

St John Child Development Center



Director Lisa Aring

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APRIL 2026

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NOTES FROM MRS. ARING

Raising Children is Not for “Chickens!”

Welcoming a baby is a joyful stage of life—God’s precious gifts truly are remarkable. Yet, life brings its challenges as the child grows. Every parent has sought advice or searched online for guidance about raising a child. If only there were an instruction manual from God! Since every child is different, this can feel frustrating at times, but it also highlights God’s wisdom and each child’s unique creation.

Through years of working with parents and preschoolers, I’ve seen how tricky the journey of child-rearing can be. Parents have shared countless insights and creative ideas that I wish I’d known when raising my own children. The knowledge passed down—or discovered along the way—is impressive. All parents want what’s best for their kids, and in my 40 years in Early Childhood Education, this theme emerges repeatedly. I firmly believe most parents genuinely strive to do their very best.

The toughest moments often come when parents try to “protect” their children from all negative experiences. While keeping children safe is natural, preventing them from important learning opportunities can hinder their growth. This is when

parenting becomes difficult: deciding when a child needs to learn a lesson the hard way is complicated and sometimes even harder for the parent than for the child.

The good news is that we can ask for guidance and most of all, pray to God for wisdom. God is there with you through all the challenges! He does give guidance on how to raise children in faith in the Bible. The results of this guidance can last to eternity!

An interesting article for parents: [5 Ways to Raise Selfish Kids](#)

Blessings,
Lisa Aring
Director



St John Child Development Center



[2025-2026 St. John CDC Calendar](#)

[2026-2027 St. John CDC Calendar](#)

APRIL

- 2 No School STJ/STV
- 2 Chapel with Mrs. Aring
- 3-6 CDC CLOSED for Easter**
- 16 Chapel with Dr. Gerdes
- 23 Chapel with Paul Soulek
- 30 Chapel with Pastor Bruick

MAY

- 1 No School Seward Elementary
- 1 No Magnolia Preschool
- 20 STJ 11:20 Dismissal
- 21 No School STJ, Seward 11:30 Dismissal
- 21 Last Day Magnolia Preschool
- 21 Last Day 2025-2026 Session
- 22 CDC CLOSED Professional Development**
- 26 CDC CLOSED Memorial Day**
- 27 First Day 2026-2027 Session

CDC CLOSED

The CDC will be CLOSED Friday, April 3rd and Monday the 6th for Easter.

SCHOOL AGE

Please watch your email for a Google Form to sign-up for the No School Days on April 2nd and May 1st. We are limited to 25 students, so please plan accordingly. There is a \$20 no school day fee for all that sign-up.

MAGNOLIA

The Magnolia room will not meet on May 1st, due to the No School Days for Seward Schools.

THANK YOU

Friends at the Child Development Center,

Thank you so much for the food you delivered to the pantry after the Lenten Supper last week (Feb 25). We very much appreciate the "leftovers." THE pasta items, Parmesan cheese, and Ranch Dressing will all be popular choices for our pantry clients.

It was very kind of you to think of us and help in serving the needy people of our community.

Christ's Cupboard

2025 STATEMENTS

2025 Billing Statements were emailed the first week of January. Email Kari Huntington at kari.huntington@stjohnseward.org if you have any questions.

ADULT HANDS ONLY

Please remember that all doors and key pads are for **Adult Hands Only**. This is for the safety of the



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children so they do not enter or exit the building without an adult.

WELLNESS POLICY

Children must be fever/vomit/diarrhea free for 24 hours without the aid of medication before returning to school.

BEFORE 7AM CARE

If your child needs care before 7AM please let the office know, CDC@stjohnseward.org or 402-643-3122, no later than 3PM the day before. This gives us enough time to make sure that only the classes that need care are staffed before 7AM. Thank you for helping us keep our staffing cost down!

HOT LUNCH

To ensure that your child gets a hot lunch ordered, please make sure you let us know **no later than 8:20AM** if your child will be coming in late. Students arriving after 8:20AM, who did not call or make arrangements with their teacher, will need to bring a cold lunch. Remember we are a nut free facility.

SCHOOL YEAR BREAKFAST

School Age breakfast is served from 7:00-7:20am. Toddler and preschool breakfast is from 7:30-7:50am. If you are running behind and won't make it to the classroom before 7:15/7:45, please consider bringing an alternative breakfast/snack for the car if they weren't able to eat at home. **No outside food inside the classroom please!**

ABSENT

If you know your child is going to be absent, please let your teacher know in advance or through the

ProCare App by 8:30am, so we don't order them lunch.

DROP OFF/PICK UP

If someone other than a parent will be doing drop off or pick up, please let your child's lead teacher know. This is the best way to get the information to our afternoon staff. **No drop offs or pick ups between noon and 2:30.** This is when children are napping and it's very disruptive to the rest of the class. Please check with your child's teacher for their room's specific nap schedule.

NATIONAL PICNIC DAY

National Picnic Day is celebrated on April 23. Enjoy this day by having a picnic outside with your child(ren). If the weather does not cooperate, have a picnic on your living room floor!

[National Picnic Day](#)

PARENT HANDBOOK

[2025 CDC Parent Handbook](#)

EDUCATION BOARD

The next meeting of the 25-26 school year will be April 20th at 7 pm in the Heritage Room . Please feel welcome to review the Education Board Visitor Policy by clicking the link in [this form](#).



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MEET PASTOR SCHECK



Meet Pastor Nathan Scheck, our associate pastor! You may be seeing him at drop-off and pick-up, or hear your kids talk about him visiting their classroom.

Take a moment and introduce yourself! If you or your family should need any pastoral care, please feel free to reach out to your teacher, Mrs. Aring, or Pastor Scheck directly. nathan.scheck@stjohnseward.org or call 643-2983 ext. 120.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP

April 2 Maundy Thursday 10am & 6:30pm

April 3 Good Friday 10am & 6:30pm

April 4 Easter Vigil 7pm

April 5 Easter Sunday 6:30am, 8:30am, & 10:30am

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

St John Lutheran Church
919 N Columbia Ave
Seward, NE 68434
(402) 643-2985
[Newsletter](#)



Pastor Nathan Scheck
nathan.scheck@stjohnseward.org
(402)643-2983 ext 120

Sunday Worship	8:30AM & 11AM
Sunday School	10AM - 10:45AM
Saturday Worship	5:30PM

To reach our YouTube channel, please visit stjohnseward.org and click on the link, or click here: www.youtube.com/channel/StJohn

Show and Tell the Love of Jesus

