

EDUCATION MINISTRIES

Heidi Hobler, Director St. Francis of Assisi Preschool

Happy Grandparent's Day!



2018 Photo



2018 Photo

*"Children's children are a crown to the aged,
and parents are the pride of their children."* Proverbs 17:6

To all of those in our community who are grandparents or like-grandparents: Happy Grandparent's Day! Did you know that this holiday actually is attributed to a mother, Marian McQuade, from WV who was planning a community event in 1956 for elderly neighbors? She became aware that some residents in a local nursing home seemed to have been forgotten by their families and neighbors. She wanted to bring national attention to these older people and to all grandparents. In 1973, West Virginia became the first state to have an official day of recognition for grandparents. In 1978, Grandparents Day was given national status by Jimmy Carter. It is reported that Ms. McQuade worked tirelessly to not only have a special day of recognition for grandparents, but also to encourage youth to continually form meaningful connections with the elderly.

I can't help but wonder what a young Jesus might have done for His grandparents, St. Anne and St. Joachim. I like to think that He, like most children, had a special relationship with them. I am sure they helped shaped Jesus' childhood as many senior adults do today with children whom they hold close, even if they are not necessarily biologically related. I also am sure that Jesus' grandparents showered Him with love by telling Him stories, sharing their advice, and going for walks together. Maybe St. Anne even taught Jesus family recipes and told stories of when Mary, His mother, was a child. Perhaps St. Joachim went fishing with Jesus or cheered Him on when He was learning to do something like climb a tree.

I believe that God has given our children grandparents for a reason. I think that He, in His infinite wisdom, means for them to be examples of faith, love, and kindness for young children. He knows that they have much to pass on to our young, both in little and big ways. He also knows that children, of course, need their parents, but also blossom under the gentle care and abundant support of others, particularly those who have a lifetime of experience behind them as most grandparents do.

Let us pray today for all of those who are grandparents or act as grandparents in our lives. May God continue to bless them with health and the love of those around them. May they always know God's light in their lives, especially as seen through their grandchildren!

To learn more about the wonderful opportunities that we provide, please visit our website at www.preschoolatstfrancis.com or contact Shelley Freeman at: shelley.freeman@stfrancisraleigh.org

**Feed the Need
and Caring Casseroles
have moved to the
Community Center**



**Bring all meals to the center door
9am-4pm, Monday-Friday**

Caring Casseroles & Feed the Need:

Please note the following when dropping off your meal.

- Both Feed the Need and Caring Casseroles should be dropped off at the Community Center, the middle door which opens into Cupertino Room. The middle door will be unlocked between 9:00am and 4:00pm Monday-Friday.
- The doors to the rest of the Assisi Community Center will remain locked.
- There is one refrigerator for Feed the Need and one for Caring Casseroles. They are labelled accordingly.
- Please do not put anything in the freezer. We use both freezers for short term storage of meals for families.
- Remember to label each meal including the ingredients. We have some families with food allergies and you can help us keep them safe by just including the ingredients for each meal for both Feed the Need and Caring Casseroles.
- If you have any questions or would like to join this wonderful ministry, contact me at 919-847-8205x241 or email me at kathleen.owen@stfrancisraleigh.org.

Thank you so much for continuing to cook delicious, nutritious meals that benefit members of our St. Francis community who are in need.

