

Welcome to our Stepping Stones Newsletter!
This newsletter will be published monthly to keep you informed of what's going on in the Children's Ministry.

Initially, we will have hardcopies located in the Children's Wing at the front lobby welcome center. However, we want to encourage everyone to begin viewing the newsletter online at

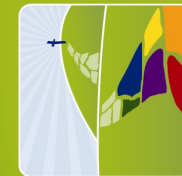
www.livinghopewired.com/42046/

Our website provides lots of good info and our hope is that parents will begin to utilize this wonderful resource on a regular basis. It not only provides a wealth of wonderful information but it helps save paper and postage. You can even register for events online.

If you have any suggestions of how we may serve your family better, do not hesitate to contact us. The door is always open :-)

Nov 2010 Newsletter

stepping stones
living hope children's ministry



www.livinghopewired.com/children



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For all Children's Ministry info, go to www.livinghopewired.com/children

A Word from Cindy...

I will praise the name of the God with a song; I will magnify Him with thanksgiving.” Psalm 69:30

November marks the beginning of the holiday season. Let's commit to be intentional this year. We have 60 days to hold our minds captive to the truth as we give thanks and prepare for the coming of Christ at Christmas.

What are your family's traditions? How have you imbedded the Word of God into your home at the holidays? What is distinctive about your celebrations? James 1:17 says *“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”* Is this not a marvelous, inspiring picture of our God?! This is the time; this is the season to bring this truth to life in our families.

In our home we had 2 Thanksgiving traditions that were very meaningful. We created a “Thankful turkey” poster and on every feather we wrote something we were thankful for. This was a nightly routine during November. In addition, on Thanksgiving Day our daughters each received a Christmas book to be read throughout the Advent season. Books that tell of Christ's birth along with favorites like “Santa's Favorite Story” (Santa tells the story of Christ), “The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey”, “The Gift of the Magi”, and “Silver Packages” are still read every year. Let's commit to be intentional this year. Let's start today.

Thanksgiving Outreach Opportunity

“It is better to give than to receive.” Acts 20:35

“Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor will himself call out and not be answered.” Proverbs 21:13

This year the Children's Ministry has partnered with Warren Elementary to provide Thanksgiving food boxes to 75 families. Would your family like to deliver a food box to one of these families. We will provide the food and fill the boxes; you will simply pick up the box at church and deliver the food and a prayer to your assigned family. Please contact the Children's Ministry office or e-mail Dawn Farmer at dfarmer@lhbg.org to sign up! We will deliver the boxes on Sunday afternoon, November 21st and Monday evening, November 22nd. You can choose the time most convenient for you.

For Your Information:

One of the responsibilities of our elders is to provide guidance and oversight to the ministry areas. Currently, the Children's Ministry elder is Mike Lewellen. Please feel free to contact Mike with suggestions. It is always my heart's desire to serve you well and an additional mentor/advocate is a good thing.

Thought provoking...

I read this quote in the November issue of the Atlantic magazine:

“We may each be entitled to our own set of opinions, be we are not entitled to our own set of facts.”...and thanks to the emergence of social media as the increasingly dominant mode of information dissemination, are we nearing a time when truth itself will become just another commodity to be bought and sold on the social media markets? More far reachingly, how does society function (as it has since the Enlightenment giving primacy to the link between reason and provable fact) when there is no commonly accepted set of facts and assumptions to drive discourse?” (page 62)

You need to read this over and over again and think about your children. What is the source of truth in your home? Are you teaching and training in truth? Are you studying truth so that you can teach truth? The above quote should sound alarm and action.

“The sum of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous rules endures forever.” Psalm 11:160 “Sanctify them in your truth; your word is truth.” John 17:17

Upcoming Events:

Family Night Worship— this Wednesday, November 3rd at 6:30. Join us for an interactive, intergenerational family inclusive Family Night Worship experience! We will look at “Giving Praise” by reading psalms, singing praise, and watching a skit about David, a man that loved God with all his heart. Family Night Worship (FNW) happens every 1st Wednesday. (Next month, December 1st, we will celebrate Advent together.) Hope you can be here!! Limited childcare is available for our younger ones. Mission meal begins at 5:15.

Advent Family Night (Saturday, November 13, 5:30-7:00 pm)— This year we will offer a family night focused on preparing for Advent. This will be an event for children of all ages – preschool through 5th grade and their families. We will make an advent log, decorate ornaments, listen to stories, sing...and spend time

getting ready to the Christmas season. We will offer childcare for our youngest children and activities for all the rest. Mark your calendars and plan to join us!

MOPS—Every third MONDAY of the month our MOPS group meets in the Middle School Room (formerly Fellowship Hall). MOPS is an outreach ministry designed and directed for Mothers of Preschoolers – moms who have children that have not yet begun kindergarten. This is a very small window in the life of a mom and this ministry is designed to offer encouragement, community, laughter, and a special night with YOU in mind. Won't you consider coming and joining us? We would love to build a strong group within our church family so that we can have a strong outreach to MOPS within our community. The November MOPS meeting will be on November 15th, beginning at 6:30. For more information you can contact the CM office or Karen at bbuchanon846@bellsouth.net.

Gift for Christ (November 21) - Gift for Christ is our annual missions giving celebration. It is our offering that goes specifically to support missions around the world. This year GFC Sunday is November 21st. Let us partner with you in building your child's understanding of giving and missions as you fill your bread bank and bring it back on the 21st to offer at the altar. Here are some ideas to increase your families understanding of sacrificial giving.

- Save all of your change for the next three weeks
- Identify things you can do without, calculate the cost and put that money in your GFC fund...Starbucks, ChikFilA, McDonalds, Minute Mart...
- Create a family giving goal answering the questions, “How much can our family sacrificially give to support missions around the world?”

Slugs and Bugs (February 12, 2011) - Randall Goodgame is a songwriter/musician out of Nashville who has collaborated with Andrew Peterson to produce the Slugs and Bugs CD. Randall is an engaging, funny, kid-friendly musician who will delight your family with giggles and song. We have booked Randall for Saturday night, February 12th so mark your calendars NOW and invite your neighbors and friends to this music night. Concert begins at 4:00. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and children are free.

Centri-Kid Summer Camp 2011 for 3rd - 5th graders

3rd grade camp—June 10-12, Campbellsville University
4/5th grade camp—June 20-24, Georgetown College

Tedd Tripp (August 26-27, 2011) – It has taken us almost 2 years to book Tedd Tripp, author of Shepherding a Child's Heart. Dr. Tripp will be here on August 26-27, 2011 for a Friday night/Saturday morning parenting seminar based on his book. There will be more details in the future, but we are so excited about this opportunity that we don't want you to miss this!! Mark your summer calendars now and plan to be in town for this event.