



WHAT: Lake View Play Group is a safe/fun place for children and their parents/caregivers to interact with each other, nestled in Lake View Presbyterian's Nursery, known as The Mulford Room. Free play as well as focused time for ART, MUSIC & MOVEMENT, and SENSORY FUN is offered to children while the adults are treated to perks of chair massages and professional photography of their children playing.

WHEN: WEDNESDAYS 9:30am-11:00am and 11am-12:30pm and FRIDAYS 9:00am-11:00am and 11am-12:30pm and possibly more times, as demand requires.

WHO: Infants/children **birth to 4 years** along with one parent or caregiver. Limited to 5-6 children per time slot.

COST: *Special Price for Pilot Program.* 1 child=\$5; 2 children of same family \$7; and 3 children of same family \$9 (second child of family, if not crawling, is FREE)



WHAT SOME PARENTS ARE SAYING

“I feel like I learn so much just watching you with our little guy (and with other kids, too). “

“He LOVES your playgroup. He can't stop talking about it. He's really looking forward to holding those french fries next week.”

“I really appreciate your leadership of the program. It is well run and professional, while still being laid back. You have such a gift with children- it is a delight to watch you interact with my

son and to learn from you about how kids develop. You've been around toddlers much more than me! Your love and care for the kids is genuine, and you really have this program with them in mind. You've developed a gift for the church and community, Laurie."



DIRECTOR/CREATOR – LAURIE EMPEN



I remember loving babies when I was a small child. However, I didn't expect that love would blossom into a career, one that I look forward to each day. I have ten plus years of independent childcare experience (including three sets of twins) in Chicago and surrounding suburbs, with training/practice as a post partum doula through BIRTHWAYS Inc. I was an assistant teacher in a preschool classroom at Rogers Park Montessori School, and a lead/assistant teacher for an infant room at KIDS' WORK CHICAGO.

I hold a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre with experience performing in many Children's Theatre Productions and co-produced (and performed) the Children's Music CD *CALLIN' ALL KIDS*. In addition to this degree, I am currently a Graduate School student at ERIKSON INSTITUTE earning a Masters in Science for Early Childhood Development. This Play Group is will fulfill my internship requirement for graduation in the Spring of 2012 but I hope it continues long after. This idea came to me as I saw my own need for a safe, fun, and reasonably priced place I could take the children in my care to play but where I could also find some adult interaction. I wanted to focus on the needs of children in having the freedom to play while offering the environment for parents to also relax, enjoy their children, create new friendships with other parents as well as avenues of support. This is a new venture, and a very successful one so far. I hope you will consider joining us.

All photography by Jackie Jasperson Klindera – www.jackiejasperson.com
Lake View Play Group Logo Design – *Brad DeMarea*

LINKS: www.jackiejasperson.com

www.erikson.edu