

TLC Early Learning Center

TLC Early Learning Center's mission, in conjunction with Transfiguration Lutheran Church, is to provide a warm, loving, healthy, and safe Christian environment for our community. As children of God, we teach and model positive self-image, individuality, independence, and respect for other's rights and properties. Children will be offered the opportunity to grow and develop spiritually, emotionally and physically.

TLC Early Learning Center (TLC-ELC) is a mission of Transfiguration Lutheran Church. The church responded to the need for child care in Bloomington in 1985 when it opened the new educational wing of the church for the center. March 2001 the church membership voted that the Early Learning Center is a ministry of Transfiguration Lutheran Church.

TLC-ELC is open Mondays - Fridays from 6am - 6pm. We use the educational wing of the church (the east side of the building), the east parking lot, kitchen fellowship hall and the playground.

This summer we have about 75 families with 112 children from the ages 6 weeks through 12 years old in attendance. We also have about 30 staff with about 27% of them attending Transfiguration, 37% of them having attended TLC-ELC as a child and about 27% of them having more than 15 years of experience at TLC-ELC.

Because of Transfiguration's commitment to quality and the ELC being a ministry of TLC, supporting us in many ways, we can offer proven standards of high-quality care for children, such as:

- Smaller group sizes
- Low child to staff ratios
- Excellent, nutritious homemade meals
- Low staff turnover
- NAEYC Accreditation Recognitions
- Minnesota 4 Star Parent Aware Program

What sets TLC-ELC apart from other programs in Bloomington: We are the only 4 Star, NAEYC Nationally Accredited, Christian, non-profit center in Bloomington. We are also the longest continually accredited program in Bloomington.

Update report on the current state of the TLC building and grounds – highlights from the ELC

How much of the TLC building is used by the ELC? (% and overview description)

The ELC has used the education wing of the building since 1985. Fellowship hall has also been made available to the ELC since 1985. In 2004, with the new building project the ELC had exclusive use of the east side of Fellowship hall, unless the church had a specific need of it. In about 2017 the ELC was given daily use of the west side of Fellowship hall, unless the church needed it. In 2020 the ELC was given one room in the basement for the KinderPlus class.

The ELC also has use of the copy machine, which is now sitting in the Conference room.

ELC parking is in the east parking lot and the playground is for the ELC.

See the Business Agreement and Statement of Understanding

Who is involved in ELC building use, management, coordination with TLC, and operations?

ELC Administration rep - either the Director, Asst. Director or Afternoon Supervisor, depending on needs

TLC Church Staff representative on the ELC Board of Directors

TLC Facilities Coordinator **This was Renee Jefferson for about 15 years, unknown who this is now, Michelle is filling this role, but has it "officially" been given to her?**

What are recent accomplishments ("bullet points") relative to the building and grounds use and planning?

Who are the current staff and volunteers engaged in building and grounds maintenance, repairs and updates?

ELC informs Michelle if there is something that needs to be done, she takes care of it. If it is something that we might be responsible for, we take care of it.

Highlight the maintenance, repairs and updates needed. Prioritize and provide estimates, if available, and suggested timing for project.

If there was money - new carpeting and painting would be nice.

ELC is in the process of upgrading the toddler/preschool playground. Total cost will be around \$150,000.

What are the challenges and gaps.