

St John Child Development Center



Director Lisa Aring

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NOTES FROM MRS. ARING

We are embarking on the month of love! The word love is used pretty frequently in our society. It is truly something that parents feel for their children. Parents show their love in the care of their children. It is somewhat easy to give them the hugs, smiles, and the things that they need daily. Love also has a tough side. Sometimes love is shown in letting children learn the hard way or even learn for themselves. As parents, we must help children gradually learn to function away from us. This can be hard! We can't do this all at once, but with gradual steps. Knowing and accepting children's individual abilities, we help them work toward independence from us. While this is a bit sad, it is reality, and it is the job God gave us to do.

Even more important, we have the responsibility of teaching them what the best love is—God's love. When taught about Jesus, children have a much stronger understanding of this than adults do at times. They fully accept God's love and profess it. You will see a bit of this as we have our celebration of God's love in our Love Concert on February 8th!

Philosophy of St. John Child Development Center

In the next few months, I will elaborate a bit on the Philosophy of St. John Child Development Center. While this sounds a bit boring and dry, it does involve each family that becomes part of our bigger family. The first part of the Philosophy is as follows:

We Believe

Responding to the needs of parents and children is an integral part of the mission and ministry of the congregation. In meeting these needs, programs are designed to involve congregational members, the community, the family, and the child.

Our center is not only a school/ childcare. We are a ministry. We are here to assist parents and children. We don't only serve our congregation, we are here to incorporate the congregation, the community, the family and the child in our ministry to all.

Blessings,

Lisa Aring

Director



St John Child Development Center



2023-2024 St. John CDC Calendar

FEBRUARY

- 1 Chapel with Barb Mertens
- 4 STJ Kindergarten Open House 3pm
- 8 Chapel with Deaconess Jeri
- 8 Love Concert 6:30-7:00 pm
- 15 Chapel with Tim Rippstein
- 16-19 No School STJ/Seward
- 16-19 No Magnolia Preschool
- 22 Chapel with Lisa Aring
- 29 Chapel with Pastor Scheck

MARCH

- 8 **CDC CLOSED Professional Development**
- 8-11 No School STJ/Seward
- 11 No Magnolia Preschool

CDC CLOSED

The St. John CDC will be **CLOSED March 8th for a Professional Development Day.**

SCHOOL AGE

Please watch your email for a Google Form to sign-up for care for no school days. All that register

will be charged the \$18 No School Day Fee regardless of attendance.

MAGNOLIA

The Magnolia room will not meet on February 16th or 19th due to no school days for Seward schools.

RE-ENROLLMENT

It's time to start planning for the 2024/2025 session which begins May 28, 2024! Priority re-enrollment for current students, St. John members and staff ends Sunday, February 4th.

LOVE CONCERT

Our toddler and preschool classes invite you to their Love Song Concert on Thursday, February 8th at St. John Church (same place as the Christmas service) at 6:30pm. The concert is short and sweet just like us, about ten minutes! There is a lot happening at the church that night so the parking lot may fill up. Please feel free to park in the Center lot, Weller circle, or along Columbia Ave in front of the church and school.

WELLNESS POLICY

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

2023 STATEMENTS

2023 Billing Statements will be emailed the first week of January. Email Kari Huntington at kari.huntington@stjohnseward.org if you have any questions.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

In the event St. John Child Development Center must close due to inclement weather, an announcement will be posted on Facebook, on



St John Child Development Center

Procare and an email will also be sent to all families. We will **open at 8:00am if Seward Public Schools call a no school day or late start due to winter weather.** Making sure that there is time to get roads cleared for the safety of all is our goal. You must let us know no later than 8:30am if your child will be coming in so we are sure to have enough staff and food for your child. Please be aware that we never want to make things inconvenient, but we have to make decisions to ensure our students and their families are safe.

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 8:30am** if your child will be coming in late. Students arriving after 8:30am, who did not call or make arrangements with their teacher, will need to bring a cold lunch. Remember we are a nut free facility.

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 us 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 3.** 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.

EDUCATION BOARD

A regular meeting of the education board will occur at 7 pm on Monday, March 4th in the Heritage Room. The regular meeting dates for the remainder of the 23-24 school year will be May 13th and June 12th. Please feel welcome to review the Education Board Visitor Policy by clicking the link in [this form](#).

PARENTING RESOURCES

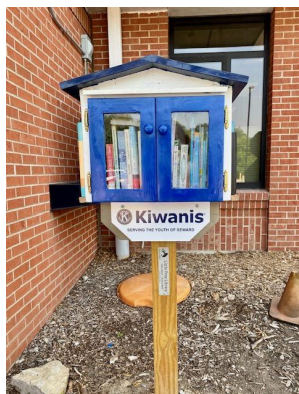
Staying physically active year-round is important. During the winter months, the weather can present challenges when trying to be active. Here are some tips to help continue your family's active lifestyle, even when the weather is less than ideal.

[Keeping Families Active In Winter Months](#)



St John Child Development Center

LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES



We now have six new Little Free Libraries in our community! You are encouraged to both take books and add books to the libraries, so that we can all keep reading. There are books for children, teens and adults at all locations!

Plum Creek Park, Wake Memorial Park (Ironwood Drive), National Guard Museum playground, Cottonwood Park (behind Casey's), Parade of Flags and St. John Lutheran Church.

NEBRASKA BEEF IN SCHOOLS

We are blessed as a ministry to have the opportunity to be serving 100% pure Nebraska beef as a part of the Nebraska Beef in Schools program.

Did you know...

- The school partners with local farmers and knows exactly where the beef comes from?
- The Beef in Schools logo is featured on the school lunch menu to note where Nebraska beef is used in school meals?
- The program costs approximately \$5,000 each year?

We sincerely appreciate the extra work done by our kitchen staff to make this possible, as there certainly is some additional preparatory work involved with using pure beef!

While there are significant costs associated with this program –it's worth it. Students are fed what we would also feed our families at home. We ask that you prayerfully consider a donation to this program. You can use this [attached donation sheet](#)

or call the day school (402-643-4535) to inquire about how you can help us cover the purchasing and processing costs. Thank you to all who choose vocations associated with the beef industry and thank you to all who have helped make Nebraska beef available through our school lunch program.



COVID TESTING

Four Corners Health Department recommends if you or any member of your household is tested for Covid-19, **your entire household should self-quarantine at home until results come back negative.**

Save the Date

TRIVIA NIGHT

FEBRUARY 2ND, 2024

2024 THEME EVERY DAY A HOLIDAY

SPONSORED BY St. John Lutheran School PTL

A graphic for Trivia Night. It features the text "Save the Date" in a cursive font, followed by "TRIVIA NIGHT" in large, bold, block letters with various patterns. Below that is "FEBRUARY 2ND, 2024". At the bottom, there is a red banner with "2024 THEME EVERY DAY A HOLIDAY" and a logo for St. John Lutheran School PTL.

St John Child Development Center

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.



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

Midweek Lenten Services
St. John Lutheran Church
Wednesdays, Feb. 14 - Mar. 20, 10am & 6:30pm

LENT BEGINS **Feb. 14**, with **Ash Wednesday**.
The imposition of ashes will be available and Holy Communion will be served at both services.
[The *imposition of ashes* will be available for you at the entrance to the sanctuary starting a *half hour before* each of the Ash Wednesday services.]

Various church/school groups will take turns serving dinner before each of the evening services
All meals are served from 4:45-6:15pm, in the fellowship hall (information will be added to this schedule as details become available)

February 14, St. John School Upper Grades
February 21, K-Kids - soup, cinnamon rolls, veggies, desserts
February 28, Alaska Mission Team - chili & chicken noodle soup
March 6, open date for a group/organization
March 13, Seward Area Lutherans For Life
March 20, Child Development Center - Pasta Night



WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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



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

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

