

Community Program Manager, Flora Calabrese

Teen-led Farmers Market
at Concordia Place!
Wednesday, August 18th
from 3-6 pm
in the Whipple courtyard

The *Emerging Leaders* teen program has been a hub of activity. Please mark your calendar for our Emerging Leaders Teen Program's 3rd Annual Fundraiser on, Wednesday, August 4th in the 3300 N. Whipple Annex from 5 - 7pm. Proceeds will go to the Emerging Leaders year-round program. The teens collecting can goods to benefit the Irving Park Food Pantry.

Thanks to all those that support our Sprouting Out farmers' markets. The word is spreading, and we are drawing more customers and vendors every month.



Our Concordia Senior Group has been enjoying a summer with day trip activities. Recently the seniors went to the Botanic Gardens and enjoyed nature and a wonderful picnic.

Our teens and seniors had our first multi-generational fieldtrip together in Milwaukee. They visited Growing Power, an extensive organic garden in downtown Milwaukee, ate a hardy lunch at a German restaurant, and toured the Milwaukee Art Museum. A wonderful day was had by all!

Look for our autumn class schedule which will be out soon. Remember, you can now register online at www.concordiaplace.org. If you have any questions please call, Flora Calabrese, Community Programs Manager at 773.460.1600 ext.312 or email grow@concordiaplace.org.

message from the children's program director

Children's Program Director, Kiki Collias

Outdoor neighborhood events are a great way to spend time with the family and friends and get outside during the summer and fall months! Many of you came to Kids Square at Ribfest and other local festivals in the Seeley and Whipple neighborhoods.

Every year Concordia hosts its own street festival and fundraiser called Fall into Fun. We are currently busy planning a variety of activities for the whole family. This year the event will be on September 25th, from 11 am to 2:30 pm. It is a wonderful way to get out of the house, enjoy the outdoors, and support the programs of Concordia Place! Highlights of the event include carnival games, grilled food, live music, a teen-led farmers market, and an indoor health fair for seniors.

An added component this year will be a KaBoom Play Day. Children and families will be invited to participate in projects that will help beautify our Seeley playlot, such as painting and planting flower boxes and decorating the fence with colorful ribbons. Visit kaboom.org to read more details about our Play Day event and the opportunity to receive a grant from KaBoom to make further improvements to our outdoor play space!

Please save the date for Fall into Fun on Saturday, September 25th from 11 am—2:30 pm. We hope to



Sprouting Out Farmer's Market Schedule

TWO LOCATIONS!

Wednesdays 3-6pm

Concordia Place, 3300 N. Whipple
Aug 18, Sept 15, Oct 20, Nov 17

Saturdays 9-12pm

Linne School, 3221 N. Sacramento
Aug 14, Sept 11, Oct 9

from the classrooms

Interim Asst Director of Early Learning/ Family Support Specialist, Nicole Kreller

Hello, Families! We are looking forward to this month's field trip to the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum on August 5th, and hope that we'll again have a great group of parent volunteers! We will also be welcoming back Ms. Jen, our Assistant Director for Early Learning, who will be returning from maternity leave on August 9th. While Jen transitions back into her role at Concordia, please feel free to contact either of us with any comments or questions. There will be a Parent Coffee on the morning of August 18th, which will be a great opportunity for you to talk with our management team, as well as learn more about our upcoming Fall Into Fun event. We hope to see you there!

Miss Abbey, Ms. Maria Room 100

We a great July; we spent a lot of it enjoying the summer weather outside. We had water days, took many walks, played on the play lot with the new grass and had a Water Party outside in the courtyard. We also had a great field trip to Fantasy Kingdom. Thank you to Ms. Silva, Ms. Jorgensen, Ms. Zuniga, Ms. Esparza and Ms. Li. Your help was greatly appreciated

Ms. Naomi, Ms. Heidi, Ms. Jurie Room 101

The Toddlers have been enjoying the summer sun throughout July! We are currently learning about sea life. We have created several art projects including, painting fish with watercolors and making starfish out of sand. We have been looking at photographs and reading books about sea turtles and jellyfish. We welcomed our new friend Isabella to the Toddler Room. We also put up a new (used) climber in the play-lot! Thank you to the Hempfling family for the great toy donations.

Ms. Theresa, Ms. Diana Room 102

We had a great time at Fantasy Kingdom this month! Thanks to everyone who joined us: Mr.Ratz, Mr. Morelos, Ms.Warren, Ms. Lopez and Mr.Tenorio! This month we have been learning about architecture and have had fun creating blueprints and making buildings in various forms. Special thanks to the Yang family for sharing caterpillars with us; the children love watching them grow as we learn about the life cycle of a butterfly.

Ms. Tanya, Ms. Maya Room 103

This month the infant room was under the sea. We played with water, sand and sea animals. We made our own ocean using our little hands and blue paint. Also we explore using our five senses: observing through our colorful magnifying glasses, listening to sounds, feeling different textures and tasting chocolate bananas.

Ms. Sammie, Ms. Paula, Ms. Brittney Room 104

We have been having lots of fun in the sun in room 104 this past month. We have been experiencing water everywhere! Our favorite is exploring the sprinkler outside. Our field trip was to Wonder Works. Special thanks to Suzanne, Johnathan, and Tania for helping us on our trip.

Preschool Assistant Director, Heather Gunter

I hope everyone is having a great summer! This month we are having a summer picnic so please be sure to watch for the dates. In July we were able to go play in a water park with sprinklers and a huge play ground. The children had a lot of fun playing in the water. Please remember to apply sunscreen on your child before they come to school, we go outside everyday weather permitting.

Ms. Molli, Miss Adriana, Miss. Ana Room 200

During July, we continued to work on our ABC's. We made Alphabet Cookies, built words with foam letters, and went shopping for sounds with my magic shipping bag. We had a fun field trip to Oriole Park. We also had an out of school play date at the beach with parents and children! Everyone had a blast! We said goodbye to our friends Justin and Alex and welcomed our new friends Martin and Werner.

Miss Viana, Ms. Lourdes Room 202

We had a great time on our field trip to Oriole Park. We enjoyed playing on the playground, going in the sprinkler, and eating a picnic lunch. Thanks to our parent chaperones! We've enjoyed going to the Elston play lot and going in the sprinkler to cool off in the hot weather. We learned a lot during our ocean and sea animals theme. We read books about going to the beach and did some fun ocean art projects.

Miss Abby, Ms Patty Room 203

The children in Room 203 have been very busy learning the alphabet this summer. We have had fun making special treats like homemade ice cream for letter I and pizza muffins for letter P. Soon we will know our whole alphabet! We have also enjoyed the beautiful weather by playing at the park and running through the sprinklers. Thank you to our parents and grand-parents who joined us for our picnic at Oriole Park! Welcome to our new friends, Andres, Jaloni and Cora to Room 203!

Ms. Cindy, Ms. Flora Room 204

This month we explored the world of tadpoles, frogs and fireflies. We have been enjoying the sizzling hot summer weather by cooling down at the sprinklers. We also had a great time on our field trip to Oriole Park. Our brave friends got soaked in the sprinklers while other friends enjoyed some gross motor movements in the playground.

Ms. Kelly, Ms. Aza Room 205

This July we continued our Summer Alphabet Study, learning the letters G-P. Some of our activities included, painting an alphabet to hang in the classroom, making kites for the letters K ice cream cones for the letter I, and monkey puppets for the letter M. We also had fun using the sprinklers on the play lot, and we had a great time at our field trip to Oriole Park. We welcomed Jeremy to our class from Room 104.

Head Teacher Jeromy Spraker, School-Age

We have had such a great time in summer camp so far! We have gone on so many field trips. Our favorite one was the water park. This month the Emerging Leaders will be teaching us how to cook with vegetables from our garden. We can't wait!



www.concordiaplace.org

3300 N. Whipple St.
Phone: (773) 463-1600
Fax: (773) 463-1690

3855 N. Seeley Ave.
Phone: (773) 935-3739
Fax: (773) 935-0414

Rev. Nicholas J. Zook, President
Brenda Swartz, Executive Director
Nora Collins, Director of Operations
Katie Kirby, Director of Advancement
Kiki Collias, Children's Program Director
Jen Bonhard, Early Learning Assistant Director
Heather Gunter, Preschool Assistant Director
Jeromy Spraker, Head School-Age Teacher

Important Dates

Aug 4th	Summer Camp Field Trip to 12th Street Beach
Aug 5th	Early Learning Field Trip, Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum
Aug 10th	Fall into Fun planning meeting at 5:30pm at Seeley site
Aug 11th	Summer Camp Field Trip to Hollywood Fun Park
Aug 13th	Concordia CLOSED -Teacher In-service
Aug 14th	Sprouting Out Farmer's Market 9am-12pm at Linne School 3221 N Sacramento
Aug 18th	Sprouting Out Farmer's Market 3-6pm at Concordia Place 3300 N Whipple
Aug 18th	Summer Camp Field Trip to Rainbow Falls
Aug 25th	Summer Camp Field Trip to 12th Street Beach
Aug 31st	Fall into Fun planning meeting; 5:30pm at Whipple
Aug 25th	Summer Camp Field Trip to 12th Street Beach
Sept 1st	Summer Camp Field Trip to Brookfield Zoo
Sept 25th	Fall into Fun Street Fair—Mark your calendars!

WISH LIST

Small dorm size refrigerator

Contact paper (preschool)

If you or someone you know could provide these items, please contact Katie Kirby at kkirby@concordiaplace.org or 773-436-1600 x425.

Thank you!

Concordia Place was created through the vision and dedication of Concordia Lutheran Church and its members.

You are welcome to visit us anytime!
Join us for our regular Sunday services or
one of our special services:



*Concordia Place is a community ministry of
Concordia Lutheran Church, ELCA.*

**NOTE : NEW SUMMER
WORSHIP TIME!**
Sunday Services 9 am
3855 N. Seeley
(one block west of Damen Ave)
www.concordia-chgo.org



Kidding Around August 2010

A monthly publication of the Concordia Place, Whipple Children's Programs

Let Children Be Children

From Teaching Young Children, www.naeyc.org/tyc

Do you worry that your children are growing up too fast? Do you wonder what to say when they talk about "going on a date"? Are you frustrated when they beg to watch television shows or movies with characters and activities that are just too old for preschoolers?

We worry too. Let's work together to protect children and let them enjoy being preschoolers. Here are five ideas that may work for your family.

Limit the time your child spends in front of a screen—television, computer, video game, and so on. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends limiting total screen time to no more than 1 to 2 hours a day for children older than 2 years.

Make a list of things to do instead of watching a screen. Ask your child to think of activities he or she enjoys—reading, doing a puzzle, tossing a ball to the dog, or helping to cook dinner. Use photographs or drawings to illustrate each item on the list. Include some activities you can do together. Use the list to help your child choose something to do instead of screen time.

Schedule a weekly family night. Include your child in planning what to make for dinner and what to do afterward. You might go for a walk around the block, play a board game, tell stories, organize family photos, or do any other activity your family enjoys.

Help your child become a unique individual with varied interests and abilities. One way to do this is by reading and talking about books in which both male and female characters are strong, confident, thoughtful, and sensitive. And you and the other important adults in your child's life can do this by being role models—men and women who work, enjoy hobbies, take care of the home, and spend lots of loving time with their children.

Work with other people who want to preserve childhood. Talk with friends, neighbors, family members, and the parents of your children's friends and classmates. Agree to hold birthday parties focused on fun rather than TV or movie characters; to dress your children like preschoolers, not teenagers; and to resist (rather than giving in) when children ask you to buy things you know are not good for them.

Dejemos que los niños sean niños

¿Está usted preocupado porque su hijo está creciendo demasiado rápido? ¿Se pregunta qué decir cuando habla de "tener una cita"? ¿Se frustra cuando le ruega que lo deje ver un programa de televisión o una película con personajes y actividades que están destinadas a niños más grandes? Nosotros también nos preocupamos. Entonces, trabajemos juntos para proteger a los niños y dejarlos que disfruten de ser preescolares. Veamos cinco ideas que pueden funcionar en su familia.

Limite el tiempo que su hijo pasa frente a una pantalla de televisión, computadora, videojuego, etc. La Academia Americana de Pediatría (American Academy of Pediatrics) recomienda limitar el tiempo total de exposición a la pantalla a no más de 1 o 2 horas por día para los niños de más de dos años.

Haga un listado de cosas que el niño puede hacer en lugar de mirar una pantalla. Pídale que piense en actividades que le gusta realizar (leer, armar rompecabezas, tirarle la pelota al perro o ayudar a hacer la cena). Utilice fotografías o dibujos para ilustrar cada elemento del listado. Incluya algunas actividades que puedan hacer juntos. Use el listado para ayudar a su hijo a elegir algo para hacer en lugar de pasar tiempo frente a la pantalla.

Programe una noche familiar cada semana. Incluya a su hijo en la planificación de qué comer a la hora de la cena y qué hacer después. Podrían ir a dar una vuelta a la manzana, jugar un juego de caja, contar cuentos, organizar las fotos familiares o hacer cualquier otra actividad que le guste a la familia.

Ayude a su hijo a ser alguien exclusivo, con intereses y capacidades diversos. Una forma de hacerlo es leer y conversar sobre los libros en los que los personajes, tanto varones como mujeres, son fuertes, seguros de sí mismos, reflexivos y sensibles. Usted y los demás adultos importantes para la vida de su hijo pueden hacerlo dando el ejemplo: hombres y mujeres que trabajan, disfrutan de pasatiempos, se encargan del hogar y dedican mucho tiempo y amor a sus hijos.

Trabaje junto con otras personas que deseen preservar la niñez. Converse con amigos, vecinos y familiares, y con los padres de los amigos y compañeros de su hijo. Pónganse de acuerdo en celebrar fiestas de cumpleaños centradas en la diversión en lugar de los personajes de películas o la televisión; en vestir a sus hijos como preescolares y no como adolescentes; y en resistir (en lugar de ceder) cuando sus hijos les pidan que les compren cosas que ustedes saben que no son buenas para ellos.