

January 2026

General Reminders

- Remember to use the first drive-way to enter and the back drive-way to exit our preschool so that traffic all flows the same direction, never drive under the covered portico/drive-way area for the safety of all
- Tuition is due the first of each month and not later than the **8th day**. If not received by 12:00 on the 8th day of the month, a late fee will be assessed. If tuition is not received until the 12th of the month, the late fee is doubled.
- We will be open on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day January 19, 2026, as normal.**
- Spring Break is March 23–March, 26, 2026.
- Thursday, April 16, 2026 will be our Spring Parent and Teacher Conferences Day. There will be no preschool classes on this day.**
- No Afternoon Enrichment on Wednesday, April 15, 2026 as our teachers prep for conferences. Afternoon Enrichment will be in session on Monday, April 13 and Tuesday, April 14, 2026.**

Illness Policy for Sonshine Preschool:

If your child has a fever of 100.5 or higher, pink eye, heavy greenish nasal discharge, persistent cough, chicken pox, hand, foot, and mouth disease, or has been vomiting, **please keep your child at home until he or she is symptom free for 24 hours before returning to class. This means symptom free without Tylenol or other symptom reducing medicines.**

As a staff, we are encouraging all children to wash their hands regularly and frequently with soap and water. The teachers are continuing to spray/wipe down all activities with Lysol between morning and afternoon sessions as well as at the end of each day.

Tuition Amounts for the current 2025-2026 school year

Tuition amounts for Sonshine Preschool this year are:
2 days per week- \$147.00 monthly
3 days per week- \$179.00 monthly
4 days per week- \$220.00 monthly
Afternoon Enrichment per week- \$179.00

*Sonshine Preschool is an outreach of:
West Lafayette Christian Church
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West Lafayette, IN 47906
(765)463-7995
www.wlchristian.com*

*Sonshine Preschool Office
sonshinepreschool@wlchristian.com
Phone (765) 463-7513*

Parents:

Please make sure that your child bring jackets, hats, shoes, etc. each day as the preschool classes WILL go outside to play unless it is raining or temperature below 30. Each class has 30 minutes daily for large motor development/recess. Preschool I goes out at 9:45, Preschool II at 10:45, and PreK at 11:15 for the morning classes.



Classroom Snack Reminders

Please remember to check your child's monthly snack calendar that the teachers give you at the end of each month. Your child's name will be posted on the calendar at least once or twice a semester to bring in snack to the class. **Snack means a pre-packaged food item for the number of children and teachers in the class. Please make sure that all snacks are nut/peanut free and are free of all artificial dyes.** We have had a few of you forget to bring snack on your child's day which means that the teachers have to "find" enough snack for class that day. If you forget, please send in a replacement snack for our emergency snack supply. A reminder notice will be put in your child's backpack if you forget.

Sonshine Preschool Registration for 2026-2027 School Year

Registration for the 2026-2027 school year will begin on Monday, February 16, 2026 for currently enrolled families within our preschool classes. Registration for new incoming families will begin on Monday, March 2, 2026. The Registration fee is \$70.00 (paid at the time of registration) and the annual supply fee is \$80.00 (**paid in August/September for September tuition**) for the whole year. The supply fee helps to partially cover the cost of the napkins for snack, all of the cleaning supplies for the preschool, classroom cooking and science supplies, birthday gifts from the teachers to the children, Thanksgiving/Christmas/Spring/PreK Graduation Programs, and the miscellaneous consumable creative arts materials. We are also adding a new Preschool I-B class offered Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday mornings 9:05-11:50 a.m.

Tuition rates for the 2026-2027 school year

2 days per week- Sonshine Beginnings- \$154.00 per month

3 days per week—Preschool I–B (new class) & Afternoon Enrichment- \$188.00 per month

4 days per week- Beginnings, Preschool I-A, Preschool II, & PreK- \$230.00 per month

Sibling discount of 10% off the tuition will be deducted from the younger child's tuition.

The tuition increase also allows the preschool proposed budget to give our teachers a slight raise in their monthly payroll.

For all weather related delays and cancellations for Sonshine Preschool, you will be texted and emailed between 6:15 a.m. and 7:00 a.m.

Sonshine Sensations!

Beginnings



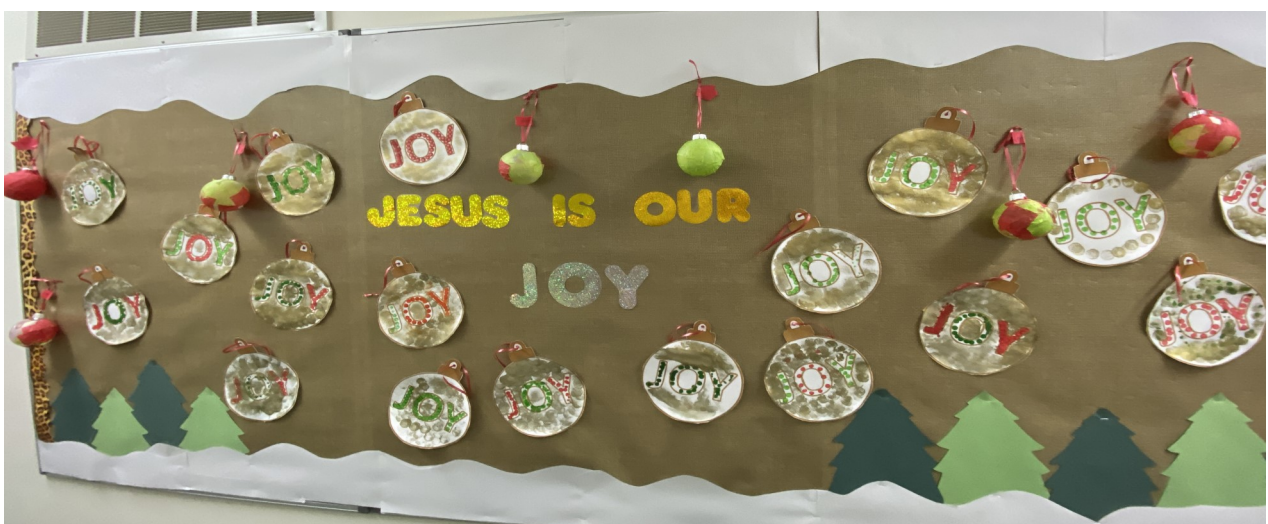
Preschool I



Preschool II



PreK



Sonshine Beginnings

December was a short month but was still busy and fun! The children did awesome at the Christmas program. Thank you to all the friends and family that came and cheered them on! Our helpers this month were Amelia and John. Thank you for bringing snack!

The theme for the first week of December was Family. Our number was 2, shape was heart and color was green. We read Thank You God for Daddy, My Somebody Special, Thank You God for Mommy and What Grandma's Do Best. In art, we glued nativity people onto a nativity scene, decorated foam Christmas trees with gems and pom poms, made a nativity ornament and did a Christmas tree do-a-dot. We played with dollhouses and built with gingerbread houses. In our science center, we knocked snowman cups down with "snowballs." For math, we used a shape matching Christmas tree and did nativity scene matching. In our sensory center, we used #2 and heart stamps in play-doh and had a Christmas sensory bin.

The theme for the second week was Christmas. Our number was 3, shape was star and color was blue. We read Little Lamb's Christmas, Christmas in the Manger, Christmas in the Barn and Mary's Happy Christmas Day. For creative art, we fork painted a "straw" manger with Jesus, used silver glitter glue and sequins on a heart, made a wreath with tissue paper and did a #3 do-a-dot with Christmas stamps. For dramatic play, we had nativity sets and babies and we built with wooden blocks. In our science center, we used nativity magnets and did an experiment with candy canes. In math, we color matched Christmas objects and used the Christmas tree shape matching. For our sensory center, we had Christmas tree gel packs and Christmas sensory bottles.

The upcoming themes for January are winter animals, community helpers, snow and ice and keeping warm. Beginning this semester, we will only use open cups for snack and we will also be working on saying please and thank you at snack time. If you could work on that at home also, that would be great! We hope everyone has had a relaxing and fun break so far!

Thank you for sharing your children with us!
Ms. Abby and Mrs. Schurr

Preschool

PreSchool One packed in as many fun activities as possible for the two weeks we had class in December. The theme of “The Christmas Story” included many books read about the true meaning of Christmas and the birth of Jesus. We were able to fit in gross motor time all week even with the program practice times included. The children especially enjoyed the sensory bin filled with jingle bells and magnets. They enjoyed connecting the story of Christmas using the nativity play set. The ever popular bingo dotter activity with Christmas light and stocking was provided, Nativity shadow matching, fine motor practice poking red, green and white pompoms into holes and decorating trees 1-5 with buttons gave some counting practice in a colorful way. Each day all school year, scissors practice and stencil work for indirect hand writing preparation are out for children to do.

Our second week had the theme Christmas Crafts and Activities. The play kitchen was open again in dramatic play. The drama consisted of Christmas cookies getting shared, eaten, and baked (even in the microwave). Creative movement had many Christmas songs and fingerplays using jingle bells, bongo drum and tambourine, even a kazoo. There were some “new” activities to explore at centers. Those included “crayon rubbing” a Christmas tree, ink stamping, and star punch. There was a nativity “journey” using jewels to follow the paths, jingle bell pouring and colorful transfers using a huller, ladle and a Christmas tree to decorate with stickers. Sensory table had orange slices and cranberries floating in water to scoop up with an open spoon to put into a colander. There were a lot of artists painting with the green and red paint at the easel. The first two days had program practice that limited some time for activities. However, the children were able to decorate clay Christmas trees with different jewels and beads (definitely a process art that had varied results). On our last day the children decorated sugar cookies that they were very proud of to share (we hope shared!) with families. We only had a couple days in the much smaller room for gross motor time while the elevator project in the church began. One day we improvised a game of kickball to learn the basics of kicking forward and “running the bases”. Some didn’t get the idea that their foot must touch the bases to count, but they still had fun.

I hope the families enjoyed the Christmas program. All the children looked so nice in their festive clothes. The children caught on over the week and a half of practice to learn the routine and expectations of a “theatric” production. It is not easy to be 2 or 3 years old and perform before hundreds to people but they handled it very well overall.

We hope all of the families enjoyed their holiday break with family and made wonderful memories. We are looking forward to spending the second semester with your children. We always enjoy observing the growth in all the children as the days, weeks and months go by.

Ms Maureen and Ms Tiffany

Preschool II

Happy 2026, Preschool II families! First, your kids did an AMAZING JOB at our Christmas program and loved their willingness to learn 6 songs with sign language for the program! It may have been ambitious but they were able to accomplish it!! We hope that your family enjoyed their Christmas Break hopefully spent with family or friends as we celebrated Jesus Christ's birthday! We hope also that everyone stayed warm during the bitter cold temperatures and maybe enjoyed exploring in the snow some too!

The first week of December was letter Ii week, and your children used their imaginations as they played with puppets in the dramatic play area and played various instruments to make a joyful noise to the Lord at the sensory table. We practiced lacing, cutting, and patterns. They learned the short and long sounds of Ii as well as tracing the uppercase letter I. Our highlight was making our own ice-cream on Tuesday and then eating it on Wednesday; it was delicious! They also used small pom-poms to decorate their paper ice cream cones which now decorate our classroom. We also had a nativity puzzle and activities available to play with on the rug. Your children did well practicing their songs for the Christmas program throughout the week as well.

Letter Jj week was joyful as we learned more about Jesus. As we practiced for our program and had a one hour delay due to weather on Monday and Tuesday, we created 2 ornaments for your windows/Christmas trees, door knobs using paint inside of a clear ornament then shaking it to mix and cover the paint on the inside of the ornament and using a salad spinner to spin glitter paint on an old computer cd. Our highlight, besides our program, was our Christmas party in Preschool II! Thank you to our families who donated needed items as well as volunteered in our classroom to play Christmas Bingo, Christmas cookie decorating and eating, and doing a group of 4 project to use wrapping paper to wrap a box with little help from the adults. You could really see some math, engineering skills, group social skills starting to emerge from several of the kids! The children also loved role playing the Nativity in our dramatic play area, completing a Nativity puzzle, creating with Nativity duplo blocks, and reading several stories about Jesus' birth.

In January 2026, we will focus learning about the letters Kk, Ll, Mm, Nn, the numbers 11-15, as well as the themes of Krill and Kelp, Lobsters and Crabs for same and differences, Marine Mammals, and Northern Oceans and Narwhals. **We will be in preschool as normal on Monday, January 19, 2026 even though many public schools will not be in session for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.**

Thank you again for sharing your child with us and the love and support we receive from all of you is SO appreciated!!
Mrs. Kelley and Mrs. Smith

Pre-Kindergarten

December was a short and busy month for PreK. We spent most days practicing our songs and skit for the Christmas Program. Everyone did such a wonderful job! We hope our students enjoy singing these songs all season long. As a class, we read through daily scripture to learn about the nativity story and how Jesus is our greatest gift. We introduced letters Jj, Kk, and numbers 16 and 17. Our class enjoyed participating in many festive activities and crafts to celebrate Christmas including making different types of tree ornaments, free choice activity sheets, and decorating Christmas gift bags. Students enjoyed using puzzle pieces to create ornaments as gifts to their family. It is always so special to be able to create something for someone we care about – but even more special to see a child take pride and excitement in something intended for someone else.

We utilized our fine motor skills to make sugar cookies by rolling dough into balls, flattening it out, and then cutting shapes with cookie cutters. The best part came when it was time to decorate – each student had their own giant spoon of frosting and sprinkles. As a teacher, it was great fun to see the excitement on their faces as they were able to decorate and then eat their own creation. Our gross motor activities this month included playing red light green light in the auditorium and dancing our way through December with various silly songs.

We are excited to see what the new year brings!
Ms. Lindsey and Mrs. Kaluf

Afternoon Enrichment

The first week of December was about the journey to Bethlehem and Jesus's birth. We worked on our number 10 pages for our Number Books and cut out a Nativity sequencing puzzle. Most children chose to take the pieces home so that they could do the puzzle many times. Our letter Jj pages and decorating our letter Jj like candy canes for our Letter Books were completed on Tuesday. Wednesday was spent making strands of Christmas lights using our fingerprints and playing Nativity BINGO. One of our favorite books this week was The First Christmas Night by Keith Christopher.

Afternoon Enrichment explored the theme "Jesus is **King**" during the second week of December. On Monday, students listened to the book The First Christmas Night by Laura Godwin. We mixed up cupcakes for Jesus' birthday, and Mrs. Kaluf needed a lot of help from the students to remember all the steps to baking cupcakes (break the eggs first and then put them in the bowl)! Students used their fine motor skills to complete the number 11 page for their number books. On Tuesday, we had a birthday celebration for Jesus! Students colored a nativity, played a game where they unwrapped a gift to Christmas music, frosted cupcakes, and sang Happy Birthday to Jesus. On Wednesday, students listened to the story This is the Star by Joyce Dunbar, decorated the letter Kk with crowns because Jesus is King, and completed a letter Kk page for their letter books.

We look forward to learning about Jesus is the Light of the World, the letter Ww, and number 12 when we come back to school in January! Thank you for sending your children to Afternoon Enrichment!

Mrs. Kaluf and Ms. Tiffany