



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Bringing Hope and Love to All Hearts

Beverly Meserole Biography

St. John's Nursery School Director for 30 years



Beverly Meserole started the St. John's Nursery School on February 1, 1980. The St. John's Nursery School was started after members of the community began sending letters to the Church, seeking a preschool program for their children. Beverly was on the St. John's Church Council at the time, was asked to go out and investigate the feasibility of starting the Nursery School, along with Helen Nelligan. The Reverend Donald Herb, the St. John's Pastor at the time, granted permission, along with the Church Council, to begin the Nursery School.

Beverly started the Nursery School with \$500 of her own money and did not take a salary for the work she did as Director of the Nursery School, for the first year of operation.

When the St. John's Nursery School opened, there were five students enrolled. With the fine reputation that was quickly established, the following year saw a tremendous growth of one complete morning and afternoon class filled. As the years went on, the St. John's Nursery School grew under Beverly's leadership. Since 1984, prospective and upcoming students were put on waiting lists from almost the time they were born. Beverly recalls that some names were put on the waiting list right from the maternity units of local hospitals. The overflow of students were referred to other neighboring Nursery Schools.

Since the St. John's Nursery School was opened in 1980 – 30 years ago, there have been 22 teachers who have worked at the school, including her own daughter, Cathy DeMayo, along with six different music teachers.

While serving as Director of the Nursery School, Beverly has also been very active in St. John's, where she served as St. John's Treasurer on the Church Council for 20 years, 18 years as Altar Guild Director, 15 years as Sunday School Director, and about three years as President of LCW (Lutheran Church Women), along with being a board member for Lutheran Community Services.

As Beverly now retires at the end of the 2009-2010 academic year after being the founder and Director of the St. John's Nursery School for the past 30 years, she will be replaced with her own Granddaughter, Melissa DeMayo, who will assume Beverly's position as Director.

www.stjohnslutheranny.org