



The Preschool Press

Winter Newsletter 2012

Good News for the New Year!

McDonough Presbyterian Church is excited to have a new Reverend! Dr. Olin McBride, and his wife Virginia, "Jim", have been in the ministry for more than 24 years, and bring hope

for rejuvenation to MPC in the new year.

The McBrides and their two children, Emory and Watson, are natives of South Carolina, but have served in several churches

supportive of our preschool ministry. He is passionate about a curriculum based program, and is excited to be a new partner in the academic and spiritual growth of your children.

The students will have the opportunity to hear Dr. McBride speak in various chapels and other activities throughout the remainder of the school year!

So if you are a member of MPC, or you are in need of a church home, come experience MPC like never before. This year promises hope, grace, and love to this family of believers!



Reverend McBride, wife Jim, Emma (granddaughter), Russell (son in law), and Emory

in Mississippi throughout their ministry. Dr. McBride was instrumental in bringing growth to his previous churches, and we anticipate the same here!

Dr. McBride is extremely



Upcoming Dates of Interest:

- ☺ January 16-MLK Day- No School
- ☺ February 13-17—Teacher Appreciation Week
- ☺ February 20-24—Winter Break—No School
- ☺ March 5—Progress Reports
- ☺ March 20 & 21 — Mother's Tea
- ☺ March 20-27—Scholastic Book Fair
- ☺ March 28 & 29—Spring Pictures
- ☺ April 2-6—Spring Break—No School

2012-2013 Registration

This week, you should have received your registration packet for the upcoming school year. We are so excited to see who will be returning, as we anticipate a packed



house here at the preschool.

At 6 pm on Thursday, January 19th, our doors will open for registration. All

spots are on a "first-come, first-serve" basis. Please

know that when you sign up for a class, you are not necessarily signing up for a certain teacher. We have not asked for teacher commitments yet for the coming year.

A parent's love is whole no matter how many times it is divided.

-Robert Brault

Spanish with Ms. Naomi

My name is Naomi Garcia Brito. I was born in Weehawken, NJ, and I am first generation Cuban-American. My parents left Cuba before Fidel Castro in fear of the



communism that was to follow. After a couple of years in the cold weather of NJ, my parents moved as far south as they could, and I was raised in Miami, Florida. My parents speak English, but as children, the moment

we walked through the front door, we had to speak Spanish; a rule that makes me grateful today. I spent a decade working in healthcare and then I met my husband, Nestor, in the hospital where we worked. We married in 2000 and moved to San Diego, CA. After our first son, Jordan, was born in December of 2003, we decided to move home to Miami, to be closer to family. Nathan was born in South Miami in August of 2005. We wanted to raise our boys in a quiet suburb, so we moved to Locust Grove in 2006. We love the small town feel with the big city only miles away.

I enjoy being outdoors and I love to workout and try to eat healthy. If you need to contact me on a Thursday night, you must wait until I am done watching *Grey's Anatomy* and *Private Practice*. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to teach and share my language with the children. At the end of the day, I think the reward is mine as I see their smiles, and they yell "Adios!!!".

Don't cry because it's over,
smile because it happened.

-Dr. Seuss

Fall Fiesta Fundraiser—Follow-up



What an amazing turn out we had for the Fall Fundraiser! We are so appreciative to *Gezzo's*, who sponsored this year's dinner, and if you didn't stick around for the silent auction, then you missed out!

Thank you to all who donated to the class baskets and to those who made individual donations to be auctioned. We had an amazing show of

this year's fundraiser was an amazing success! We earned more than \$6000 that will be used to help our scholarship students, as well as assist in updating our classrooms.

Teacher Highlight—Ms. Dana

Ms. Dana is one of our 4-year-old teachers. Dana has more than 16 years of experience in early childhood education, and is in her 5th year of teaching here at MPCA. Dana moved to Atlanta in 1994 from South Carolina. She has been married to her adorable husband Benjamin, for 11 years. Together,

they have two beautiful girls, Eve, who is 8, and Chloe who is 6. In her spare time, Dana enjoys watching old movies and spending time



with her children. When possible, she volunteers at her children's schools in Fayetteville. She is also an advocate and advisor for families with special needs children.

A Note From the Director

Happy New Year!

I am so excited about 2012 and the wonderful things your children will experience and learn this year. In the next few months your children will be learning many topics including Martin Luther King, Jr., Groundhog Day, the change of the seasons, new



Bible verses, letters, numbers, and colors. But more importantly the teachers here will create an environment where your children feel comfortable exploring, reaching individual goals, interacting with other children and doing daily routines all on their own. Children that develop strong

social, emotional, and behavioral skills are more confident and successful in the classroom as they get older. Help your children develop these skills by giving them opportunities to socialize with other children and to do tasks on their own.

I love my mother as the trees love water and sunshine—she helps me grow, prosper, and reach great heights.

Teri Guillemets

Christmas Musical Review

Christmas is such a beautiful time of year! And what a special opportunity we had to reflect on the reason for our celebration! Jesus' birth! A



great, big thank you to Ms. Julie for putting together such a moving musical. The children all sang beautifully, and, after all, isn't the season about seeing the world through the eyes of a child!

Mother's Tea

It is always a privilege to honor our mothers. Please join us on March 20th or 21st as we host a tea to tell our preschool mothers just how much they are appreciated. Each child will prepare a special gift for his/her mom and we will serve finger food and, of course, tea!

Teacher Highlight—Ms. Katheryn

Ms. Katheryn has been with us at MPCA since the school opened in 2005 as a para professional in the 3-year-old class. Last year, Katheryn took the teaching



position for the three day 3s class and works with Ms. Nikita in the Kindergarten class on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Katheryn is originally from Alabama, but has lived in McDonough for 9 years. She is married to Jim Hofius, who is currently

working in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Katheryn and Jim have 2 boys, Paul, who is 22, and Jackson, who is 12. In her spare time, Katheryn enjoys exercising, cooking, and watching movies. She also is a rep for Tastefully Simple, and if you don't know about this, you MUST find out!

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"If I Had My Child To Raise Over Again"

If I had my child to raise all over again,
I'd build self-esteem first, and the house later.
I'd finger-paint more, and point the finger less.
I would do less correcting and more connecting.
I'd take my eyes off my watch, and watch with my eyes.
I'd take more hikes and fly more kites.
I'd stop playing serious, and seriously play.
I would run through more fields and gaze at more stars.
I'd do more hugging and less tugging.

~Diane Loomans



2012-2013 Henry County School Calendar

August

6th—First day of Public School

13th—First day at MPCA

September

3rd—Labor Day

24th—28th—Fall Break

November

6th—No School (voting day)

19th—23rd—Thanksgiving Break

December

24th—Beginning of Christmas
Break

January

1st—7th—Semester Break

8th—School Starts Back

21st—MLK Day

February

18th—22nd—Winter Break

April

1st—5th—Spring Break

May

27th—Memorial Day

31st—Last day of school

Upcoming Chapel Highlights

January—God's People Obey:
Noah, Adam and Eve, Daniel,
Jonah

February—God's People Care:
The Good Samaritan, Jesus
Heals the Paralytic, Queen
Esther Saves Her People

March—Jesus the Christ:
Triumphal Entry, Jesus Heals
a Blind Man, The Last Supper,
Crucifixion, Death and
Resurrection

April—God's People Pray and
Praise: The Lord's Prayer,
Psalm 100, Psalm 96