



faith church

# KidsUpdate

- ◆ Information
- ◆ Inspiration
- ◆ Intentional Discipleship

A newsletter for the parents of children in the Faith Church Children's Ministry

Issue 17

December 2015

## Mark your calendar

- December 4 — Kids Christmas Celebration & Parents Night Out
- December 13 — Funny Munny Store
- December 27 — Family Rollerskating Night

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## A Word from Miss Mary Lee

I'm really excited about the mission project our kids will be involved in during the month of December. We're planning to collect items for Christmas Gift Bags to be distributed at each apartment in Pebble Brooke. Read page 2 for more details!

Thanks so much for your great participation in Operation Christmas Child this year. We collected 75 shoeboxes to be delivered to needy children around the world!



Just a reminder, please register your child(ren) for the Kids Christmas Celebration and

Parents Night Out no later than NOON on Tuesday, December 1. Thanks for cooperating with our registration deadline!

If I can ever be of service to you in any way, please do not hesitate to be in touch!



*Mary Lee*



**December 4, 2015,  
6:30-9:00 p.m.**

Children, infants through 6th grade, will spend the evening focusing on the true meaning of Christmas through games, crafts, story time, and snacks - while parents enjoy an evening out.

This is a great opportunity to reach out to friends and neighbors by inviting their children to come and participate, while the adults go out for dinner or an evening activity together, or for parents to have a special date night.

Advance registration required—Please make as soon as possible (but no later than the deadline of noon on Tuesday, December 1). Register your child online at [www.faithchurch.net/events](http://www.faithchurch.net/events), text "KIDSCHRISTMAS" to 25399, or e-mail Margo Broening directly at [mbroening@faithchurch.net](mailto:mbroening@faithchurch.net).

## December Missions Emphasis—Gift Bags for Pebble Brooke



Our church family has been involved in ministry at the Pebble Brooke Apartments since this past summer. We enjoyed conducting VBS there and thought it would be fun for our kids to be able to get personally involved in an outreach to families at Christmas.

What we want to do is prepare Christmas gift bags to hang on the door of each apartment at Pebble Brooke. These gift bags will include items like hot chocolate packets, tea bags,

candy canes, Christmas candy, and a microwave popcorn packet

During the first three Sundays in December, we will be collecting items for the gift bags. If you can contribute a box or two of hot chocolate mix or some popcorn packets, that would be great. Or maybe you would prefer to bring in candy canes or other kinds of Christmas candy. Or you may have another idea!



Just have your child bring in the donated items and put them on the lower shelf of the cart outside his or her classroom.

We will have the children decorate the gift bags on one Sunday, and then work together in each class to fill the gift bags on December 20. We think it will be fun for them to get involved in this project.



## Could You Help Deliver Gift Bags at Pebble Brooke?

We want to distribute the Christmas Gift Bags at the Pebble Brooke Apartments on the morning of Christmas Eve.



Someone suggested it would be nice to distribute these gift bags on the morning of Christmas

Even so we could invite people to our Christmas Eve service.

There are 14 buildings with 280 apartment units. So it would be wonderful if we could get at least 7 families to help distribute the gift bags.

The plan is to meet outside the clubhouse at 10 a.m. on December 24 to get the filled gift bags and building assignments.

If you can help with this outreach, please contact Mary Lee ([mgriffith@faithchurch.net](mailto:mgriffith@faithchurch.net)).



## New Resource for Parents

As a parent, I'm sure you want to encourage your children to attend worship services with you. It can be great for them to participate in worship and learn from the sermon, but it can sometimes be challenging to keep them engaged during the message itself.

Thanks to Wendy Edwards, one of our parents, we now have a resource you can use to help your child stay more en-

gaged while listening to the message. This notetaking sheet is designed with kids in mind, offering a place to write down Scripture references, questions they have, notes that were on the screen, as well as a place to doodle and answer the question, "What's the Point?"

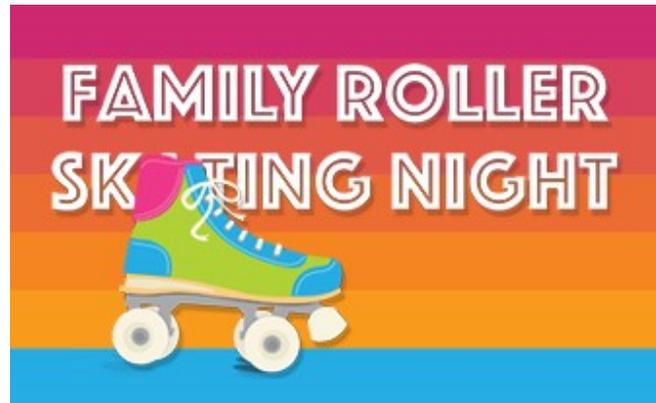
Copies of this notetaking sheet will be available on the table in the Children's Wing near Mary Lee's office.

Sermon Notes		TODAY IS _____
TITLE/ THEME:		
<b>SCRIPTURES USED</b> <small>(LOOK THEM UP AS YOU GO)</small>	<b>QUESTIONS I HAVE:</b>	
<b>SCREEN NOTES/ OUTLINE</b>	<b>DOODLES...</b>	
<small>TO HELP ME REMEMBER</small> What's the Point?		

## Family Roller Skating on December 27

- When? 5-7 p.m. on Sunday, December 27
- Where? Castle Skateland in Loveland (for directions, visit [www.castleskateland.com](http://www.castleskateland.com))
- Entrance "Fee": One canned or boxed food item per person for the Faith Church Food Pantry
- Skate Rental (if needed): \$2.00 per pair

Join other Faith Church families in a fun night of roller skating and fellowship. Bring your own skates or rent some there.



## 9 Valuable Tips for Helping Your Child Establish a Daily Quiet Time

Adapted; By Aaron Wilson from October 2015 *ParentLife*, pp. 38-40

### 1. Go old-school.

Bible apps on smartphones and tablets are useful tools for engaging children. However, there's nothing like a paper Bible to help children stay focused on God in today's world of digital distractions. By teaching your child how to navigate the pages of a traditional Bible, you can help eliminate the noise and constant interruptions common in today's online culture.

### 2. Seek out an age-appropriate Bible.

Thankfully, we live in a time that overflows with biblical resources for children. Pay a visit to your local Christian bookstore to outfit your child with a Bible that's perfect for reaching your child at his or her stage of development.

### 3. Make quiet times enjoyable.

People tend to be more consistent if they enjoy an experience. Create a special place he will enjoy calling his

own to read and pray.

Nurture your child's spiritual development by creating excitement and joy around a quiet time routine.

### 4. Schedule, don't compete.

Try to schedule a quiet time with her at the start of the day. Kids work best in routines. Teach her to anticipate reserved quiet time by building it into her schedule.

### 5. Model behavior that values time with God.

No matter how structured and prepared you are in teaching your child about quiet times, it will produce little fruit if he doesn't see his parents also making time with God a priority.

### 6. Establish a reading plan.

It's likely he or she has never approached a book as extensive as the Bible. Many Bible reading plans exist, both for adults and children.

### 7. Stay two steps ahead.

Having a Bible reading plan also allows you to read ahead of your children. Try to stay a few chapters ahead of your children during your own quiet time and read book overviews before your child dives into a new one. Study Bibles and Bible handbooks are great tools for this.

### 8. Have a quiet time together as a family.

Having a quiet time together as a household once a week can be extremely beneficial for your kids. Your children will learn how to read Scripture and pray and will feel more eager to ask questions when you're reading together as a family.

### 9. Pray for your child's quiet times.

Pray for your child as he spends time with God. You can purchase a Bible and model behavior, but only God can ignite the heart of your child with passion for Himself.



## faith church

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### Kids @ Faith — Making disciples one child at a time

We love kids at Faith Church! The mission of our Children's Ministry is to make disciples one child at a time. We are grateful for the opportunity to partner with parents in this all-important responsibility.

The Children's Ministry exists to partner with parents as together we lay the spiritual foundation where real transformation takes place in the lives of the preschoolers and elementary children who attend our ministries at Faith Church. Our purpose is for children to experience a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ and grow in that relationship as reproducing disciples of the Lord Jesus. We desire that each child come to the place where he or she chooses to imitate the whole life of Christ by being in communion with God, in community with others, and on mission with Christ.



**KIDS @ FAITH**  
Making disciples one child at a time

### Upcoming Events



**December 4, 2015,  
6:30-9:00 p.m.**  
Advance registration required—Please make as soon as possible (but no later than the deadline of noon on Tuesday, December 1)

See page 1 for complete information.

**Funny Munny Store —  
December  
13, 2015,  
after each  
Sunday  
School hour**



**Assembly of  
Christmas Eve  
Gift Bags for  
Pebble Brook  
Apartments —**

**December 20, 2015, during  
each Sunday School hour in  
Elementary classes**



**Christmas Eve Gift Bag  
Giveaway at Pebble Brooke  
Apartments — December  
24, 2015, at 10 a.m.**

Join other children's ministry families to hang Christmas Eve gift bags on doorknobs at the Pebble Brooke Apartments



**Christmas Eve Service —  
December 24, 2015, 7 p.m.**  
One Christmas Eve Service with childcare provided for 4-year-olds and younger.



**No Sunday School for 3s  
through Elementary Grades  
— December 27, 2015**

Childcare will be provided for Nursery-age children (infants through 2 years) and for Special Friends during both services, but there will not be any Sunday School for children from 3-years-old through 6th grade



**Family Roller Skating —  
December 27, 2015, 5-7 p.m.**

We are hosting a skate party at Castle Skateland in Loveland. Come enjoy skating and fellowship with other Faith Church families. Bring your skates or rent some there.