

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH NURSERY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Annual Report 2011

The First Presbyterian Church Nursery School welcomes children of all racial, religious, ethnic and economic backgrounds. The Nursery School is housed on the fourth floor of the Mellin-Macnab Building in four large, light, airy classrooms that are shared with the Sunday school. Facilities also include a circulating library with children's and parenting books, an arts studio, a fenced-in roof playground, and indoor play space (the Assembly Hall) for rainy day play and music and movement classes. Church members are given the option of early notification in the admissions process. Members should contact the Nursery School Office for more information. Admission decisions are guided by the best interests of the children and the quality of the educational experience for them, in accordance with guidelines set by the NYC Department of Health, Bureau of Day Care.

There are 107 children, including 33 from Church families, enrolled in 2011-12. There are three classes of two-year olds; two classes of three's and two classes for older three's and four's. Children in the older classes can enroll for the "longer day" and an after-school activities program on specific topics, such as science, drama, yoga and Mandarin. There was also an early summer program the last two weeks in June 2011, featuring warm weather outdoor activities. The school's talented faculty, assembled by Director Ellen Ziman, includes head teachers, assistant teachers, teaching aides, specialists in movement, music and studio, as well as a consulting psychologist.

Parent volunteers are extremely active in the life of the Nursery School, maintaining the school's library, and directing the school's highly successful spring auction, a fall bake sale, and an annual fund campaign. Funds raised through these efforts support the school's mission by providing for financial aid, specialists in the arts, and teacher aides, as well as other program enhancements that could not be provided through tuition alone, such as the recently installed new climbing apparatus and large wooden building blocks for the rooftop playground. In the past three years, the Nursery School has contributed more than \$1,200,000 to the Capital Campaign.

The Nursery School is under the direction of a Board of Directors. The Nursery School reports to the Session and is a standing committee of Session, and is chaired by an Elder. The Board is composed of three Elders of the Session, including the Chair, two Trustees, five members from the congregation, and five non-church-affiliated members.

Members of the First Presbyterian Church Nursery School Committee:

Martyn Ball, Amy Brennan, Leslie Chang, Samantha Chen, Mindy Dehnert, Jason Fox, Stephen Jordan, Gerrity Lansing, Jeff Meltzer, Kyongsoo Noh, Marjorie Penrod, Albert Picallo, Rosemary Ryan, Larry Tallamy, Jon Walton and Ellen Ziman, ex officio.

Anne Gray, Chair