

***St. Stephen the Martyr
Kindergarten 2020-2021***



A Prayer for Our Kindergarteners:

God, there is a reason You tell us to have faith like that of a child. They are bursting with curiosity and full of love. Protect their innocence and preserve the spark in their eyes from the darkness of the world. Let them be little lights to their parents and teachers. Allow them to grow and have a fair opportunity to learn. Lord, bless our parents and our teachers. Help them to be inspired by your love and to follow the example of the greatest teacher-

Your Son, Jesus Christ .

Amen



Meet Your Teachers

Cindy Vann



Amanda Perrone



Ashley Hoff



Cindy Vann

I earned my Bachelor's of Music Education from Northern State College in Aberdeen, South Dakota. My first teaching positions were music education in Mobridge, South Dakota, Ellsworth Air Force Base in Ellsworth, S.D. and K-6 music education in Sioux Falls, S.D. My first Master's Degree was earned at the University of South Dakota Vermillion. In 1990 we moved to Omaha and I taught in Westside Community Schools for 27 years. I taught 5 and 6th grade at Oakdale Elementary School. In 2002, I earned my second master's degree in Administration from UNO. After earning this degree, I was a behavior interventionist at the middle school, teacher leader, elementary principal, and assistant principal at Westside Middle School. I retired for Westside in May of 2017. I substituted in several schools in the Omaha area and decided that I wanted to get back to working with children which is my passion. I was hired at St. Stephen the Martyr to teach reading in 2018. In 2019 I was able to teach first grade about 6 weeks into the school year. I am looking forward to teaching Kindergarten this year.

Kindergarten sets the tone for a child's educational career. It is a time of wonder, asking questions, learning how to work with other students and learning how to learning. Kindergarten should be filled with books, music, and a teacher who models the love of learning. I believe in a home and school connection and look forward to working with students and parents.

Amanda Perrone

I earned my bachelor's degree from College of Saint Mary with an Elementary Education degree and Early Childhood Endorsement. I graduated in May of 2018, and this will be my second year teaching here at St. Stephens!

I have lived in Omaha all of my life and graduated from Millard West in 2014. My family (Mom, dad, 2 sisters, 2 brother in laws, and 4 nieces) all live here in Omaha, and are a major and important part of my life. I received all my sacraments at St. Stephen the Martyr and attended Religious Education classes from the age of 5 to 13. I am so grateful to be apart of the staff here at St. Stephen the Martyr, it feels like home. In my spare time I enjoy reading, writing, and spending time with my family and friends .

Kindergarten is such a fun and exciting year. We will see your child grow not only in their academic skills, but in their social and emotional skills too. As your child's kindergarten teacher, I will create a learning environment where your child can grow and learn in a healthy and positive way. I strive to create a classroom where students are not only challenged but can explore and learn in the way that helps them be the most successful. I believe the connection between home and school is important for the student, teacher and parents to work as a team to create the best environment for a student to successfully learn. Open communication is encouraged, and I will always welcome any questions you may have for me!

Ashley Hoff

I earned my Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from UNO, and my Master's degree in Curriculum & Instruction from Peru State College. This will be my 7th year of elementary teaching, and my 2nd year at Stephen the Martyr. I am proud to work at a school that offers an extraordinary, Christ-centered education.

A little bit about me: Born and raised in Omaha, I am a graduate of Millard West High School. I grew up in St. Stephen the Martyr Parish, and my husband and I were married in the church over 10 years ago. We are parents to 3 beautiful children, ages 8, 6, and 3, and are expecting our 4th child any day now! In my spare time, I enjoy reading, cooking, running, and volunteering as a catechist in the religious education program.

Kindergarten is a year full of growth, discovery, and fun! My philosophy of teaching is that students learn best in a safe and nurturing classroom that supports their academic, social, and emotional development. I strive to provide a rigorous curriculum that utilizes differentiated instruction and promotes creativity and hands-on exploration! A strong relationship between home and school is also vital to the success of a student. Therefore, I encourage open communication and will provide regular feedback regarding your child's progress. I look forward to partnering with you and making this year the best it can be!

What Will Your Child Learn in Kindergarten?



Check out the Omaha Archdiocese Standards:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TJlOG7w-z1FQf4TCs3enkFySJCUVLRSr/view>

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SLgnYF2tQRxIAyGJdZUCLCf0O6b0lv6i/view>

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aaIEUaBIXFeYwApXJ8BmGCefruPUkIVf/view>

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1F1NCaBMq9hShOveJRV8msVfYAlr8eqqp/view>

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1IXZYVOL5L9Xnrwuhgvs_B1J0F0zRVp_7/view

All subject areas will be directed by a guided approach in accordance with the Gradual Release of Responsibility framework.

A Day in the Life...

- 8:00-3:15 Kindergarten School Day
- 7:40-7:50: Walking Club
- Morning Bell Work (puzzle, learning tubs, coloring, paper-pencil practice activity, etc.)
- Prayer, Opening Circle time (calendar, etc), Faith Formation
- Literacy Block (Guided Reading/Rotation Stations)
- Recess/Purposeful Play
- Guided Math/Rotation Stations
- Lunch/Recess
- Unit Studies (Social Studies/Science/health)
- Specials
- Recess/purposeful play
- Snack/birthday celebrations/star students
- Closing/clean-up/dismiss
- Students begin attending mass in October



Mrs. Kincaid- School Counselor

My name is Lucy Kincaid and I am the school counselor for pre-k through eighth grades, My goal every year is to help the students deal with any emotional needs they are presently having ranging from sadness, happiness, apprehensiveness, anxiety and many, many others. With the teacher's consent and parents' permission I am happy to visit with students who may have issues or just need a friendly person to talk to.

Kindergarten especially touches my heart because they are so anxious to learn, plus they have fun doing it..I am amazed to see their growth (spiritually, educationally and physically) throughout the school year but they always retain the same zeal and enthusiasm of delving into new, and varied activities and always with a smile on their face.

Some of the guidance topics I cover when visiting the classroom include the following”

- *Friendship and building relationships with peers and teachers*
- *Stranger Danger*
- *Understanding feelings and emotions*
- *Circle of Grace*

I have been employed at SSM for twenty-five years, so you can tell I enjoy working at our school. It's a wonderful place because we (the staff) always put your children first and each student is treated with love and respect and most importantly the teachings of Jesus.I have been fortunate this summer in receiving instruction on "mindfulness", through a six week online course..I am very excited in teaching some of the mindfulness lessons. I am very excited for the school year to start and to meet your wonderful children as well as you!

Please reach out to me with any questions, comments or suggestions, I would love to hear from you!!

My email address is L.Kincaid@stephen.org and our school phone number is 402-896-0754



Uniform Information and School Supplies

school.stephen.org/uniforms



School Supply Boxes are available to order for the 2020-21 school year! These will be delivered to school and waiting at your child's desk on back to school night!

EPI 2020-21 SCHOOL SUPPLY PACKS
SHOP NOW
Sale Ends: 6/14
Save Time & Money on School Supply Shopping this Year
ORDER ONLINE
www.EducationalProducts.com/ShopPacks
Enter Our School ID: **STS021**

The advertisement features a blue background with a white box containing school supplies like pencils and erasers. The text is in white and green, with the school ID 'STS021' highlighted in a white box with a blue border.

Important Links For School Information

School Website

school.stephen.org

School Calendar

school.stephen.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/1920yearcalendar-1_updated-2.18.2020.pdf

Parent Link

school.stephen.org/parents

Handbook (2020-2021 Available in July)

school.stephen.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/St.-Stephen-Family-Handbook-final.docx.pdf



SSM FAQ

school.stephen.org/welcome

School Re-Opening Plan

school.stephen.org/restart

Follow Us on Facebook!

School: facebook.com/ssmschoolomaha

Home & School: facebook.com/SSMHomeAndSchool

SSM 2029 Class Private Group for Parents: facebook.com/groups/ssmclassof2029

These following documents need to be on file in the School Office before the start of the school year:

- Birth certificate – original to photocopy (**according to state law, students cannot attend school until this is received**)
- Baptismal certificate—if child was baptized at SSM, note that on registration form
- Physical Exam/Immunization documentation for all Kindergarteners or date up upcoming appointment
- Dental information (date of most recent exam)
- Vision Evaluation for all Kindergarteners (this is part of the kindergarten physical)
- Preschool report card

If you have any questions, please contact Courtenay in the school office at 402-896-0754 or school@stephen.org

St. Stephen the Martyr Home & School Association

We love to have help and family involvement at St. Stephen the Martyr! Our Home & School Association coordinates several of the volunteer opportunities at our school. We can help match your talents to the right opportunity.

To learn how you can get involved, visit school.stephen.org/home-and-school or email ssmhomeandschool@gmail.com.

What Is Our Impact?



KIDS

School Musical, Santa Shoppe, Kindergarten Welcome Signs, Sacramento Breakfasts, Yearbook, Artist of the Month, Art to Remember, Scholarships, Youth Frontiers Retreat

Purchased I pads, Added STEM Technology, Apple TVs, Flexible Seating, Classroom supplies, Safety & Security Upgrades, Musical Instruments, PE equipment, Lab Coats, Leveled Reading Books

CLASSROOMS



VOLUNTEER

Martyr Marathon, Back to School Night, Open House, Used Uniform Sale, Teacher Appreciation & Hospitality, Classroom Coordinators, Book Fair, Library Helpers, Health Screenings

Pumpkin Patch, Storm Chasers Game, PEP talks, Be the Light, Giving Garden, School Directory

COMMUNITY

