



Put a little PEP in your Life!

October 2026 Newsletter

A Letter from the Director...

Dear Park's Edge Preschool Families,

October is the best time of year. I love the feel of the crisp air, the leaves changing colors, carving pumpkins, adorable Halloween costumes, Packer games, October has it all! We have lots to look forward to this month.

Once a month Pastor Josh Simon is spending time in our preschool classrooms reading to the children. Theme related books are specially chosen by the teachers for him to read. Thank you, Pastor Josh!

Monday, October 12, PEP's Magical Pumpkin Patch will be back again for toddlers and up. Every year, each child gets a 'magic' pumpkin seed to plant in the back field on Monday, during their outside time. The next day, the pumpkin patch magically grows overnight and during outside time, they get to go and pick their pumpkin that they grew. It's so much fun watching their faces in awe, realizing that their magic pumpkin seed worked! We cannot wait to share pictures.

A Family Friendly 'Trunk or Treat' is scheduled for all ages and will be held in the back parking lot on Thursday, October 22 from 5:30-7p.m. The staff from each classroom will decorate one of their cars with a special theme and pass

out candy to the children parading from car to car in Halloween costumes. We encourage parents to dress up and join in on the fun as well! Can't wait to see everyone in their costumes.

Friday, October 30 children are 'dressing-up' as their favorite character for an all-center costume parade. The parade time is 10:00 am rain or shine in Emanuel Church's beautiful sanctuary. Staff and children are looking forward to this spooktacular event! Parents and grandparents are welcome to attend

'Trick or Treat' at the Complete Care Hales Corners for the Shining Stars, Purple Moon's and Slithering Snakes groups will be on Friday, October 30 at 10:30am. The children will dress in costume and trick or treat at the residential care facility in our community. The residents love seeing the children in their costumes, and the children have fun parading around and waving to all the residents.

Friendly reminder that we have a Professional Development ½ day on Friday, November 6. The center will close at 12pm. Lunch will be provided. We will have transportation for the am, however, we will not have any transportation for the pm bus (including 4k pm students) we will pick up the am 4k students and bring them back to the center.

Mark your calendars for Friday,

November 6 for Picture Day in the morning. The background will be displayed by the front desk, and pictures will be mailed in time for the holidays. The photographers will be here from 7-11am. You can bring your child's clothes to school, and we will change them prior to the pictures, if you would like. Please see the front desk for paperwork to fill out prior to the date.

Did you know that every year, Emanuel Church provides their annual 'Frazzled Family Dinner' sponsored by the 'Mission Committee?' It is a free dinner to go, that you can heat up when you are ready. There will be a sign-up sheet at the front desk closer to the event. When you come to pick up your child on Thursday, November 19, you pick up your food and take it home. It's the perfect time of year to not have to think about dinner for one night. More information will come out as the date gets closer.

Enjoy the beautiful weather and fun activities.

Sincerely,
Kristin Burr
Director

Happy Birthday!

Maverick M.	10/01/2024
Harper J.	10/02/2020
Liliana C.	10/03/2021
Logan E.	10/09/2023
Cameron S.	10/20/2022
Rori P.	10/22/2018
Jolie O.	10/25/2021
Mile P.	10/27/2023
Ethan B.	10/29/2019
Kehlani W.	10/30/2016



Important Dates:

Friday, October 2nd–

No School Whitnall District
Sign up for care in downstairs classroom

Thursday, October 22nd–

Trunk or Treat - 5:30-7:00pm

Friday, October 30th–

Halloween Costume Parade - 10am in Church Sanctuary
Parents and Grandparents welcome to attend.

Friday, November 6th–

Picture Day - 7:00-11:00am
Sign-up sheets will be available at the front desk prior to the scheduled date.

Friday, November 6th–

Professional Half Day - Center closes at 12:00pm
Lunch will be served. No pm busing.

Love Bugs

We made it through September and are on our way to October! Halloween season is so much fun! It usually starts getting a little cooler outside this time of year. Please start bringing a light jacket, hat, and mittens to keep your little one warm during our walks. We will still be going outside while we can, before it gets too cold.

Our little ones are all doing so well! Each day is a blessing, and we are thankful to watch them grow!

Eliza and Shea are working on reaching for and holding toys.

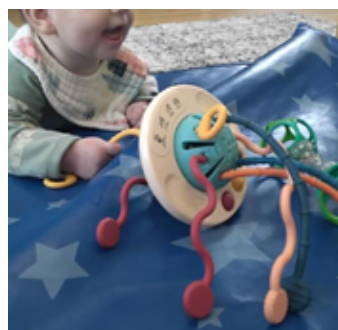
Ember is trying her best to hold her head up during tummy time and is working on rolling over.

Charlie, Callum, and Wyatt have mastered rolling over. Now, they are practicing sitting up with support.

This month, we will be celebrating Halloween and continuing to work on mastering our goals. Our littles will be making ghosts, candy corn, and pumpkin art. We will also be exploring pumpkin-guts sensory bags. Sensory activities are perfect for tummy time.

Tummy time is essential for infants' core development. Every bit of tummy time makes a difference! Singing a song, using a mirror, or providing toys during tummy time can help make it even more fun!

Ms. Terri, Ms. Gina and Ms. Gabi



Beautiful Butterflies

Suddenly, it is autumn! Welcome to the cozy season!

As the weather gets cooler, please provide weather-appropriate clothing with your child's name on each item. Blankets are needed as well, especially for our one-year-olds who sleep on a cot.

Your children are noticing all the bright fall colors, especially as they take walks outside! Some are even identifying the colors and saying their names.

It's time to curl up with a good book! Your babies love books, puppets, songs, and ribbon/scarf dancing. They have been especially interested in the Five Little Monkeys song with the puppet. Their belly laughs are the cutest!

They also enjoyed our squish-bag faces activity, along with our Post-it note peek-a-boo game where they found their own faces! They have been very interested in group art projects, such as coloring a class mural on large paper.

We look forward to seeing everyone dress up at the end of October. They are the cutest little pumpkins in the patch! We will also be painting mini pumpkins, which is one of our favorite activities.

Thank you for coming to our Open House! We really had a great time socializing and getting to know everyone. If you have any other ideas that you would like us to incorporate into the classroom, please let us know!

Happy Fall!

Ms. Julie, Ms. Holli, & Ms. Paige



Darling Dragonflies

Hello, October!

We had such a fun September getting to know each other and settling into our classroom routines! During our "All About Me" week, we learned more about each other and worked on recognizing and using the first letters of our names. We also made a fun flannel board activity using pictures of the children and teachers. The kids absolutely loved seeing their faces on the board and enjoyed finding themselves and their friends!

During Book Week, we had so much fun reading some of our favorite stories. The children especially loved Pete the Cat and Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? We had a great time reading, looking at the pictures, and joining in with the stories.

We are looking forward to all the fun October has in store! Be sure to keep an eye out for Pete the Cat during our Trunk-or-Treat event on October 22nd. We can't wait to see everyone dressed up and ready for some Halloween fun!

Next month, we will be learning all about manners, as well as all the fun and exciting things that come with fall! We will explore pumpkins, scarecrows, and all kinds of fall goodies. We are especially excited to go on a leaf hunt and see all the beautiful colors that autumn brings.

As the weather gets cooler, please remember to keep a warmer jacket at school for your child. Hats and gloves may also be needed as the temperatures continue to drop. We want to make sure our little ones are comfortable and ready to enjoy the cooler weather!

We are excited for another month full of learning, exploring, and making wonderful memories together!

Happy Fall!

Ms. Brooke and Ms. Morgan



Busy Bees

September has been a fun and busy month! We welcomed new friends to the center, and we have almost a whole new group! We have had so much fun learning about our families and books this month. We have also started practicing going on the potty, and they have done a great job! We are starting to work on our vocabulary and have been getting better at speaking up and asking for help!

We are excited for all that October brings! We will start by learning about apples, tasting different kinds of apples, and then using them to make apple stamps. We will learn about manners and leaves. Hopefully, some leaves will start to change so we can make leaf piles with our friends! We will also learn about pumpkins and scarecrows. Hopefully, we will cut open a pumpkin and explore what is on the inside!

We will be having our Trunk-or-Treat on October 22nd. We hope you enjoy all that we have planned!

We will be working on flipping our coats this month, so please remember to keep a coat here for the colder weather. Light hats and gloves may also be needed as the weather gets colder!

Happy Fall!

Ms. Emily, Ms. Jacque, Ms. Briana



Sunshine Room

What did one pencil say to the other on the first day of school?

Looking sharp!

Another successful start to the school year! This is a huge stepping stone for the children. They are exploring a new environment and activities that begin to challenge their independence. We are starting to focus on what they can do at this age to help strengthen those lifelong skills. We are ecstatic to learn, grow, and shine bright this year!

The Open House was a blast! It was fun being able to interact with our new families and get to know you a little better! :) It was also a great opportunity for our new kiddos to explore the classroom before they started.

The children have begun to open up more and show that they are comfortable in the classroom. We love seeing their true personalities shine through! We want to keep their confidence high, so we've been presenting our "All About Me" during group time. The children light up when they get to talk about their favorite things.

We are still keeping the focus on counting and letter recognition, which is getting stronger each day. The children have now begun to scream out the numbers as they count the days. In addition, they all love "What's the Weather?" with its catchy tune and easy hand motions. What's not to love about it?

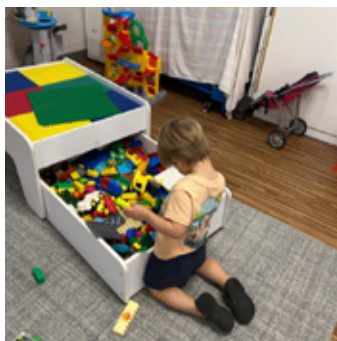
As the children are still settling into their new room, they have new rules to learn. They are all very big fans of being the line leader! :) Each day, they sprout with more confidence and determination. We can't wait to see how they grow throughout the year! :)

Just a few friendly reminders this month: Please make sure you're taking your child's blanket and water bottle home every Friday, or on the last day they are here for the week. Please check your child's cubby and make sure they have appropriate backup clothes. The weather is changing quickly, so please make sure your child is prepared. :)

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to us on the app, during drop-off/pick-up, or by calling between 1:00–3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

We're looking forward to a wonderful year of learning, growing, and shining bright!

Ms. Nadine and Ms. Alexis



Fantastic Frogs

“Fall” in love with Jesus; He will never “leave” you.

This season, we will adhere to that saying. We are excited about everything that autumn has to offer, including the changing colors of the leaves. Although, I have to admit, I am going to miss our summer weather!

As we got closer to the end of the warm weather, September came to a beautiful finale. Some of our highlights from this past month included welcoming back children from the summer, as well as welcoming new friends to the “Frogs” room. Even though we were sad to see many of our friends move to the “Stars” room, we welcomed new friends from the “Sunshine” room. Everyone is adjusting rather nicely and forming new friendships. We are excited to watch them develop as they grow in all five developmental domains.

This past month, we practiced name recognition. The children did an amazing job not only recognizing their own names but also the names of their peers. We definitely have a smart bunch of three-year-olds! They are also working on hand-eye coordination as they practice cutting with scissors.

During our “All About Me” week, we read the book *When I Grow Up* by Tim Minchin. It is a story about a bunch of children who imagine all the things they will be able to do when they grow up and make plans to do everything from being adventurous and playing in the sun to solving difficulties and even eating ice cream all day. We got some amusing responses when we asked the children what they wanted to do when they grew up. We will have the chart displayed on the wall for everyone to view.

If You Give a Mouse a Cookie was another book we read during “Authors” week. The children made a cookie art project, and afterward, we had an outdoor mouse hunt. After failing to locate a mouse, we decided to play the game “The Floor Is Lava.” Then, we went inside to have milk and cookies. What a thrilling journey we had!

We are looking forward to the month of October! Our themes include “The Apple of God’s Eye,” “Manners,” “Leaves Are Falling,” “Pumpkins and Scarecrows,” and “Harvest Fun.”

Some of the fun things we will do this month include learning about trees that change colors and the different names of leaves. We will also learn about the life cycle of a pumpkin, how to develop healthy eating patterns, and what kinds of foods we can make from apples.

During our “Apples” week, we plan to do an apple-tasting activity. We are asking each family to bring in one apple of their child’s choice for the tasting activity. Please write the name of the apple your child brings in.

Please check your child’s cubby for weather-appropriate extra clothing as the cold weather approaches.

We are grateful to every family who attended our Open House! You can still bring in a family photo for our classroom tree if you haven’t already.

We hope to see you all at our yearly “Trunk-or-Treat” event! Don’t overindulge in candy, and have a fun and safe month!

Ms. Sandra, Ms. Shanda, and Ms. Sarah



Shining Stars

Oh boy! October is upon us!

We had a spectacular September filled with new faces, learning new skills, and watching new friendships blossom.

We were really in our “feels” the first week of September during “Mixed Emotions” week. We discussed SO many emotions. Proud, scared, surprised, frustrated, sad, etc. We brought up different scenarios where we would feel these emotions and different coping mechanisms for certain emotions.

We looked so cool going “Back to School!” We got our first day jitters out after we introduced ourselves to our class, practiced letter recognition, created name tags, worked on tracing and created beautiful art for our bulletin board! Feel free to come in and check out the bulletin boards where your child’s art is displayed!

We learned more about your child and your family during “All About Me” week! We are so happy to say that we had every single family participate in our All About Me sheets for our class Family Book! THANK YOU! The kids LOVE looking through the book and they get so excited when they see themselves and their family! We created self-portraits, name bracelets, drew our houses, and practiced tracing our name.

Our little book worms escaped into some good books during “My Favorite Book” week. We read a lot of the “classics” and made art based off of the books! For example, for Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, we colored palm trees and placed letters all over the tree. We worked on our scissor cutting skills, practiced more shape and letter recognition and worked on counting and sorting.

Last but certainly not the least, we talked all about yummy apples! We had an apple taste test and determined our most favorite and least favorite apples, discussed the apple life cycle and created some pretty cute apple art!

Friendly reminder that every Friday is Show and Tell! If your child attends in the mornings on Friday, feel free to bring in a toy, stuffed animal, book, etc. (preferably a toy or stuffed animal that is bigger than the palm of the hand to avoid the risk of getting lost) to share with the class!

We are looking forward to all of the fun (and spooky!) activities that October will bring!

Ms. Kasey, Ms. Hannah and Ms. Savannah



Purple Moons

September was full of new beginnings! It was a pleasure getting to know our new group and welcoming them into our classroom with open arms and open minds. They are learning all about being independent, making good choices, and what it means to be a Purple Moon.

From exploring new stories to creating beautiful artwork and learning classroom routines, our Moons have already accomplished so much this month. During Author Appreciation Week, we enjoyed reading together and celebrating the joy of books.

During our "About My Family" week, the children created family portraits and shared what makes their families special. They also practiced important thinking skills through sorting and matching activities.

We have been practicing spelling our names and building confidence in our early literacy skills. Best of all, we began learning how much cooking we will be doing in our classroom by helping decorate a castle cake for Ms. Maria's birthday and enjoying a tasty treat together!

As we say goodbye to the warm weather, we look forward to all the fun, learning, and adventures October will bring!

Ms. Maria and Ms. Alex



Slithering Snakes

Hello, and welcome to the spookiest time of the year!

We cannot believe that the first month of school is already over. It feels like just yesterday that we got on the bus, ready to start another exciting school year. This month, Whitnall will have every other Friday off, so please keep an eye out for our sign-up sheets in Kurth Hall.

On our days off, Ms. Nicole and I will come up with a variety of cooking projects, arts and crafts, and outdoor games to engage the kids and give them a relaxing yet full day. As the weather shifts and cooler evenings arrive, please be sure to send your child in sleeves of some kind, as temperatures below 60 degrees require us to bundle up. We will also be spending as much time outside as possible before winter snows us in, including on light rainy and muddy days. In addition to coats and sweatshirts, sturdy shoes and pants will help us traverse any spots of mud we might run into while outside.

October is the start of a long run of events here at Park's Edge, and this month will see our Costume Parade, a field trip to the local nursing home to trick-or-treat, and our annual Trunk-or-Treat. The Costume Parade and field trip will both be opportunities to show off your ghosts' and ghouls' costumes, as well as important lessons about the necessity of community engagement.

Trunk-or-Treat has quickly established itself as one of our most popular events, and this year will be no exception! The bus will be decorated in its spooky costume and, as ever, will serve as a veritable playground for the night. It will be an opportunity to apply the night's uniqueness to something mundane. Make sure to bring a bucket or pillowcase for the bevy of treats served directly from our finest trunks!

One final note that I'd like to add: our classroom bookshelf is full of delightful reads, but some of them are showing their age. I mentioned our copy of a Mary-Kate and Ashley book the other day and received nothing but blank stares.

I ascribe a certain necessity to reading: a need to explore the infinite expanse of imagination and discover tales that offer both escape and wisdom. All that long-windedness aside, I would love any and all recommendations for new books! I will be adding some of my childhood favorites, with the Redwall series chief among them.

Whether they are books from your childhood or your child's favorites, any and all help would be welcome. Together, I hope we can build a strong literary foundation for all our students.

Sincerely,
Ms. Nicole and Mr. Cody

Themes with Christian Sub Themes

10/05-10/09 God's Helping Hands, Manners Matter

"Anxiety weighs down the heart, but a kind word cheers it up." - Proverbs 12:25

10/12-10/16 Leaves are Falling all Around

Ecclesiastes 3:1 "To everything, there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven."

Fall for Jesus he never leaves.

10/19-10/23 Pumpkins and Scarecrows

Matthew 5:14-16 "You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead, they put it on its stand and give light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

10/26-10/30 Halloween Fun

The parable of talents, use what God has given us- Genesis 11:6



Happy Anniversary!

Happy 24-year Anniversary to the wonderful Ms. Sandra!

Ms. Sandra started her career at PEP in the Sunshine Room. She has worked with two and a half to three-year-olds ever since. She loves the excitement and curiosity of that age group. Each morning upon entering, a large group of children come running up to Ms. Sandra to share a story with her. She will sit down at a table and patiently listen to each child individually share their story with excitement.

Ms. Sandra has an associate's degree in early childhood education. She also has an Associate of Art's Degree in Practical Theology. Currently Ms. Sandra is working towards becoming a Tiered Trainer so she can help train and develop the staff.

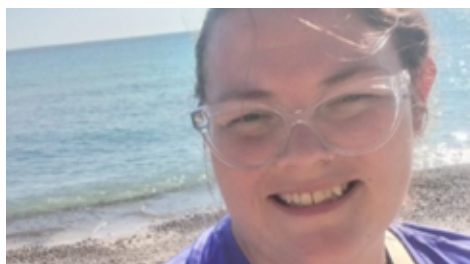
The creativity and wonder that comes out of Ms. Sandra's mind is exciting to the children in her room and inspiring to her coworkers. She is always making adorable crafts and her famous headbands that transform the children into doctors or chefs or the cutest elephant that you would ever see.

Nature is very important to Ms. Sandra. Weather permitting, her class is outdoors as much as possible. You will often find her bringing a cart of toys to the outdoor sanctuary so her class can enjoy their group time in nature. She also loves to eat snack outside with the children.

By far, Ms. Sandra's greatest contribution to Park's Edge is her love and knowledge of Jesus. She spreads God's love to her children every day. She loves sharing bible stories and praying with, and over the children. She is building a beautiful foundation of faith for every child that is lucky enough to pass through her room. Ms. Sandra has been contributing to the Christian Component for years and now she will be able get training hours for staff.

Sandra has been blessed with 5 wonderful children and 7 beautiful grandchildren. She often talks about her "grandbabies" and just how thankful she is for everyone in her life.

We cannot thank Ms. Sandra enough for her commitment to Park's Edge Preschool and her commitment to teaching and loving all our children.



Happy 4-year anniversary to the wonderful Ms. Holli!

Ms. Holli started at Park's Edge in our Beautiful Butterflies classroom and has remained there ever since. She loves her babies and wouldn't want to be in any other place.

Ms. Holli has studied early childhood education at WCTC. She is also CPR and AED certified.

Ms. Holli fills the classroom with warmth and laughter. She talks with the babies nonstop and loves a good song at lunch time. She can often be found snuggling and rocking a child at nap time. She loves sitting and reading with the children as well. Ms. Holli teaches the children independence while also making sure they feel nurtured and loved.

We can often hear her cheering the children on with her cute southern drawl as they take their first steps or hit any milestone for that matter. She is the classrooms biggest cheerleader!

Ms. Holli has 3 children, Charli and Finnegan and her stepdaughter Sophia. She beams with pride when talking about her children, they are the center of her world.

We are so thankful to have Ms. Holli here at PEP. Her love and commitment to our littlest babies is so appreciated.

Happy Anniversary!

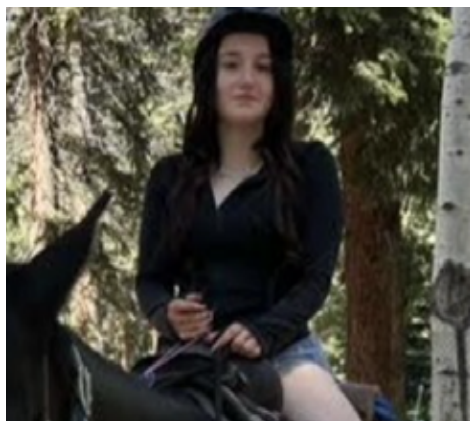
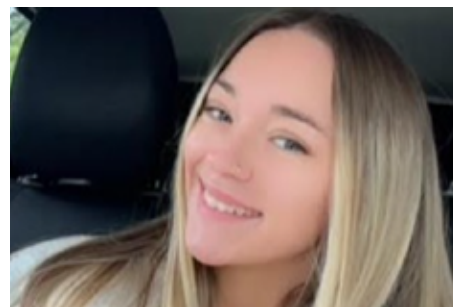
Happy three-year anniversary to the fabulous Ms. Brooke.

Ms. Brooke started as the cook in the program. When delivering the meals to the classroom, Brooke found herself gravitating towards all the children and wanting to stay and play for a while. She quickly realized her calling was being in the classroom with the children every day. Brooke took all her early childhood courses so she could be a teacher in the classroom. Over the course of two years Ms. Brooke has worked in every classroom on the upstairs floor as well as helping downstairs when needed. She is truly someone who can go anywhere and do a wonderful job.

Ms. Brooke has a calm loving personality that brings a sense of peace to the classroom she is working in. We lovingly call her the center photographer. If you see a beautiful picture of your child in ProCare, chances are it was taken by Brooke in one of her famous photoshoots she does with the little ones. She manages to capture the spirit of her babies through a photo. Everyday Ms. Brooke has a funny story about the kids. She genuinely loves all the babies and most importantly enjoys the work she does.

When Ms. Brooke is not at work she loves spending time with her family. She has two beautiful daughters, Kehlani and Ariya and the cutest little guy ever named Makai.

We are so thankful for Ms. Brooke and her commitment to Park's Edge Preschool.



Happy two year anniversary to the ever so popular Ms. Hannah.

Ms. Hannah has always had a love for children and a passion for teaching. She started her teaching career as a volunteer Sunday school teacher for Emanuel Church. After working on Sundays, she decided she wanted to teach full time, so she applied here at PEP. She started her PEP career as an assistant teacher in the shining stars room and has remained there ever since.

Ms. Hannah has a very gentle and quiet way about her. She loves nothing more than talking one on one with the children, giving them her utmost attention. The children love Ms. Hannah so much that during "dress as a teacher" day for spirit week we had a ton of little Ms. Hannah's running around.

In addition to being a volunteer Sunday school teacher she also volunteers every year for Vacation Bible School which is a favorite with the children who attend. Hannah loves cooking projects. She can often be seen traveling with her Ninja Creami and creating

delicious concoctions for her classroom, no wonder she is so popular!

In her free time Hannah loves spending time with family and the outdoors. After working here all day, she always goes to the gym with her dad after work. It's her time to unwind after a busy day. Last year she went to Germany to visit her aunts and uncles on her dad's side of the family. It was a wonderful experience for her family.

Thank you, Ms. Hannah, for all you do at Park's Edge Preschool, we are so thankful to have you as part of the team.



Happy two year anniversary to the amazing Ms. Paige.

Ms. Paige started her career at PEP as a float teacher in our upstairs classrooms. She has remained in the float position ever since.

Not having a set room to go into each day can be hard for a lot of teachers, but not Paige. She travels from room to room bringing her bright sunny personality with her to each new environment. The children flock to her whenever she is around. She is always willing to get on the floor to play or to read a book or just give a good snuggle.

The cutest thing about Paige is she gets sad when she goes on vacation because she is going to miss being around the children for that long. When she comes back from vacation she cannot wait to clock in and see everyone. She finds joy in all age groups and loves playing the piano for them when they walk through the church.

We are so thankful to have her as part of the team.