



Welcome to Faith Lutheran 3's Preschool Class! My name is Kristy Ebelhar, think Evilhair but replace the v with a b sound, and I am the 3's preschool teacher. I have been at Faith for 2 years now. Prior to coming to Faith I worked at Mitchell Community Schools as a reading specialist and a first-grade teacher. I graduated from IU in 2006 with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, and in 2007 I was certified in Reading Recovery. In addition to teaching, I'm also a travel agent. I married my husband, Kirk, in 2009 and he works with UITS on campus. We have 3 children, Archer (6), Clara (5), and Spencer (1). Archer is in 1st grade and Clara is in kindergarten at Lakeview. Spencer is in the walker's room here at Faith while I teach.

I'm excited to meet your children and start their preschool journey. We do quite an assortment of things throughout the year. All our preschool classes, (Multiage classes and Pre-K) focus on the same Bible story, topics, skills, music, gross motor skills, and science curriculum throughout the year.

### What to Expect

Each week Ms. Rachel will send out a group email to all FLC and FLP parents. In the email she puts general announcement and attaches the FLC newsletters and there will be 1 preschool newsletter that covers all of our preschool classes. If a class has a specific need it will be in the body of the email. The preschool newsletter is only for letting you know what your child will be learning that week.

This year we are going to try something new and do a student of the week. We have tried to assign each student a week throughout the year. In the newsletter there is a list of what each day of the week the student of the week will get to present to their classmates. We will also feature that student in the commons area that is by the sign in/out sheet.

This is the first year that I will have two classes, a morning and afternoon group. If your child comes all day, they will have either Ms. Stinson or Mrs. Huss in the Multiage Preschool room when they are not with me. Regardless of who they are with they will get Chapel daily, music and science weekly, and gross motor skills will be woven in throughout their recess times daily. We try to also make a craft or some type of hands on art throughout the week. When they are with me they will typically start their time by starting on a craft or coloring activity. I

usually rotate them in one to two at a time and the rest get some free play time. We also have a time when we sit down together and do our calendar, read a book, and review our letter of the week. I will probably add in our Student of the Week activity for Tues/Thurs during this time. We also will have a snack, recess, and a couple restroom breaks.

I do a beginning of the year (or time of entry) assessment. I check to see what letters they know, numbers, colors, and shapes. I will also have them try to write their name. PLEASE do not stress about this, it is simply to show their growth throughout the year. I will do the same check mid-way and at the end of the year. I keep many of the activities that we do during the day and put them into a portfolio that will be used throughout their time in preschool. It's fun to see the growth each child has had from the start of preschool until Pre-K Graduation!

- Chapel Time

A relationship with Jesus is very important at Faith. During Chapel time we will discuss Bible lessons, teach children the power of prayer, sing, and relate past stories to present day.

- Science

Mrs. Huss teaches a Science lesson twice a week. Children are able to explore and experiment with many interesting facts and theories, while learning something new and exciting each week.

- Music

Mrs. Faulkner teaches a music class twice a week. Rhythm, pitch and following instructions are just a few things children learn during music. It is amazing how quickly they learn the songs they are practicing, and how much they enjoy performing for their parents at our Spring and Christmas Concerts.

- Gross Motor

Ms. Jessica and myself will be incorporating some gross motor skills this year to just work on coordination and listening skills. We will do a variety of activities from learning Duck, Duck, Goose, to playing with balloons and doing yoga!

- Socialization/Free Play

While your child is at school, we do our best to promote positive relationships, communicating feelings with words, and social interaction that helps your child treat fellow peers equally. In the 3s room, we believe free play and child directed play are crucial to a child's growth. Children learn many things when they are in control of their play. You may find a child pushing a baby around in a stroller talking about a trip to the store (nurture), or a child working on a toy car because something is broken, (interest or self-help skills).

\*During free play time some children will be working individually or in small groups with their teacher to complete an activity.

Below you will find a sample of what I want our schedule to be, however, these are kiddos and sometimes what I have planned is not always best for that specific group. Each year is a learning curve. I adapt and make the skills/topics fit into what each child needs. So, this does change time to time but it gives you a little idea of how the day goes. I will have your child during the a.m. or p.m. session, as I mentioned earlier if they come all day they will be in the Multi-Age preschool during the opposite time.

#### Tuesday A.M.

9:00-9:30 Free Play/Stations  
9:30-9:50 Science  
9:50-10:10 Music  
10:10-10:25 Snack  
10:25-10:45 Circle Time  
10:45-11:00 Small Group  
11:00-11:10 Clean Up  
11:10-11:20 Bathroom Break  
11:20-11:45 Recess/Gross Motor  
11:45-12:00 Chapel  
12:00-12:45 Lunch Bunch

#### Thursday A.M.

9:00-9:30 Free Play  
9:30-9:50 Art  
9:50-10:15 Snack  
10:15-10:40 Circle Time  
10:40-11:00 Small Group  
11:00-11:10 Clean Up  
11:10-11:20 Bathroom Break  
11:20-11:45 Recess/Gross Motor  
11:45-12:00 Chapel  
12:00-12:45 Lunch Bunch

#### Tuesday P.M.

12:45-1:00 Restroom/Free Play  
1:00-1:30 Circle Time  
1:30-2:00 Small Group/Stations  
2:00-2:20 Gross Motor/Music  
2:20-2:30 Restroom  
2:30-3:00 Small Group/Stations  
3:00-3:20 Snack/Restroom  
3:20-3:45 Recess  
3:45 Pick-Up

#### Thursday P.M.

12:45-1:00 Restroom/Free Play  
1:00-1:30 Circle Time  
1:30-2:00 Small Group/Stations  
2:00-2:20 Gross Motor/Music  
2:20-2:30 Restroom  
2:30-3:00 Small Group/Stations  
3:00-3:20 Snack/Restroom  
3:20-3:45 Recess  
3:45 Pick-Up

There is a Christmas and Spring Music program each year. We also have class parties throughout the year. I will occasionally request items for these type things 1-2 weeks prior to the event. We do a Halloween party, Christmas, Valentine's, Easter, and Field Day. Parents are welcome to come or even volunteer at any point that they would like. I just like to know ahead of time, and I ask that if your child has a hard time separating from you that you take that into consideration.

Students should be potty trained and be able to vocalize if they need to go. I will help with buttons, zippers, up and down off the potty as needed. If your child has a specific need that I need to be aware of please communicate that directly to me. Myself or our aide will be out to supervise restroom time. We will let the children go when they voice needing to go, and when we have group restroom breaks we will encourage them to try. By the end of the year I try to stick to just the group breaks, BUT I will not say no if they ask to go.

My expectations are for each child to do their best, and to grow throughout the year. These children are 3 turning 4 year olds and will be adjusting to some more structured group time as well as some independent small groups. By the end of the year I'd love it if they can independently identify most upper and lower case letters, write their first names (I do not care if it's upper or lowercase), count to 10, match quantities to 10, identify primary colors, and identify shapes. However,

If at anytime you have questions or need something clarified, please contact me. My email is [krasimps@indiana.edu](mailto:krasimps@indiana.edu) and my cell is 812-369-6540. I'm pretty quick with text responses! The way my hours are set-up I don't always have a chance to see all of you at drop off and pick-up time. So, please if you ever have any questions just let me know. I'm a momma too and I understand that I have your child!

I'm looking forward to meeting all of you and your kids!! 😊