

# Bethany Busy Bee Preschool

## The History of Busy Bee Preschool

In the late 1970s an outside preschool rented space from Bethany for a small preschool. Then in 1981 the pastor of Bethany asked Sharon Eggert & Jan Schwarz to begin a preschool to reach out to the community and share the Bible. Sharon & Jan went through the neighborhoods near Bethany handing out fliers and Busy Bee Preschool began that fall with just two classes. Busy Bee moved upstairs in 2001 and has grown over the years to four classrooms serving 100 children from 2 ½ to Kindergarten age with a balanced early childhood education in a Christian environment.

A number of our families from Bethany have their children enrolled here at Busy Bee; however, the majority of our students are from the surrounding community. We welcome students from many different cultural and spiritual backgrounds. Now Busy Bee is beginning to have the second generation of some families returning!

Our philosophy is that God has created each person special, with unique abilities and needs. It is our goal to help each child to develop spiritually, emotionally, socially, cognitively and physically. It is also our goal to provide the best quality Christian education for all children, giving them a fun, positive first start for their school years. Our entire staff is dedicated to these goals.

All Busy Bee Preschool Staff have been fingerprinted and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation has checked their background for evidence of child abuse conviction. All of the staff have been registered with the Central Registry of the Department of Social Services.

Joyce Bertram writes...

I have been the director at Busy Bee since 2001, after several years as a substitute and teacher. I have a Masters degree in Education and was the coordinator for training for people in the field of disabilities at the University of Illinois for 13 years before we moved to Colorado to be near family in 1996. I have been married to Dan since 1984 and we have 3 children, Liz at Mars Hill Graduate School in Seattle, Daniel at the University of Colorado and Sam at Arapahoe High School. In addition, my family includes Bev & Shannon who have lived with us since 1990. I am involved at Bethany with Women's Ministry, the Disability Ministry, and Early Childhood programs. Moms In Touch (praying for my children with other moms) is another commitment near and dear to my heart. It is a privilege and delight to be involved with you and your children.

Emily Amaral writes...

I feel so honored to begin my first year at Busy Bee! A Colorado native, I grew up in here Littleton and attended Littleton public schools. My wonderful husband Mike and I have been married for eleven years and are delighted to be able to raise our family in this wonderful community. We have been blessed by two beautiful children...our oldest son Kyle is in first grade at Littleton Academy, and our four year old daughter, Ava will also become a part of the Busy Bee family this fall. Thank you for sharing your precious little ones with me! I look forward to getting to know all of you!

Amy Brink writes...

This is my 3<sup>rd</sup> year at Busy Bee Preschool and I care deeply for the staff, children and families. I have a degree in Elementary Education with an emphasis in Speech Communication from UNC and have taught preschool for 7 years. I have been a full-time missionary with Campus Crusade for Christ for 5 years and am deciding to transition back into teaching. My heart is that everyone would know Jesus and walk with Him forever! I have 2 brothers and I am not an aunt, yet!

Jan Davis writes...

I care deeply for families and children and I desire to help Busy Bee Preschool this year in any various areas they can use my skills or talents. This will be my first year at Busy Bee and my daughter will attend here as well. I received my B.A. in Art from Western State College and earned my Elementary Teaching Licensure. After teaching in first grade and being a resource teacher for Kindergarten, I decided to stay home with my own children when my first child arrived in 2003. I have two beautiful girls, 6 and 4 years old. While home with my family for the past 6 years, I began my own mural painting business, and tutored elementary students in reading and writing. My husband and I serve together in our church as Marriage Ministry facilitators and are thoroughly enjoying this new experience of working with couples to strengthen their marriages.

Robertā Falk writes...

I started at Busy Bee in 1983 when my youngest daughter Jami started preschool. I worked in the office, then subbed for several years and finally I started teaching. I've loved seeing our preschool family grow. I like arts and crafts and being creative. Ron and I were married in 1975 and we have 2 daughters. Both daughters have been employed here and Jami has the distinction of attending and working here at Busy Bee! We are the proud grandparents of 4 little boys with 1 more on the way! I retired last year from full-time classroom teaching but will be teaching art and subbing this year.

Marlene Fallt writes...

I have been a teacher at Busy Bee since 1983. My husband David is a car salesman/manager with GO, and we have been married for 35 years. I have five children of my own, Jeremy 32 is an engineer with Verizon in Seattle, Jennifer 29 is newly married and teaches 2<sup>nd</sup> grade at Peabody Elementary, Jonathan 27 is an automotive technician at GO, James 21 is studying to be a Chemical Engineer at New Mexico Tech, and Jessica 16 is a junior at Arapahoe. We have had over 25 foreign students live with us, and I work as a coordinator, finding homes for foreign exchange students. This summer I spent time in Europe, attending the wedding of one of my "daughters" in The Czech Republic. I have done missions trips to The Czech Republic, Thailand and Mexico. I enjoy snow skiing, sewing, scrapbooking, doing crafts, and hanging out with young people.

Meredith Haun writes...

I am a native of Colorado and enjoy working with children. My husband Ed and I have been married for almost 13 years and we have two children, Rachel age 12 and Eddie age 9. My son attended preschool here and this is my 4<sup>th</sup> year being a part of the Busy Bee family. I earned my Group Leader & Director Certificates and my Associates Degree from Arapahoe Community College in August 2008. I am excited to be working here at Busy Bee and look forward to getting to know the children and families better. I love reading, gardening, cooking and the outdoors.

Luanne Hildebrandt writes...

Let me introduce myself. I am Luanne Hildebrandt. I will be teaching the 4/5 year olds this year at Busy Bee. I have been teaching for 30+ years. I completed my undergraduate work at Friends University in Wichita, Kansas. I taught elementary Vocal music for 3 years before directing a center at my church in Union, Kentucky. After 12 years there, we moved to Colorado where I was the Assistant Director of 2 centers in Littleton as well as Pre-K teacher. Teaching is my love and I am so excited to be here at Busy Bee this year. My husband Jeff and I have 2 children and 2 grandchildren. I love gardening, singing and getting together with family.

Kathleen Lintelmann writes...

This will be my third year at Busy Bee Preschool, with a 4 year time away at another job. I have a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Colorado and 15 years of teaching in schools. I love arts and crafts, painting and quilting and traveling to new places. I have two kids, my daughter Amy is married and lives in Castle Rock. My son Eric is a Lieutenant in the Army. I look forward to working here at Busy Bee again. It is such a pleasure to work with these fantastic women.

Paula Petty writes...

I have been involved with Busy Bee since my children went to preschool here back in 2003-2004. I have been married to Bryan for 17 years and have four children. Two of my kids are at Peabody Elementary, one is at Newton Middle School and my oldest is at Arapahoe High School. I will be working with Mrs. Fallt as an aide in the MW and TTh classes. We currently attend Cherry Hills Community Church.

Sharon Scheible writes...

My husband Kevin and I are the happy parents of Ethan, age 5 and Kaelin age 2. We also have a cat, Tito, named after the late, great Latin percussionist Tito Puente. We were blessed for Ethan to get to attend Busy Bee in spring 2009 shortly after we moved from Texas and now look forward to Kaelin attending this fall. I am also excited and blessed to join the great teachers and staff at Busy Bee. I received my Bachelor's degree in Music Education and a Performance Certificate in Percussion from the University of Texas at Austin. I have worked in a variety of educational settings including daycare and "mother's day out", elementary summer day camps, and secondary music. I was a band director in the Houston and Austin areas as well as a percussion private lesson instructor at area schools. After the birth of my children, I enjoyed working part-time as the orchestra director at their church. I have lived most of my life in Texas, although I do like to mention having lived in Colorado Springs as a young child. Now for the second time in my life I have moved to Colorado! We moved to the Denver area from Austin Texas for my husband to attend Denver Seminary.

Mendy Sturgeon writes...

I started working at Busy Bee Preschool 2 1/2 years ago as an aide for the pre-K class and stayed in the same position the following year. Last year I worked more with Ann and Joyce in the office, but still helped out in some of the classes. This year I will be mostly subbing. I have two sons: Noah went to Busy Bee for 3 years and is entering 3<sup>rd</sup> grade this year at Littleton Academy and Levi also attended Busy Bee for 3 years and is now in 1<sup>st</sup> grade at Littleton Academy. My husband, Roy, and I have been married for 15 years and attending Bethany Evangelical Free Church for just over 12 years. I am also the Nursery Director for the church. My college diploma from Western State College says I have a BA degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Management, but I say that I just love to do anything that requires administration gifts or organizing!

Jin Voelkelt writes...

This is my second year working for Busy Bee Preschool. I have been married to my husband, Mike, for 14 years. We have 3 children. Rebekah and Sarah have graduated from Busy Bee and currently Michael attends the preschool. Our family attends Highline Community Church. I graduated from Metro State College with a Bachelor's in Speech Communications Disorders. I will be working Tuesdays as an aide and Thursdays in the office and responsible for tuition and related administrative duties.

Karen Walters writes...

I really enjoy teaching, reading, writing, singing and learning with children, they light up my world. I retired after teaching grades K-3 in Adams County District 12 public schools for 27 years. I have taught both in the classroom and pre-reading skills here at Busy Bee for the last two years and will teach pre-reading again in the spring. My son attends Metro and I have been married to Dave since 2006. I look forward to working with you and getting to know you and your children.

Ann White writes...

My husband, Bob O'Dell, and I were married in 1989 and we have been members at Bethany since 2001. I started helping Joyce in the office at Busy Bee in 2002. I worked in the oil industry for nearly 20 years and have no children of my own but I love you and your children! God has given me the gift of administration and He showed me a need here at Busy Bee Preschool. I desire to serve where God places me and believe He has put me here for a time. God provided a job back to the oil industry briefly last year. I enjoyed my responsibilities in both jobs then and am excited to see what God has in store for the future! Bob & I have been on eight short term mission trips and lived in Siberia and Australia during the 1990s. I enjoy hiking and climbed all the 14ers many years ago. Now I hike, snowshoe and play tennis when I get the chance.