



**BUILDING BLOCKS
PRESCHOOL**
at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

2019-2020 Building Blocks Preschool Staff

Kathy Rebholz, M.Ed. - Preschool Director

Ms. Kathy has been with Building Blocks Preschool for eleven years. She holds a bachelor's and a master's degree in elementary education. Before coming to Building Blocks, Kathy taught in Parkway School District for eight years in grades first and second, and as a Title One reading teacher. Prior to becoming our preschool director, Kathy taught in all our Building Block's preschool classrooms and developed the Music and Movement program. She loves the children, the teachers and church staff, and believes in this wonderful learning community. Kathy and her husband, John, have three children. In her spare time, Kathy enjoys watching her children's sporting events, reading, exercising and doing home projects.

Angela Yonker, M.Ed. – Office Assistant (Mondays & Wednesdays)

Ms. Angela is a loving and knowledgeable teacher! This is Angela's fifth year at Building Blocks and welcomes this new role as Office Assistant. Angela taught four year in our Preschool Four classroom teacher. Angela comes with lots of professional experience. Angela has a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in elementary education. She has taught first, second and fourth grades. Angela is a talented teacher who integrates the art of teaching with the science of teaching and her love for the children is evident in everything she does. Ms. Angela is an active member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and has taught Sunday School at Good Shepherd for many years. Angela and her husband have three children.

Jen Sullivan - Preschool One Teacher

The Building Blocks staff is proud to have Mrs. Jen Sullivan on our team. Ms. Jen wins our one-year-olds over with her warm and loving demeanor! Her "little angels" literally jump into her arms and put her right to work. They play, get to know each other and have fun exploring their early developmental experiences together. This is Jen's seventh year at Building Blocks. Her previous experience working in an early childhood center and her own children's school comes through right off the bat. Jen has a degree in English and Journalism from University of Central Missouri. Professionally, Jen worked as a marketing representative for 8 years and stayed home with her children for 9 years. She and her husband, Sean, have two children.

Lisa Li – Preschool One Teacher Assistant / P1 and P2 Lunch Bunch Teacher

This is Lisa's 15th year at Building Blocks. Lisa has a wonderful rapport with her little toddlers, and they love and trust her! Her soft and gentle demeanor makes her very approachable by children and parents. She especially enjoys arts and crafts with them. Lisa has taken many early childhood classes and seminars and enjoys watching them learn and grow. Lisa has a bachelor's degree in Economics and is a former accountant. In addition, Lisa taught Chinese at the Daniel Boone Library for many years. Lisa enjoys reading and cooking for many people; including the Building Blocks teaching staff.

Sharon Howard – Preschool Two Teacher

This is Ms. Sharon's second year at Building Blocks. Sharon is a licensed attorney and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology with a concentration in criminology and a Doctorate of Law degree. However, working in childcare is where her heart is. Sharon was a stay-at-home mother for over 10 years and has been working as a childcare teacher for four years. Sharon truly loves being with our youngest preschoolers. Her positive energy and enthusiasm make learning fun! Sharon and her husband, Mike, have 5 children ranging from high school to adult. In addition, they enjoy caring for their many dogs, cats and donkeys at their family farm.

Susie Klemm – Preschool Two Teacher / P1 and P2 Lunch Bunch Teacher

This is Susie's sixth year at Building Blocks Preschool and she looks forward her third year in the Preschool Two classroom! Her warm-hearted personality makes it easy for children to cling to her. Susie enjoys interacting with the children and watching them discover new things. After getting to know her students, Ms. Susie offers many learning opportunities based off her students' interests. Ms. Susie holds a Bachelor's Degree in Secondary Education and spent seven years teaching middle school social studies in Francis Howell School District before raising her four adult children. She enjoys spending time at her family farm.

Carolyn Miller - Preschool Three Teacher

This is Ms. Carolyn's third year at Building Blocks. Carolyn comes to Building Blocks with a passion for early childhood education and special education. Her playful personality is sure to build a lasting rapport with her students. Her classroom is always filled with opportunities for children to explore their own interests. Carolyn has experience teaching in various early childhood educational settings with her most recent position at *Action For Autism Academy* formerly known as Howard Park. In addition, Carolyn worked as a paraprofessional for Special School District for six years. Carolyn and her husband have three children and three grandchildren. We are very blessed to have her as part of our wonderful team.

Patty Geurkink – Preschool Three Teacher

After many years away raising her children, Ms. Patty returned to Building Blocks Preschool just five years ago. Patty has over fifteen years of experience working in early childhood classrooms and is a Missouri certified Parent Educator. She is an active member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and was an influential decision maker in the installation of the playground built many years ago. Patty has taught in all our preschool classrooms and appreciates the children at each developmental stage. She enjoys listening to her students express their thoughts and interests. Her enthusiastic, yet calm approach is always well received by our preschoolers and parents! Patty and her husband have two children.

Jen Rieves- Preschool Four Teacher

Ms. Jen returns to Building Blocks Preschool as the Preschool Four teacher this school year! Ms. Jen comes to us with 12 years of experience in the early childhood setting and taught for 6 years in a three-year-old classroom. She holds a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Lindenwood University. Ms. Jen's enthusiasm in the classroom is engaging to her students. She enjoys providing a classroom environment for her students to explore and stimulating their curiosity. In turn, the children enjoy sharing with her what they're thinking! She looks forward to preparing her students for their kindergarten adventures. She and her husband enjoy attending their children's sporting events.

Susan Mayer - Preschool Four Teacher / Discovery Room Teacher

Ms. Susan is a seasoned Building Blocks teacher and has been with us for 22 years! She taught our Preschool Three class for years and decided to take on the Discovery room six years ago. Susan approaches this task with ease and excitement. Susan enjoys the children's enthusiasm when they discover something new. Susan has a degree in gerontology and has participated in numerous Early Childhood Education training classes. Susan enjoys being a member of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. She enjoys spending time with her family and exercising. Susan is married to Dave and has three grown daughters and four grandchildren.

Taira Price, M.Ed. – Preschool Music and Movement Teacher

Ms. Taira returns for her eleventh year at Building Blocks. Taira has a bachelor's degree in elementary education and a master's degree in reading instruction and communication. She is also certified in early childhood education. Ms. Taira taught various grades in Parkway School District for six years. As Building Block's music teacher, Taira incorporates many musical instruments and motor activities to develop the music in every child. She also uses music to teach early literacy and math skills. Her hobbies include attending her children's sporting events and designing accessories and personalized gifts. Taira and her husband, Jason, have four children all whom have attended Building Blocks.

Susan Miraflores, M.Ed. – P3 and P4 Lunch Bunch Teacher / Substitute

Ms. Susan is excited to return as our Lunch Bunch teacher! Susan brings so much creativity and enthusiasm to our lunch bunch program! She enjoys watching the moment kids learn something new. Susan brought her talent and excitement with her as she returned to the classroom last year. She has a bachelor's degree in early childhood education, a master's degree in educational technology and a master's degree in kindergarten through fifth grade mathematics. Susan Miraflores has taught infants through third grade. Susan and her husband have four children. Her family recently joined Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. In her free time, Susan enjoys volunteering with her children's scout troops, cheering on her children's sports, and spending time outside with her family.

Shelley Watkins Parker, M.A., LPC – P3 and P4 Lunch Bunch Teacher / Substitute

Building Blocks welcomes Shelley Watkins-Parker to our staff! Shelley holds a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's degree in counseling. As a licensed professional counselor, Shelley has experience working as a child and adolescent counselor and an intake counselor. Shelly and her husband, Shawn, are Good Shepherd church members and have two children; one of whom attends Building Blocks. Shelley looks forward to meeting her students and working learning all about them! She enjoys watching students learn new things and seeing kids happy. Shelley enjoys sewing and reading.