

St. John's is delighted to have **Connie Prairie** as the teaching team leader for the PreK-Kindergarten class. A member of St. John's for 22 years, Connie has devoted most of her life to working with young children. She has extensive professional experience in both school and church settings. Connie currently works as the Preschool Supervisor for Clermont County Educational Service Center. Her job includes supervising approximately 200 children, both typically developing children as well as those with a variety of special needs. A graduate of the University of Cincinnati, Connie has taught classes in the Early Childhood Special Education Department at Xavier University, including Play, Foundations of Early Childhood Education, Child Development, and classes on Autism. Connie has a special interest in autism and similar learning differences.

In addition to her professional work, Connie has contributed to the lives of young children at St. John's by serving as a teacher, assistant teacher, curriculum writer, and chair of the Religious Exploration program. Connie enjoys the way young children see the world in a way that is enlightening and always fresh. She feels they provide opportunities to explore religious ideas in a new way. Spending time with young children and answering their questions is one way she can explore her own religious truths.