

# Zion Lutheran Early Childhood Education Center



## STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Zion's Early Childhood Education Center (ECEC) bases its educational philosophy on Biblical teachings and Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod doctrine. We believe in God's promise that we are to "train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." (Proverbs 22:6)

We strive to recognize and meet each child's spiritual, emotional, social, cognitive, and physical needs. We recognize the uniqueness of each child and believe that children learn best by working with many hands-on experiences. To achieve that goal we provide a positive, creative, and stimulating learning atmosphere where a child's five senses – touch, sight, hearing, smell, and taste – can be stimulated.

We believe that play is to be respected as a vehicle for learning. Children use this mode to model, create, explore, solve problems, interact socially, pretend, and dream. It is our hope that by focusing on the whole child, with a strong emphasis on self-esteem, our children will enjoy continued success in the world.

In accordance with God's command to parents to bring up their children "in the nurture and admonition of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4), we acknowledge that parents have the primary influence upon a child's development. Therefore, we dedicate ourselves to cooperate with parents in the shared responsibility of educating their child through our mission statement, "Loving Hands, Teaching Faith."