

South River United Methodist Church Preschool

Our History...

Thank you for inquiring about South River Preschool! We are very excited about the possibility of welcoming you into our Preschool family! Our Preschool was established September 3, 1986 and has been providing a quality Pre-Kindergarten program for children in our area and surrounding counties for over 26 years!

Our Hours, Days of Attendance and Arrival Information...

Our children ages 2 through 5 attend three days a week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Our day begins at 8:15 AM and ends at 12:30 PM. We offer "Car Duty" for our families each morning and afternoon with the convenience of a Drive-Through Rain Shelter. Our staff members greet you each morning and bring your child into Preschool so you never have to leave your vehicle. In the afternoon, our staff members will bring your child back to your vehicle and help them into your car. This is a wonderful service that has been appreciated by our parents for many years.

School Calendar...

Our program runs September through May. Orientation is held each year on the Tuesday following Labor Day in September and our first day of school with the children is the following day on Wednesday. We basically follow the Rowan/Salisbury

School Calendar for holidays, teacher workdays, etc. A School Calendar will be given to all parents at the beginning of our school year.

Each month, parents will also receive a Monthly Calendar which will keep parents informed of special days, holidays, weekly curriculum focus information, etc.

Our Preschool Staff...

The success of our program revolves around our wonderful staff members! Our experienced staff provides all our children with a sense of security, confidence, trust and most importantly love!! Our teachers are committed daily to demonstrating gentleness, kindness, patience and encouragement to each of our children. Each teacher is unique and special! All have much to offer the Preschool children with their gifts, loving personalities, and talents! All of our staff members have submitted to extensive Background Checks and have been employed with South River for many years. We are very proud of our Preschool Staff and our parents totally agree!

References from our Parents...

Each year in January, our parents are given a Confidential Survey Form to fill out about our Preschool. The surveys are sent home with a plain white envelope addressed to our school, so that parents can return them completely anonymous. Parents are asked to fill them out and write any comments or concerns if they wish. Our Board of Directors open them at our February Board Meeting. These surveys are on file and ready for any inquiring parent to read. The surveys returned to our Board this year were 100% positive! Each one of the surveys contained wonderful comments that our parents had taken the time to write about our program and staff which says a lot about our Preschool! These surveys have been done for sixteen years and have always been exceedingly positive and complimentary! We are happy to provide you with the information to contact any of our parents for references.

Our Program...

South River Preschool is committed to offering our children a fun and exciting academic program in order to prepare them for a successful educational journey ahead! We believe a child's first school experience is vitally important in shaping his

or her approach and attitude toward their future educational endeavors. Our goal is to nurture every child's natural love of learning in an a fun, Christian atmosphere where they feel special and are praised, loved, respected and above all, each child is taught that they are a beautiful child of God! We strive to encourage the individual development of each child by stimulating their creativity and curiosity with a program appropriate for his or her developmental stage. Our students graduate with the social and academic skills necessary for a successful year ahead in Kindergarten!

Some of our Areas of Early Education and Development...

Our program implements many aspects of integrated areas of Early Education and Development by using creative, carefully planned activities. Below, we have listed some of the things our children are participating in throughout our year.

Circle Time Activities:

Weekly Alphabet Letter Themes

Calendar Time including Days of Week, Months of Year,

Counting our Days on our Calendar

"Today is ___ and Tomorrow will be ___" Activity

Our Seasons, Our Daily Weather (Cause and Effect)

Our Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag

"Letter of the Week" Themed Activities

"Letter Bags from Students" - Weekly by Class

Phonics

Our Shapes and Colors,

Focus on our Holidays

Birthday Celebration and Recognition

"Story Time"

Other Activities:

Christian Based "GODLY PLAY" Time

Teacher Directed Crafts

Art Projects

Music, Dancing, Musical Instruments

Educational Computers

Learning about our Seasons

Exploring our Five Senses

Cutting with Scissors, Painting, Writing, Coloring, Printing Practice

Writing our Names, Numbers, Alphabet Letters
Exercises improving our Literacy, Language, Motor and Critical Thinking Skills
Visits with the Rowan Public Library Bookmobile and Story Time with the Staff
Various Educational Kits and Games
Manipulative Kits, Pattern Kits, Rhyming Words Kits, Puzzles
Cause and Effect Kits, What Happens First, Second and Last?, etc.

Our Playground...

South River offers a completely fenced playground for our children to safely enjoy outdoor time with their friends. We have a commercial playground set with tunnels, tall and short slides, rock wall climbing and mountain wall climbing as well as games, steering wheels, etc. We also have a huge Noah's Ark play set as well as a Play House and lots of other fun things including Tonka toys, wagons, etc. The children love being outdoors and having fun! We also have a huge picnic shelter that we utilize as well!

Memory Yearbooks...

Another special thing that our teachers do for our little ones is to make a Memory Yearbook of their time with us! It includes lots of photos from their school year, artwork and class learning sheets all compiled in a three ring binder and is presented to parents at our End of Year Program in May!

Special Programs for Family and Friends...

At Christmas, all of our little ones participate in our Christmas Program for our family and friends! It is always adorable to see our children all dressed up and celebrating the Christmas season!

We also have a very special End Of Year/Graduation Program which also includes each of our children. We have a formal Graduation Service for our graduating students heading off to Kindergarten. Our graduates enjoy wearing their beautiful

satin caps, gowns, stoles and tassels for their special service. At the end of the program, we have a wonderful reception for all our family and friends! This is when we present all our parents with the children's Yearbooks!

What Will Your Child Need?

The only things that your child will need for Preschool will be a regular sized student book bag and a change of clothes to keep at Preschool in case the children spill something on themselves or have a potty accident. If your child is in pull-ups or diapers, we do ask that you keep us supplied with those and baby wipes as needed.

Parent Communication...

With Preschool normally being a child's first experience to grow and develop their independence away from parents, we want to make sure that you are able to share in their experience! We know that giving your child the opportunity to attend Preschool so they can grow in confidence and enhance their social skills with other children can be a little difficult for first time parents - especially for Moms! All of our teachers have been through this same separation with our own children and we want to do everything we can to help our parent's with this transition! We want our parent's experience to be a great one!!

Our Preschool provides you with a Daily Communication sheet in your child's Take Home Folder. You will have the opportunity to speak with our teachers on Car Duty each morning and afternoon. Our staff provides parents with their personal contact information including their home and cell phone numbers, E-mail address, Facebook address, etc. They welcome each of our parents to call or contact them with any questions you may have.

We also provide a FACEBOOK site for our Preschool where parents and family members can see what your children are doing at school! This is a great way for parents to stay connected and informed of all the many activities that our children are enjoying! Please feel free to go to **South River UMC Preschool** on FACEBOOK and check out all of our little precious cuties! Parents may share our pictures and tag their children if they wish; however, South River Preschool will never identify any child's name on our site! That decision is solely up to parents if you want to do so!

We also use FACEBOOK as a communication tool for our parents as well with posts of fun quotes from our children, reminders about special days, upcoming events, etc. All the feedback we have ever had over the years has been wonderful!

For More Information...

If you would like more information about our Preschool, please do not hesitate to contact us. You may call South River UMC Preschool at 704 / 278-4089 (preferably around 12:30 pm) on school days. You may also contact our Preschool Director, Robinette Steele at her home number 704 / 278-9315 at any time. If you prefer to email, you may send a message to preschool@southriverumc.org or message us at **South River UMC Preschool** on our FACEBOOK page.

**We would love to WELCOME you and
your child into our
SOUTH RIVER PRESCHOOL Family!**