

a newsletter for families
from the Kids' Harbor crew
at College Church
Spring 2011

WORSHIP RESOURCES



Recommended Books for Families

This is the Day!

Nancy White Carlstrom
(Zonderkidz)

This enchantingly poetic story will delight children as they discover new ways to appreciate and interact with the world around them.

Hear My Prayer

Lee Bennett Hopkins
(Zonderkidz)

This collection of original prayers gives young readers and their families a chance to celebrate the simple but important things in life. The prayers connect readers with God in meaningful, familiar language and the beautiful illustrations of artist Gigi Moore help convey the wonder of God's creation.

The Lord's Prayer

Rick Warren
(Zonderkidz)

With vibrant illustrations featuring children of all ages and nationalities, Watson illuminates the message of love and worship contained in The Lord's Prayer. Warren explains the meaning behind the words Jesus taught his disciples with line-by-line commentary, teaching young readers the value of prayer. This picture book is a good choice to help parents introduce the practice of prayer into their children's daily lives.

From Moses through the New Testament church, the Scriptures specifically invite children to worship with the faith community, and there is a pattern of noting the presence of children at worship events. On the other hand, there do not appear to be any examples where the faith community gathered for corporate worship without the children.

We understand worshipping as a family has its challenges. The Kids' Harbor team has developed some resources to aid you in attending gathered worship as a family.

Two age-based children's worship folders are available from the ushers each Sunday morning. The younger folder allows children the opportunity to follow along with the order of service in an age appropriate manner. This folder, designed for young elementary students, features graphics for each element of the worship service, provides a couple of simple activities, and offers a place to either draw a picture or use words to describe what they learned from the sermon.

The Sermon Surveyor, specifically intended for older elementary students, serves as a supplement to the adult worship folder. This folder offers an age appropriate activity on one side and sermon questions on the other to help students listen and follow along with the preaching.

The goal of these two resources is not just to keep kids quiet and occupied during the corporate worship service, but to engage and include them.



For preschoolers and pre-readers children's worship bags are available behind the Lighthouse Table in the Narthex. These canvas tote bags include a small dry erase board and markers, an activity pad, blank paper, colored pencils, and a couple of Arch books.

Consider some positive impacts of children worshipping together with the family of God:

- Increased spiritual unity of the family, which results in the spread of the gospel to all nations through multi-generational faithfulness.
- Worshipping with the community becomes built into children's spiritual DNA. They increasingly identify themselves with the body of Christ, and the family of God as expressed in their local church.
- The Scriptural patterns indicate that children greatly benefit from being in the presence of God in corporate worship, sitting under the authority of God's word through preaching, even if they are not able to intellectually understand all of it.



NAVIGATING KIDS' HARBOR



Get in the Game!

Kids' Harbor urgently needs ministry partners for summer. Our priority is to staff the younger classes first. Join the team today! Contact Diane Jordan at djordan@college-church.org or ext. 125.

God's Children Sing

Staff will be available to take registrations and answer questions about the preK and Kindergarten music and movement program on May 15 in the lower level preschool hallway. Drop off your forms in person and see us in action! Class sizes are small, space is limited, and registrations are accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Annual Meeting

All members are expected to attend, and regular attenders are encouraged to be present on Sunday, May 15, 5 p.m. There will be no nursery or children's programs, we encourage you to bring your children to the meeting.

Summer Institute of Children's Ministries (SICM)

would love to join you in reaching children in your neighborhood with the good news of Jesus! Consider hosting a Backyard Bible club for children in first through sixth grade July 11-15 (10-11:30 a.m.), and July 18-22 (10-11:30 a.m.). Contact Cindy at cnickell@college-church.org or ext 128 for more information.



VBS is coming soon! We urgently need partners to serve in the nursery, preschool and elementary classes June 10, 11 and 12. Even if you can't serve all three days we need you. Prayerfully consider how you can help. Go to the College Church website homepage and navigate to Hearts for the Vision to sign up. Questions? Contact Cindy at cnickell@college-church.org or ext. 128 .

KIDS' HARBOR SUMMER EVENTS

Jun 10-12



SUMMER CELEBRATION VBS

Jun 22-24



JUNIOR CAMP

(for entering 5-6 graders)

Jun 14, 16, 29

DINE AND DISCOVER

Jun 27 & Jul 1

OUTREACH IN THE PARK

Jul 11-15, 18-22
& 25-29

BACKYARD BIBLE CLUBS

Jul 25-29



CHICAGO EAGLES SOCCER CAMP

Aug 1-5



PERFORMING ARTS DAY CAMP

(for entering 3-6 graders)

Aug 9

SICM SAYONARA

Online registration for summer programs, Sunday (school year 2011-2012), Wednesday Clubs (2011-2012), is open! Please register now to secure your child's place in summer programs. Only the orange colored items above require registration. If you registered online last year, your information is stored and will pop up when you enter your ID and password. If you have forgotten either, you can retrieve them on the registration website. Visit the College Church website, navigate to the Children's page and register your child for summer and/or fall programs today! For assistance, contact Cindy at cnickell@college-church.org or ext. 128.

Tribute to Mothers

Answers given by 2nd graders to the following questions:

Why did God make mothers?

1. She's the only one who knows where the scotch tape is.
2. Mostly to clean the house.
3. To help us out of there when we were getting born.

What ingredients are mothers made of?

1. God makes mothers out of clouds and angel hair and everything nice in the world and one dab of mean.
2. The had to get their start from men's bones. Then they mostly use string, I think.

Why did God give you your mother and not some other mom?

1. We're related.
2. God knew she likes me a lot more than other people's moms like me.

What kind of a little girl was your mom?

1. My mom has always been my mom and none of that other stuff.
2. I don't know because I wasn't there, but my guess would be pretty bossy.
3. They say she used to be nice.

What did mom need to know about dad before she married him?

1. His last name.
2. Does he make at least \$800 a year? Did he say NO to drugs and YES to chores?

Who's the boss at your house?

1. Mom doesn't want to be boss, but she has to because dad's such a goof ball.
2. Mom. You can tell by room inspection. She sees the stuff under the bed.

What's the difference between moms and dads?

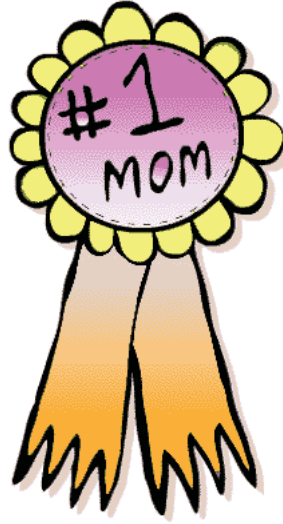
1. Moms work at work and work at home and dads just go to work at work.
2. Moms know how to talk to teachers without scaring them.
3. Dads are taller and stronger; but you have to ask mom if you want to sleep over at your friend's house.

What does your mom do in her spare time?

1. Mothers don't do spare time.
2. To hear her tell it, she pays bills all day long.

If you could change one thing about your mom, what would it be?

1. She has this weird thing about me keeping my room clean. I'd get rid of that.
2. I'd make my mom smarter. Then she would know it was my sister who did it and not me.
3. I would like for her to get rid of those invisible eyes on the back of her head.



WELCOME TO KIDS' HARBOR!!

Aliza Mattea Castaldo - 12/7/10
(Chris & Angela)

Juliette Rose -12/9/10
(Cesar Esparza & Julia Hackman)

Samuel Philip Wilson - 12/13/10
(Justin & Annie)

Carissa Margaret Nordstrom
-12/25/10
(Robert & Laurie)

Benjamin David Roth - 1/7
(Steve & Kris)

Ariana Landis Herr - 1/9
(Kyle & Sarah)

Noah Vernon Glaze - 1/12
(Paul & Ashley)

Miguel Joseph Augustine -
11/23/07, adopted 1/23
(Todd & Cindy)

Briasson Higgins - 1/26
(John & Jillian)

Caleb Daniel Godoy - 2/2
(Dan & Meagan)

Faith Anne-Marie Hinchee -
11/10/10, adopted 2/4
(Steve & Kate)

Sophia Ryan Bragassi - 2/28
(Jason & Margaret)

Jacob Richard Skinner - 3/4
(Ryan & Kelly)

Winston Mackie Glavach - 3/18
(Dan & Marceline)

CURRICULUM FOCUS

This month we are starting a new feature in our newsletter. We will be highlighting one of our ministry lessons and suggesting things you can do at home to reinforce the Bible lesson.

A LOOK AHEAD-

Our first and second graders will be finishing off their Bible School spring quarter with 3 New Testament post resurrection stories that focus on serving others in love.

In **Peter Obeys God's Call**, the children will focus on Acts 10 – the story of Peter and Cornelius. Children will be encouraged to find ways to love others who are different than themselves and tell them about Jesus. Take the opportunity to talk with your children about our College Church missionaries who are doing just that. Did you know that all classes are assigned missionaries to pray for? Two families our first and second graders have been praying for are Mark and Marilyn Papierski (markpapierski@sbcglobal.net) and Ben & Mandy Perhson (ben-mandypehrson@sil.org). Take time as a family to pray for these families and send them a note of encouragement. (Contact the church office for their information.) Also help your children understand that telling others about Jesus is not only for missionaries, but for all who love and belong to Jesus. Talk as a family about who God is calling you to share Jesus and His love with. Is there someone in your neighborhood, in your child's class, on your child's sport team that God has laid on your heart? Start praying about ways you can show Jesus' love to that person. Perhaps you can invite them over for a play date, or take over a plate of cookies. Think about inviting them to Summer Celebration or to some of the SICM summer events. Pray for opportunities to not only show Jesus' love, but to share the Good News about Jesus with them.

Jesus said, "Let your light shine before others so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." May you help your children shine brightly, pointing to Jesus, who is The Light of the world.



From Diane's Desk:

In her book, **Disciplines of a Godly Woman**, Barbara Hughes has a wonderful chapter on the discipline of worship. She talks about the importance of both individual and corporate worship. She reminds us that preparation for corporate worship – both in practical ways (laying out clothes Saturday night, planning for breakfast) and in spiritual ways (praying for those leading and those participating, coming with anticipation of meeting God) will enhance our ability to enter into true worship. She goes on to say that worship should be God centered, Christ centered, Word centered, and serving centered. She states, "What we do on Sunday should help equip us to serve God throughout the week. Worship – whether by oneself at home, in the workplace, classroom, or with the church gathered – is consecration. . . . worship is the ultimate priority of life."

Pastor Emeritus Kent Hughes once wrote regarding worship, "Good things happen when parents and their children know that one of the Bible's most used words for worship has the idea of 'work and service', for this means that they know that true worship requires some work. Of course, it is very special and pleasant work – nevertheless, it is work.

On the first page of our Family Connections newsletter you will see highlighted some worship resources that are available for you and your children. We trust that these will encourage you to make it a priority to worship together as a family. As the Psalmist said:

"Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, Ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; Bring an offering and come into His courts!
Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness; Tremble before Him, all the earth!"