey Bears (W/F) — This is my second year teaching at Faith. I live with my husband, Brian, my 2 sons who both attended Faith, Asher (8) and Elijah (6), and my 2 dogs, Pepper and Daisy. In my free time, I love to read, go for walks, try new restaurants, and spend time with friends and family.

Jane Shultz — Lead Teacher-Busy Bees (T/TH) and Asst Teacher-DinoFours (M/W/F) — This is my 15th year teaching preschool, 3rd year at Faith. I have been married 28 years to Doug and have 3 children: Jenna (20) - a 3rd year Civil Engineering student at University of Cincinnati, Jeff (18) - a Senior at Lakota West & Julie (16) - a Sophomore at Lakota West. I have 3 cats (Macy, Mittens, Marly). I enjoy walking, reading, attending my children's sporting activities (soccer / wrestling), and I'm a huge NHL fan.

Victoria Skepple — Lead Teacher-Honey Bears (W/F) — This is my 2nd year at Faith. My husband, John and I have been married for 27 years. We have 4 children, a granddaughter, and 2 dogs. My oldest daughter is 29 years old, and my oldest son is 28 years old. Both graduated from the University of Cincinnati. My youngest son is 19 years old and attended UC for 1 year. My youngest daughter is 17 years old and is a senior at Lakota West High school. Outside of work, I love spending time with my family and friends, reading, puzzles, and plays.

Kristin Wamsley — Lead Teacher Busy Bees (M/W/F) and Asst Teacher Busy Bees (T/TH) - This will be my 8th year teaching at Faith. I currently live in Mason with my husband, Mark, and my two kids, Caitlin (12) and Noah (9). I love spending time with my family, going to Kings Island, traveling, swimming and playing games. When I have time for myself I enjoy listening to music and watching movies.

Jenny Vyhnalek — Lead Teacher-Busy Bees (M/W/F) — This is my 17th year at Faith. My husband, Jack, and I have 3 adult children and a 2-year-old grandson. I enjoy biking, hiking, swimming, boating, water skiing, reading, being with family and friends, serving in my church nursery and cheering on our youngest taking flying lessons (Jack is her instructor).

