

November 2018

parenting CHRISTIAN kids



Worship at RLC

Saturday @ 5:00
Traditional, relaxed

Sunday @ 8:00
Contemplative w/
Communion

Sunday @ 9:00
Traditional

Sunday @ 11:00
Praise and Worship

www.rosevillelutheran.org

Help Your Kids Develop a Heart for Service

POWERSOURCE

ASK JESUS:

1. To help you incorporate service into your family's "culture."
2. To broaden your ideas about what constitutes service—and how your kids can serve.
3. To help your family members find joy in serving others.

Despite being the One True God and the King of kings, Jesus humbled himself to become our Savior. By serving us here on earth, Jesus modeled how we are to lovingly serve others.

Serving is a privilege—one people of all ages can engage in daily. Major projects and trips aren't required!

When we teach children to serve, we're also teaching them to become servants for life. That's because kids who serve become adults who serve.

Consider these findings from the Independent Sector.

Two-thirds of adult volunteers began serving as children.

Adults who volunteered as children give more money and volunteer more time than adults who began serving later in life.

Across incomes and age groups, people who volunteered as children give and volunteer more than those who didn't.

Those who volunteered as youth and whose parents volunteered became the most generous adults when it comes to giving their time.

This month, as your family focuses on thankfulness and blessings, put your faith and gratitude into action by serving each other—and Jesus.

Read on for fun, practical ways to build serving into everyday life.

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TEACHABLE MOMENTS

Color Me Happy

You'll need new coloring books, crayons to use, and new boxes of crayons to give away.

Read aloud Acts 9:36-39 and discuss how Tabitha was always doing kind things for others and helping poor people. Say: **We can do something kind and colorful for children in need.** Talk about why kids might be in the hospital, as well as any experiences your family members and friends have had with illness or surgery.

Give each family member a coloring book. Say: **Serving other people adds color and joy to their lives, especially when they're going through a tough time. Let's make special gifts for kids in the hospital.**

Have family members each color the first page of their book and write a short message to the child who will receive it. (Younger kids may need help.) Together, pray for the recipients and then deliver the coloring books—along with new boxes of crayons—to a local hospital.

Parents Night Out!!

Friday night, Nov 30th from 6-9:00 pm you can drop off your kids, ages 12 months-10 years old at RLC for an evening out or just relaxation at home. We will have youth at church to care for the kids, with fun crafts and activities planned for the evening! Advance Registration is necessary to know how many caregivers we need! Email Julie Hanson at Jhan-son@rosevillelutheran.org to register your kids.

Cost is \$20 per child, \$50 per family. All proceeds benefit the scholarship fund for youth to attend camps and trips.

Make Serving a Way of Life

Fitting big service events into busy family schedules isn't always possible. The good news is that not every service project must be "XXL." The truth is, Jesus loves and honors service of *every* size. As we model giving aid and encouragement in our homes and beyond, children learn that service is a way of life, not necessarily just a single event. Use this list of ideas to jump-start your thoughts about how your family can serve. Just be warned: Coming face to face with human needs—and helping to meet them—is truly transformational! Hearts and lives are bound to change as you step out as a family and make a difference in Jesus' name.

- Help a charitable organization prepare bulk mailings.
- Promote fund-raisers on behalf of a service agency.
- Paint furniture, walls, or items that don't need to be "perfect."
- Organize the canned and boxed goods at a food pantry.
- Gather and deliver items for people in need (examples include inmates' families and teenage or single moms).
- Paint over graffiti.
- Clean and organize give-away clothing closets.
- Sort through and organize donations given to agencies.
- Help prepare and serve food at a soup kitchen or hospice.
- Set up, serve, or clean up at any church or community event.
- Perform puppet shows, musicals, or concerts at shelters or nursing homes.
- Do yard work or general cleanup— from weed pulling to vacuuming—at any facility.
- Play with homeless children on day visits or sponsor a trip for kids in shelters.
- Visit the elderly and assist them with indoor or outdoor chores.
- Work at the Special Olympics.
- Prepare a picnic for your pastors and their families.
- Volunteer to clean the toys in your church nursery.

- Make care packages or sandwiches for people on street corners asking for help.
- Plant trees and shrubs at places that need some environmental care.
- Donate gently used toys to a group that gives them to children at Christmas.
- Help neighbors (without pay) by raking leaves, shoveling snow, putting away trash cans, washing cars, or walking dogs.
- Challenge kids to complete one act of kindness for each family member during the week.
- Read to young children or to people in nursing homes.
- Tutor or mentor children through an after-school program.
- Pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.
- Deliver cookies and thank-you notes to police officers, firefighters, and paramedics.
- Give family members a back rub (or foot rub!) after a long day of work or school.
- Pitch in together at a church work day and then grab pizza.
- After a natural disaster, donate money or needed items to the American Red Cross.
- Stock up on clearance-priced school supplies and paper goods you can donate.

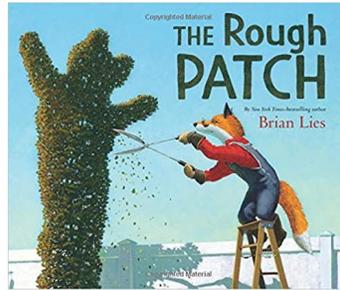
"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many." —Mark 10:45

MEDIA MADNESS



MOVIE

Title: *Ralph Breaks the Internet*
Genre: Animation, Adventure, Comedy
Rating: PG
Cast: John C. Reilly, Sarah Silverman, Gal Gadot, Kristen Bell, Mandy Moore
Synopsis: In this sequel to the 2012 Disney hit *Wreck-It Ralph*, Vanellope and Ralph embark on new virtual adventures, encountering a wide range of popular animated characters along the way. After Vanellope learns that she's royalty, she helps the iconic Disney princesses adapt to the modern, feminist-friendly era.
Our Take: With a variety of characters, this film will appeal to both boys and girls. It's sure to spark discussions about identity and friendship. Because the movie opens at the start of the holiday season, merchandising tie-ins will abound.



BOOK

Title: *The Rough Patch*
Author: Brian Lies
Synopsis: This touching, beautifully illustrated book tells the tender story of Evan the fox, whose beloved dog companion dies. Due to grief, Evan loses interest in his gardening hobby. But then a giant pumpkin grows amid the weeds, winning Evan a county-fair prize—of a new puppy.
Our Take: In a powerful yet sensitive way, this book tackles the joys of friendship as well as the challenges of loss, grief, and recovery. The dog's death is handled with restraint, using just six words and a touching image. The book, geared toward children ages 4 to 8, will help families explore tough topics because it shows in kid-friendly ways how happiness and hope can spring from sad situations.

Games, Sites & Apps

The King's Bird

Combining parkour, precision, and aerial movement, this physics-based "platform jumper" is filled with obstacles. When players "die," the screen simply fades to black. The artsy game is voiceless, with simple music. It's available for download on Windows PC and is best for kids ages 10+.

JAM.com

At this video-based learning site, kids take online courses and complete fun projects. Topics range from drawing and cooking to inventing machines. Families must subscribe, but then the videos are ad-free. Moderators give positive feedback and monitor comments. Best for ages 7 to 16.

Khan Academy Kids

The popular website for school-age kids now has a free app geared toward early learners. Children ages 2 to 5 can jumpstart their beginning math and reading skills through sing-alongs, counting, drawing, and reading. Friendly characters help make learning even more enjoyable.



CULTURE & TRENDS

Forward Fashion Personal style services such as Stitch Fix Kids, Kidbox, and Rockets of Awesome will send customized outfits to your children on a regular basis—for a fee. And Target's popular Cat & Jack clothing line now offers adaptive apparel for kids with special needs. (*various websites*)

Bad "Breath" Consuming foods prepared with liquid nitrogen can be hazardous, according to the FDA. For example, frozen treats (now common at mall kiosks) that give the eater "dragon's breath" can cause breathing difficulty in kids who have asthma. (*fda.gov*)

QUICK STATS

ADHD Diagnoses A new study reveals that 10% of U.S. children are diagnosed with ADHD. That represents a significant increase from 20 years ago. Some experts say the Affordable Care Act has led more families to seek treatment, which has led to more diagnoses. (*JAMA Pediatrics*)

Snack Facts Two-thirds of moms admit they hide a secret stash of treats from the rest of the family. Almost half of parents (48%) say their child brings home an uneaten healthy snack from the lunch box at least once a week. (*cristygreen.com; kindsnacks.com*)

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This page is designed to help educate parents and isn't meant to endorse any movie, music, or product. Our goal is to help you make informed decisions about what your children watch, read, listen to, and play.

Advent Activity Day—Nov 25th

Each year, as we prepare for the coming of the Christ Child, we hold an Advent Activity Day in Cornerstone Ministry. All Cornerstone and Luther League students from 2 years old through 6th grade will participate in creating a craft or decorative item to be used in the home during the Advent season. These are quality items that will last for several Advent seasons and you will want to use them year after year as you focus on the true meaning of Christmas. We have held this event for almost 3 decades and it is a very special tradition! This year Advent Activity Day will be on Sunday, November 25th at 10:00.

Because the cost of these items is not part of the Children's Ministry budget, we ask that each child bring \$2.00 with them on Sunday, Nov 26th, to help defray the materials cost. Please place the \$2.00 per child in the Cornerstone offering basket.

Kindergarten—4th grades should meet in the Activity Center on Nov 26th at 10:00 to rehearse their Christmas music before doing their Advent Activity Day projects. 5th and 6th graders should go directly to Heritage Hall at 10:00 to work on their projects. Preschoolers will start with music in Room 45A and then do their projects in the same rooms that they meet in for Cornerstone Small Groups. (3 year olds will go to Room 45B).

Extra hands will be needed to assist the students in completing their projects, especially at the preschool and early-elementary level. Please talk with your child's Small Group Shepherd and offer to join your child's small group on November 25, to provide an extra set of hands. It is very important that all the children have the opportunity to complete their project on Sunday, November 25. Please help to make this a wonderful experience for all.



The fun of a creation made with love to celebrate the coming of Jesus!



Candy Cane Breakfast

We are having a Special Christmas breakfast for kids ages 2-10 and the special adults in their life on Saturday, December 1st from 9-11 a.m. Fun, Food and Fancy are not usually used in the same description as kids, but this breakfast will be memorable! Wear your Christmas best and dine at our fancy tables. Limited seating, reservations required! Beginning Sunday, Oct 21st register online by going to the RLC webpage. Tickets are \$8. This special breakfast is designed with kids in mind!



Crazy Socks Sunday!

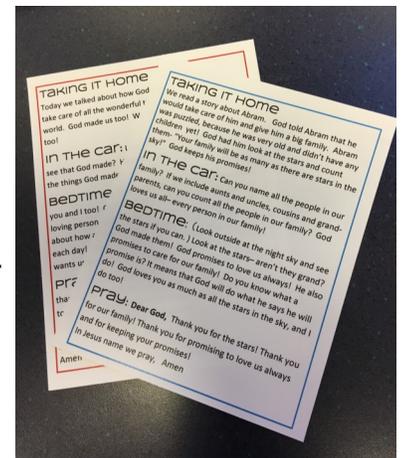
In place of Pajama Day this year, we are having a fun Crazy Socks day on Sunday, December 2nd! Wear your crazy socks and bring a pair or two of socks for someone that needs them! Kids and youth sizes preferred. Who doesn't like crazy socks?? A fun way to worship and praise God and bless others at the same time!

TAKING IT HOME!

Ever wonder how to make the messages we talk about on Sundays carry over into Monday? Use our Taking It Home cards!

In an effort to help parents continue the discussion that we have on Sunday morning, we give the kids Taking It Home Cards each week in Cornerstone. These cards give parents and grandparents the lesson that was introduced and some talking points for in the car and at bedtime. We also encourage you to pray with your child, so we include a prayer!

If you missed a Sunday, the Taking It Home cards are on the RLC website, under Children's Ministry then Educational Opportunities for Kids. Keep the cards and have your child pick one to do each night. It's a great way to infuse faith in regular family time.



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HOW TO GET YOUR KIDS TO DO WHAT YOU WANT

PARENT
CUE

Blog by Dave Adamson, Online
Pastor of North Point Ministries,
Atlanta GA

There was an article recently in TIME Magazine that revealed the results of an American Psychological Association survey showing that [a third of teenagers no longer read books for pleasure](#). As parents, a survey like this may cause us to lecture our kids about the importance of reading, but what if I told you there was a full-proof formula to get your children to read?

And what if I told you that the same formula could get your kids to clean up after themselves, eat healthier, be more responsible on social media, and even develop a practical faith of their own?

The formula is summed up in this quote by author Paulo Coelho: "The world is changed by your example, not by your opinion."

You see, as parents we can tell our kids all day long that we want them to put their shoes away . . . but if they see your shoes sprawled on the family room floor every evening, then they know you're not serious. Likewise, you can lecture your kids about the importance of reading books—you can even bribe them to read more—but when children see their parents reading regularly, that's when they're more likely to become readers too.

That's because our kids are more likely to follow our example than our opinion or advice.

It's the same when it comes to our faith. If we want our kids to have a practical faith that accepts and serves others, then they need to see us accepting and serving others—it's not enough for parents to tell their children to read their Bibles every day. Daily devotions are important, yes, but our children need to see us living out our faith practically for it to stick. As Andy Stanley says, parents need to show their children that "following Jesus makes our life better, and makes us better at life". Practical faith is something that is caught, not taught.

The old saying that actions speak louder than words is true. In fact, it's an idea that Jesus modeled.

How to Get Your Kids to Do What You Want (Cont.)

When Jesus started sharing his new perspective about God and faith in first century Israel, he didn't just walk around sprouting his opinion publicly and expecting people to change. Instead, he invited 12 young boys to follow him, to watch the way he lived 24-7, to hear the way he spoke, and watch the way he served others. We call this discipleship, but it is an idea that is so much more than many of us realize.

You see, Christians typically translate the word "disciple" as "student", which is why many churches host discipleship classes. But the Hebrew word for disciple is "talmid", which is more accurately translated as "apprentice"—someone who is being led to become just like his or her teacher.

Think back to when you were a student in school and sitting in math class. The teacher was at the blackboard passing on information that you realized you had to understand and memorize on some level in order to get a good grade or pass an exam. But this is different to an apprentice. An apprentice mechanic, for example, not only watches a qualified mechanic at work, but they are invited to do what the mechanic does, so that one day, they will be able to work in their garage.

An apprentice does not just learn what their teacher knows, they do what their teacher does.

This is what Jesus was doing when he said, "follow me"—and it's what he meant when he said; "The student is not above the teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like their teacher." (Luke 6:40). This is also what the Apostle Paul did with his friend Timothy. Paul walked alongside Timothy, discipling and mentoring him as they traveled together. This is why Paul said; "Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ." (1 Corinthians 11:1). This is apprenticeship—and this is discipleship.

If we want our kids to pick up after themselves, they need to see us doing that.

If we want our kids to be responsible on social media, they need to see us posting responsibly.

If we want our kids to have a day of rest, then they need to see us resting.

If we want our kids to read more, then we need to read more and let them catch us doing it.

If we want our kids to eat healthier, exercise more, speak politely, have healthy boundaries with technology, not get angry, or have a practical faith—then we need to model these things.

Because your children will follow your example, not just your opinion.



We are excited to invite you to our Cornerstone Christmas program this year– It's not the usual program... **It's NOT WHAT WE EXPECTED!**

Cornerstone Kids are busy memorizing their lines, rehearsing their songs. The Christmas Choir of 5th and 6th graders are rapping and harmonizing to prepare to share the story of Jesus birth with everyone during the 11:00 Worship Service on Sunday, Dec. 9th. We will use the 10:00 Cornerstone hour to get ready and put the final touches on our parts!

Our big final dress rehearsal will be Saturday, Dec. 8th from 8:30-11 in the Worship Center. Everyone needs to be here this year to make sure the **Unexpected becomes Expected!**

Costume and Prop Help Needed!

If you are able to help us put together costumes and simple props, please contact Julie Hanson at Jhanson@rosevillelutheran.org