

January 2026

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!! We hope everyone has a blessed Christmas and a relaxing winter break! We are excited to see what 2026 has in store for us!! We hope everyone enjoyed the Christmas Programs! We were excited to invite our families in for a live performance! It is also exciting to have our parent volunteers come in and help at Christmas time, too! Thank you to everyone who participated in our Adopt a Family program this year. Our 21 children, plus their parent/guardians were blessed beyond measure!

Registration for the 2026-2027 school year is coming soon!

- **Registration for our current STUDENTS** for 2026-2027 school year will begin on Tuesday, January 13 at 8:00am. A Preschool Enrollment Agreement and new Parent Handbooks have been sent home with EVERY family. If your child is moving on to Kindergarten or will not be returning to Loving Hands Preschool next year, please feel free to pass a packet on to a friend or return it to the paperwork basket outside of the Preschool Office. Refer a friend and you will receive \$20 off your next tuition payment (referral cards are available outside of my office). If you need any additional packets for siblings, you can see Miss Shannon. Current students (sorry, siblings do not receive the discount) will receive a \$25 discount off the \$100 registration fee (\$75) if they register by Friday, Jan. 16. Please note: *If a family is planning to send their current student AND a sibling to school next year, they will have priority registration for both children beginning on 1/14. This will allow parents to make sure that both children are able to attend class at the same times/days.*
- Registration will begin for **siblings of current students, returning families of LHP, or members of GUMC** at 8:00am on Tuesday, January 20.
- **New families** may begin to register for 2026-2027 school year on Thursday, January 22 at 8:00am. If you know of anyone planning to register for next year, please pass this info along. We recommend registering your child at the designated registration time to give you the best opportunity to register for the desired class/times. Tours are available for any family that would like to visit our program before they register. They can contact Miss Shannon at 330-896-1936 or preschooldirector@loving-hands.org

**If we have a snow day on any of the registration dates, that registration date, along with any that follow will be pushed back one week, on the same day of the week and time. This notice will be posted on our FB page if the snow day is announced.

As you make your decision on classes for your child next year, here are a few things to keep in mind:

- Preschool 3's classes meet 2 days per week. The kids in this class will already be 3 or turn 3 by 9/30/26. This class is geared towards teaching the children the socialization/social emotional skills needed at this age. We will begin meeting pre-k standards for ideas like shapes, colors, letter recognition, gross/fine motor skills. Our classes are play based/center

based. We will arrange our classrooms into centers to be able to introduce new experiences to our children through play activities. These classes meet on either MW or TTH, or WTh and offer an AM and PM option.

- Our Pre-K 4's classes meet 3 days per week. The kids in this class will already be 4 or turn 4 by 9/30/26. This class is set up to continue to work on our Pre-K standards, and to begin mastering skills needed for Kindergarten. For some students this will be their 2nd year of preschool, and others will be starting their preschool experience in this class. Either way, the teachers will offer small group times during the day to work with children at their own pace. These classes are offered on M/W/F, T/Th/F or Wed-Fri, with AM and PM options. Many of the kids in this class will go to Kindergarten the following year, some will move into our TK option.
- Transitional Kindergarten- 5's (half day) meet 4 days per week, M-TH. The kids in this class will already be 5 or turn 5 by 9/30/26. This class gives these children an extra year to master the skills to be successful kindergarteners, as well as beginning to work on those Kindergarten standards. This is ideal for children with late spring, summer or early fall birthdays that would benefit from another year of preschool. The expectations in kindergarten are so much higher than they were in the past, and this option gives our kids an extra year to mature and prepare, while still in a play based setting, where children learn best. For some children, this may be their 3rd year in preschool; others may be in their first year. As always, our small group times will help assure that all children are able to work at their own pace, and receive the extra help they may need to learn a skill, or move ahead as they master one.
- Transitional Kindergarten-4/5's (full day) meets 4 days per week, M-TH from 9am-3pm. This class was designed as an option for all the children in our program for the year before they go to Kindergarten (therefore, some may be coming to us from our preschool 3's class, and others may be coming from the Pre-K class. This TK option is allowing children to "transition" to what full day Kindergarten is going to feel like, while still at preschool with the flexibility to keep things moving at each child's own pace. Because this is our only mixed age class, this class provides a longer day for the children to give extra small group experiences and give opportunities in line with what our kids will be doing when they go to Kindergarten the following year. We keep this class at 6 hours, so we do not offer a rest time, but we can arrange our schedule to give children a variety of active and quieter activities to fit their needs as they adjust to the longer day. Children will bring a packed snack and lunch for these days. The student must be Kindergarten-age eligible for the 2027-2028 school year to enroll in this class.

There are many options for all of our children to choose from. We are so excited to continue on with the second half of this year, and begin looking at our classes for next year. This gives the teachers time to transition and get to meet their future students, and also gives our students a chance to prepare for their new class by becoming familiar with their new teacher/classmates. If you are trying to decide what would be the best option for your child for the 2026-2027 school year, contact Miss Shannon or your child's teachers and we can help you as you make your decision.

We are fortunate to have an indoor play area at our program for the children, but occasionally classes may decide to venture **outside** in the cold for some play time, too. We will give families advance notice if your class is planning to head out so you can be sure to provide hats, boots, snow

pants, etc. Typically if this happens, you will receive notice through ClassDojo. Please be sure that you are signed up for ClassDojo with your child's teacher. This is a great way for you to communicate between each other!

If you haven't "liked" our **Facebook page** yet, you may want to check us out! We post event reminders and pictures of happenings at school! We even posted the Christmas Programs on there for loved ones who couldn't attend! We would also love if you would consider telling others what you think of us by writing a review on our page, or writing a review for our testimonial page on our website. A form can be found in the folder labeled "Testimonial Forms" outside of the preschool office, if interested. Most of our families hear about us through word of mouth, so your opinion matters to us!! Thank you to all who have already done this!!

There will be **NO SCHOOL** on Monday, January 19 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. day. Just a reminder: If Green Schools cancels school for inclement weather, or decides to delay the start of school, there will be NO PRESCHOOL. Please check your local news for more information. I will also post it on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/LovingHandsPreschool. We will post a ClassDojo message to notify parents as well. Please see your child's teacher if you (or another family member) would like the class code to sign up. A bit of advice: if you have a grandparent or babysitter who brings your child to school, they may want to sign up for ClassDojo too. That gives them a reminder about activities going on at school, too!

Thank you to all who turned in **Acme** receipts this school year! The Community Cashback program ends for this school year on February 15. It will resume in the Fall. Please save all receipts through 2/15 and return them to school no later than Friday, February 20. We will not receive credit for any receipts turned in after we have submitted the receipts. We earn 5% of the Community Cashback amount listed on your receipt. There is a collection bucket at the Information Station outside of the Preschool office.

(Hot) Dogs with Dad will be on Tuesday, January 27 for our Orange Room TTH, Yellow Room, and Purple Room and Wednesday, January 28 for our Orange Room MW, Green Room, Blue Room and Pink Room. Both days, the *lunch* celebration will begin at 11:30. Dads (or a special man in your child's life) should arrive at the Fellowship Hall before 11:30. AM students will remain in their classroom until the program starts. PM students can be brought to school by 11:30 and Dads can then make their way down to the Fellowship Hall (Muscle Room). The children will come down, sing songs for their dads, give a special gift that they have made, and enjoy hot dogs & sides for lunch! PM students will go up to their classroom for their class at the conclusion of the lunch (by 12:30). Students from our AM classes and our Full Day TK classes will be dismissed for the day at the conclusion of lunch. There will be NO ENRICHMENT offered on either day.

What if my child is not participating in the Dogs with Dad program?

- AM classes: pick up your child at their regular dismissal time
- PM classes: drop your child off at their classroom at their regular class time
- FULL DAY class: pick your child up at 11:30 (early dismissal day)



January Dates

1-2: Winter Break

3: Happy Birthday Owen R

5: Classes resume from winter break

7/8: Chapel time with Miss Shannon

10: Happy Birthday Miss Courtney

11: Happy Birthday Emmy D

13: Registration opens for current students 8:00am

14: Storytime with Miss Brandie from the Green Library 1:00pm/ Happy Birthday Leo P

15: Preschool Board Meeting 9:00am/ Happy Birthday Peter F

16: February tuition due/ Happy Birthday Junior M

18: Happy Birthday Miss Stacey/Theo H

19: Martin Luther King Jr day - NO SCHOOL/ Happy Birthday Teagan V

20: Registration opens for returning families 8:00am

22: Registration opens for new families 8:00am

24: Happy Birthday Bryce C

27: Dogs with Dad 11:30 (TTH3, Yellow and Purple)- no enrichment

28: Dogs with Dad 11:30 (MW3, Green, Blue and Pink)- no enrichment (Blue- early dismissal day)



Preschool 3's- Orange Room

Miss Tara & Miss Shannon

OrangeRoomMW@loving-hands.org

OrangeRoomTTH@loving-hands.org

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! We hope all of our Orange Room families had a very blessed Christmas filled with special traditions and love. December center favorites were Mrs. Claus' Bakery, building Christmas trees and presents using Magnatiles and the hot cocoa bar in the sensory table!

Our focus for January will be:

Letters: Z, V, W, Y Numbers: 0-3 Nursery Rhyme: Rain Rain Go Away

Color: Blue

Shape: Rectangle

With the new year brings lots of new things to learn in the Orange Room. We begin the year finding our name without our picture, writing our first names without tracing, and more cutting just to name a few! We continue practicing putting on coats independently. Please continue to practice and reinforce this skill at home — they have been doing very well! January continues to bring more cold weather so we will be focusing on cold weather animals like penguins, and snow! At the end of the month we will be celebrating Dads during our "Hot" Dogs with Dads program! See the newsletter for more details!

Preschool 3's W/TH- Pink Room

Miss Leanne & Miss Terri

PinkRoom3s@loving-hands.org

Happy New Year! We hope everyone enjoyed a restful Christmas break with plenty of time to relax and celebrate with family. We're excited to be back together and start the new year with fun winter learning! This month, we'll be exploring Arctic animals and discovering how creatures like polar bears, penguins, and arctic foxes survive in freezing temperatures. Along with our winter theme, we'll continue working on important early learning skills, such as name writing, using the correct pencil grasp, and reinforcing letter recognition through songs, games, and hands-on activities. Practicing name writing at home—even just a little

bit—can make a big difference, so thank you for supporting your child's growth! We're looking forward to a wonderful January and a great start to learning in 2026. Stay warm!

Pre-Kindergarten MWF- Green Room

Miss Libby & Miss Jess

GreenRoom@loving-hands.org

What a fun December it has been! From learning the true reason we celebrate Christmas and talking about baby Jesus to singing many Christmas songs and inventing toys to wrap in Santa's workshop, we have been so busy growing and learning every day! We transformed all the learning centers into winter and Christmas themed stations, like the Hot Chocolate Factory, where marshmallows were counted and matched to orders, and building Christmas trees with Magnet blocks. The students also all loved wrapping various items from around the room to practice cutting skills. January will bring a unit on the Arctic region and penguins! We will read *The Mitten* by Jan Brett, and learn about many other animals that love the cold and snowy habitats. We will also work on our address and phone numbers. We will continue to work on a letter each week, and practice writing them as well as work on their sounds.

Pre-Kindergarten TTHF- Yellow Room

Miss Kate & Miss Tina

YellowRoom@loving-hands.org

Happy New year Yellow Room families! We had such a busy and wonderful December! We spent so much time working on Christmas gifts for you. We do hope you like them! We also worked hard on assessments, to give you a better understanding of where your child is academically at this stage. And of course, we had a lot of fun reading about gingerbread along the way! Our gingerbread decorating day was a blast! Thanks again for all the donations and parent helpers that made it possible! And thank you to our volunteers for your help making Polar Express Day so much fun! We appreciate your efforts so much!

In this new month, we will spend the first couple weeks back learning about polar animals. Our snowy weather makes this the perfect time to discuss how these animals stay warm! We will then transition into my favorite unit of the year - Superheros! We will discuss what makes someone Super and do many fun activities along the way to get the students ready for their very own Superhero Training Day! It's sure to be a busy and exciting month!

Our letters are N, O, P, and Q. Our numbers are 13, 14, 15, and 16. And our shape is the rhombus (otherwise known as the diamond).

Pre-Kindergarten W-F- Pink Room

Miss Terri & Miss Leanne

PinkRoom@loving-hands.org

Happy new year pink room! Hope everyone enjoyed the holidays. How is it possible that it is already January? This month will prove to be a long and cold one, so our themes will be snowman, Penguins, and polar bears. By the end of Week 2, all capital letters will be introduced. We will begin to introduce lowercase immediately. Our shape of the month will be Oval, and our color of the month will be blue! All students will be writing their name independently, we will also introduce the Pledge of Allegiance, along with rhyming and numbers 11 to 20. We have a very important event at the end of the month, (Hot) Dogs with Dads. This will be on January 28. There will be no enrichment on that day.

Transitional Kindergarten (Half Day)-Purple Room

Miss Courtney & Miss Stacey

PurpleRoom@loving-hands.org

We have been working so hard on assessments and preparing for our Christmas program this month, we are all looking forward to a nice long break. Once we return, we will begin to introduce sight words. We will

introduce two words at a time, and we will be sending home flashcards so they can continue to practice them while at home. We will also begin our space theme where we will learn all about our planets and solar system. Our dramatic play area will turn into a space station where the students can help take flight into outer space.

Once our travels have ended and we have returned safely to Earth, we will turn our attention to all things snow and ice. Hopefully the winter weather will cooperate and we can explore real snow inside the classroom. We will continue to talk about all capital and lowercase letters and the sound they each make. Recognition is still a huge focus for us, and they will continue to learn and develop their skills in this area. We hope everyone has a great break and we will see you back in January!

Transitional Kindergarten (Full Day)- Blue Room

Miss Jessica & Miss Renee

BlueRoom@loving-hands.org

Welcome Back! We hope you all had a wonderful holiday with your families. It's a new year and we have lots of new things going on and we are so excited. We will be talking about lots of fun things this month. The first couple weeks we will talk about winter. We will focus on winter animals and hibernation. We will bring a cave into our dramatic play area. In there the children will be able to practice hibernating like a bear.

We will spend the last two weeks talking about space. Dropping into our classroom will be our very own space station. Where the kids will get to see what it is like to be in space. We will learn some fun things about each of our planets. We will also get to create our own planet to join the solar system. We will be doing lots of different science experiments.

We are going to start working on sight words now that we have finished all of our letters. Now that we are beginning sight words, we are going to start a sight word ring. When we learn a new sight word, we will add it to the ring so the kids can continue to practice sight words at home. So excited for the fun things we have planned in January. Hopefully we can stay warm while doing them.

Can't wait for a fun month of learning!!!!

Enrichment Class

Miss Kate(MW) & Miss Libby (TTH)

YellowRoom@loving-hands.org

GreenRoom@loving-hands.org

MW: What a magical December we had! We loved reading a new gingerbread story each day. It was so fun to see how each one would end! Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the fun Christmas activities throughout the classroom - from baking in the gingerbread workshop to cutting wrapping paper in the sensory table to writing letters to Santa - it was nonstop fun! This month we will start by exploring some Winter themes - snow, the animals that live in it, and staying warm! It's sure to be a cozy fun time!

TTH: January will be "chill" as we investigate the arctic region in enrichment. We will learn about all the animals that live in this icy, cold and snowy place as well as learn about where these regions are on the map! We will also compare this habitat to others, like the desert and the rainforest.

