

EARLY LEARNING CENTER

30th Year Anniversary

First United Methodist Church
Johnson City, Tennessee

Join us today in this celebration! In addition to participating in worship this morning, all are invited to the afternoon festivities from 3:30 until 6:30 pm which include: inflatables for the children, picture displays inside the education building, food trucks, games and activities. Drinks will be provided. As a very special treat, there will be a concert inside in the gym at 5 pm by the musician duo, Alatheia. Take a minute to welcome our guests this morning. We are also grateful Alatheia agreed to be with us again this afternoon. There are also openings for some other talent presentations.

A brief history:

The original Preschool Committee made a recommendation to the Administrative Board to expand the weekday preschool program to a full time early learning center. The Chair of the Administrative Board was Jim Heaton. The pastor at the time was Rev. Kenneth Henderlight. In the Spring of 1987 this group became the Board of Directors and developed by-laws and operating guidelines.

"ELC" Opened August 18, 1986 with 19 children and by January 1, 1987, there were 50. The Center continued to grow at a fast pace and modified and added classes reaching 80 children this past year. The 2016-2017 school year average will be 80 children.

At various times during this 30 year operation, ELC has offered kindergarten as well as school-age children summer programs. FUMC is proud of the excellent quality and reputation which our Early Learning Center has achieved. Generations of parents and children in our church and community have benefited from and enjoyed the professional, educational, and nurturing care provided by the staff of the center. A waiting list is maintained.

Kindergarten Bound:

Joseph Bolton	Jeriah Moore
Atticus Bunn	Elliot Nelson
Ava Kate Carter	Eli Nichols
Emory Crumley	Lydia Palmatier
Riley Dominguez	Reece Rainey
Jeremiah Foster	Casper Sabbides
Bennett Horne	Caidance Salyer
Cassidy Lindvall	Carson Thompson
Madeleine Love	Zoey Wanyoike
Colton Lovelace	

Longevity of staff in years

Kathie Battista (Director) - 30
 Tammy Crawford - 29
 Missi Crowder - 25
 Michael Hallingstad - 21
 Jennifer Boarman - 20
 Katie Maskew - 13
 Betsy Miller - 13
 Amy Seehorn - 11
 Colleen Bennett - 9
 Tina Fisher - 8
 Stacy Wanyoike - 8
 Betty Ann Polaha - 6
 Ashley Renee George - 5

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