



Community Nursery School
of Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church
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Dear CNS Parents;

On this unique May Day of 2020, I write to you on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Community Nursery School.

Well over a month into this historic crisis of COVID-19 “home isolation,” we wanted to check in and see how you’re doing. These are challenging times, and we know it’s not easy staying home with preschoolers day after day after day after day. We also know that our teachers miss your children every bit as much as they miss their teachers.

We hope that you are enjoying the **Storytime with Staff** videos that we post nearly every day on Facebook and the CNS website. If, by chance, you aren’t aware of these gems, please visit <https://www.cnspumc.com/cns-parents-page/> and enjoy! The password to the page is **CNS2020**.

As you probably know, CNS is following Arlington Central School District in terms of closure plans. Their schools will remain closed until **AT LEAST** May 15th, at which time they will announce plans for the remainder of the school year. CNS will open or remained closed depending on what ACSD decides to do. So, check in on our website on May 15th for that news.

Obviously, families will NOT be responsible for tuition during the time that the program is closed. Shortly after the May 15th announcement, CNS will send you a statement of your tuition status. If you hadn’t paid tuition for March, we will pro-rate the amount you owe based on when the closure went into effect. If you had paid for March (or the remainder of school year), we will issue refunds of credit due. Thank you, in advance, for your patience as we figure all that out.

Because our staff is continuing to provide a preschool learning experience, as best as the circumstances allow, they continue to receive compensation. The Board of Directors values our staff so very much! Not only are they such talented and creative teachers, they CARE about your child far more than any monetary compensation can cover. We feel blessed to have these 9 women on staff, caring for their little students in a very special way. The CNS program does have some funds in reserve, and we are applying for assistance from the government’s Payroll Protection Program. We are hoping to make ends meet in light of the financial challenges that this crisis is creating.

And in that vein, the Board of Directors of CNS, along with our parent organization, **Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church**, invite you to contact us if your family is experiencing hardship during these difficult days. We have compiled local resources that provide assistance with food, shopping, and navigating the complexities of governmental assistance programs. We are all in this together. And together, we will overcome challenges, beat COVID-19, be together again someday, and be a stronger community when our “new normal” is established.

Please contact us if you have any questions, concerns or thoughts to share. Our “director-extraordinaire,” Diana Colello is checking phone messages at the office regularly.

Stay safe. Stay strong.

Barb Adams
President, Board of Directors
Community Nursery School