

The First United Methodist Church Preschool was started in 1948, and over the years has gained the reputation as one of the finest in the city.

PRESCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

The Preschool is an integral part of the First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica. The school is an expression of the church's concern for children and families, and operates within the context of Christian faith and values. We affirm that it is important for children to come to know and love God, and to recognize themselves and others as children of God.

PROGRAM

Our school provides a program that considers the developmental needs of the child and emphasizes growth in all areas - physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual - as a continuous, interrelated process. A wide range of learning opportunities is offered through experiences in fields of science, nature, music, literature, creative media, and dramatic play. To ensure quality we keep our child/teacher ratio low. Our goal for each child includes an experience of acceptance and love, growth in self-understanding, learning to interact successfully with others, and increasing awareness and knowledge of the beauty and diversity of the world.

CHAPEL



The purpose of our program is to teach the children about God's love for them and for each other. While firmly rooted in the Christian tradition, our chapel program is sensitive to the spiritual needs of all our children and respects all faiths and traditions. For fifteen to twenty minutes each week, in Gates Chapel, the children are taught songs, stories, and prayers appropriate for their age.

MUSIC



The children attend music class once a week for a half-hour lesson with a credentialed music teacher from Music Rhapsody. In the lessons, they learn the elements of music while they sing, dance, and play instruments. They learn music concepts and vocabulary as well as develop a sense of timing, pitch matching, and listening skills.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



The gymnastics program offered by Peggy Fisher is a dynamic movement education program. Gymnastics creates a safe, stimulating gym environment with plenty of one on one attention. It is a 45-minute lesson held on Wednesday or Thursday afternoons for a nominal fee.

HOT LUNCH AND SNACK



At mid-morning and after nap in the afternoon we serve a variety of snacks, which are included in the cost of your child's tuition. At noon we serve a hot, nutritious lunch prepared by our cook. Lunch is included in the cost of tuition.

ADMISSION POLICY



Our goal is to reflect the diversity of this community by opening our school to everyone who may benefit from the program, regardless of race or religion. A child must be at least 2 years, 6 months of age by September 1, and must be toilet trained, in order to attend class.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE POLICY



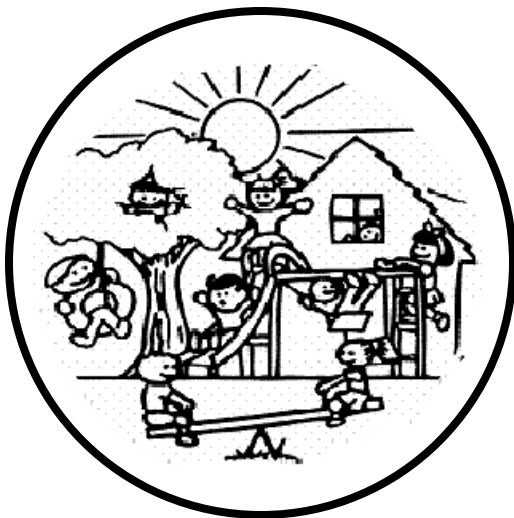
The purpose of the financial assistance program is to provide opportunities for those children who could not otherwise attend our preschool program. We offer assistance in varying amounts (10%-50%) of a child's tuition. Financial assistance is awarded to families based on economic need. Our goal is to provide assistance to the greatest number of families possible.

**PARENT INVOLVEMENT
& SPECIAL EVENTS**

Parents are always welcome at our school. Many opportunities exist for parent involvement in the classroom including being a mystery reader, sharing cultures and careers, going on field trips, helping with special classroom projects, etc. You may also get involved in our school by serving on the Preschool Committee, becoming a room parent and/or participating in school events and fundraisers.

PARENT/TODDLER CLASS

Our Toddler program was created with both the child and the parent in mind. Therefore, a parent or guardian is required to attend with his or her child. The class is designed for children between 18 and 36 months.



**FIRST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
PRESCHOOL**

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HOURS
Monday – Friday
7:00am – 5:30pm

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We are a Safe Sanctuary Church. We take the care and safety of your children very seriously. All of the people who work with children and youth have passed background checks and follow the Safe Sanctuary policies that have been established by FUMC, SM. For a copy of our policy, please call the office.



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*...who we are
and what we do...*