

March 2020

parenting CHRISTIAN kids

A periodic publication for you from
Roseville Lutheran Church!



Worship at RLC

Sunday @ 8:00
Contemplative w/
Communion

Sunday @ 9:00
Traditional

Sunday @ 11:00
Praise and Worship

www.rosevillelutheran.org

Making the Choice to Be Kind

POWERSOURCE

ASK JESUS:

1. To help you be an example of kindness in all your interactions.
2. To remind your children to choose kindness in their thoughts, words, and deeds.
3. To help your family members put a stop to any bullying they may encounter.

The “Choose Kind” campaign is an outgrowth of the popular middle-grades novel *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio. The book addresses the tough topic of bullying, but the main message centers around the life-changing (and community-changing) power of kindness.

Treating other people with courtesy, care, and respect isn't always our first instinct. But as followers of Jesus, we can look to him as an example of how to interact with other people—individuals created and loved by God.

Anti-bullying initiatives in schools are making some inroads at boosting kindness, yet most kids will deal with teasing and taunting at some point. Older children may be shunned from a group, known as relational bullying.

a group, known as relational bullying. Or they may face rude or even abusive behavior online, known as cyberbullying.

By emphasizing kindness from an early age, parents raise children who know how to treat people well, tell right from wrong, and enlist help if problems arise. And by explaining the biblical basis for kindness, you let kids know the true reason—and source—behind such behavior.

Kindness is key, but it's just a start. Galatians 5:22-23 lists eight other spiritual fruits that go hand-in-hand with kindness: love, joy, peace, patience, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Read on to discover how your family can sow, reap, and bear the fruit of kindness!

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“Wear” Kindness Everywhere!

Has your family ever taken a challenge to engage in random acts of kindness? That’s an exciting way to bless strangers and spread joy where it’s needed most; however, kindness is meant to be much more than a random act. As Christians, we’re to strive for *regular* acts of kindness—habits of compassion, empathy, and selflessness that become engrained in everyday life. Colossians 3:12 uses the imagery of clothing ourselves in kindness (as well as mercy, humility, gentleness, and patience). Use these family activities to teach the value of “wearing” kindness everywhere.



TEACHABLE MOMENTS

Kindness Counts

You’ll need ice cubes and paper towels. Have family members each share a time they’ve been kind to someone. Say: **Kindness involves feelings and actions. Getting involved to help someone is the heart of kindness.**

Read aloud Luke 10:30-37. Say: **The priest and Levite may have been very caring guys who just happened to be too busy or scared to help. They may have felt sympathy, but only the good Samaritan expressed kindness. He set aside his own concerns to act and assist.**

Give each person an ice cube and a paper towel. Have them clench the ice over the towel while taking turns sharing a worry or problem (about five minutes). Then ask: **What was it like to listen closely when the ice in your hand was distracting you? How is this like putting aside our daily concerns and being kind?** Say: **Even when we’re uncomfortable or stressed, God will help us show kindness and compassion to others.**

A Kind Touch Play a kind version of Tag, with “It” using a feather to tag people out. When someone is out, another player can give them a hug or high-five to bring them back in. Afterward, talk about the kind actions on display in the game—and how your family can put them into practice in daily life.

Seeing As God Sees Play dress-up, with a few family members in fancy clothes and jewelry, and others trying to look disheveled. Model your outfits. Then ask: “Who would you rather have as a friend? Why do we tend to treat certain people differently? Has your opinion about someone ever changed after you got to know them? Explain.” Read aloud James 2:1-5. Ask: “How does God want us to treat people, no matter what they look like? How can we change someone’s life through kindness?”

The Kindness of the Cross Have people each draw a smiley face atop a piece of paper. Say: “Pretend this is your child. Below the face, draw everything your child needs to have a loving, healthy life.” Read 1 John 3:1. Say: “Caring for someone takes effort. God, our heavenly Father, takes care of us because he loves us.” Show another paper filled with lots of angry faces surrounding a cross.

Ask: “Explain whether you’d hand over your child to a mad crowd to die on a cross. God chose to do that with his Son, Jesus, so we could live in heaven with him because he cares for us.” Read aloud 1 John 4:7-10, having people stand and quickly sit at each mention of “love” or “God.” Close in prayer, thanking God for kindly sending Jesus to save us.

“Mirror, Mirror” Read Colossians 3:17. Say: “Whatever we do or say, we can represent Jesus.” Give each person an inexpensive pocket mirror. Use permanent markers to write the words of the Bible verse around the edges. Decorate the back of the mirror with words or pictures that remind you to be kind like Jesus.

Scoops of Kindness Use plastic scoops for outdoor play, or make one by cutting two inches off the bottom of milk jugs. Take turns scooping a tennis ball high in the air so another family member can catch it. Before each toss, shout out one way to show kindness to someone. Afterward, review all the examples you shared and read aloud 1 John 4:19-21. Say: “God wants us to love others, and one way we do that is through acts of kindness. We can be loving and kind to one another because God loved us first!”

God is kind to you, if you continue following in his kindness. If you do not, you will be cut off from the tree. —Romans 11:22, NCV

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MEDIA MADNESS



MOVIE

Title: *I Still Believe*

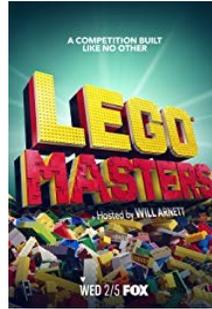
Genre: Drama, Music, Romance

Rating: PG

Cast: K.J. Apa, Britt Robertson, Gary Sinise, Shania Twain

Synopsis: This biopic from the creators of *I Can Only Imagine* tells the true story of Jeremy Camp, a young Christian music star whose first wife died of cancer. *Riverdale*'s Apa stars as Camp, whose powerful experiences with love and loss reveal God's faithfulness amid tragedy.

Our Take: For older children, preteens, and parents, this film will serve as a powerful reminder to trust God during tough times. Camp, whose hit single "I Still Believe" resulted from his personal struggles, says this movie "shows hope in the midst of pain."



TV

Title: *Lego Masters*

Network: Fox

Synopsis: In this new twist on reality-show competitions, Lego fanatics race to build intricate creations to impress judges. Although contestants are adults, young viewers will be drawn to the TV series to see how the design challenges turn out. Based on preview clips, host Will Arnett injects snark and sass into his commentary.

Our Take: This appears to be a family-friendly series, and, as a bonus, each episode stands alone well. Use it to spark discussions about creativity, risk-taking, and even deadline pressure. Ask kids how they'd approach each challenge. Then have fun together with your own building blocks.



CULTURE & TRENDS

Easing Eco-Anxiety Alarming headlines about climate change cause children emotional distress, experts now say. To avoid feelings of helplessness and despair about the earth's future, they suggest parents use age-appropriate language and emphasize taking practical steps to conserve resources. (*various sources*)

Crowning Achievement A growing effort to help end discrimination against black students is picking up legislative steam. California and New York recently passed the CROWN Act: Creating a Respectful and Open World for Natural Hair, which protects students from discrimination based on hair style and hair texture. (*thecrownact.com*)

QUICK STATS

Parental Perspectives Christian parents of minors are more likely than their kid-free counterparts to express high levels of compassion for the poor (55% vs. 48%), for criminals (13% vs. 7%), and for people who've wronged them (18% vs. 11%). (*barna.com*)

Taking Leave Though only about 16% of U.S. workers are eligible for paid family leave, more companies and states are championing that benefit. Some businesses now even offer leave for new grandparents. (*hrmorning.com*)

Games, Sites & Apps

Animal Crossing: New Horizons

The franchise's first title for Nintendo Switch heads to a vacation setting. Players get to customize a deserted island, build a dream home, and meet all kinds of new friends. Rewards for completing milestones come in the form of Nook Miles. Rated E for Everyone.

Be Calm on Ahway Island

These calm, kid-friendly stories teach emotional regulation and self-soothing. Weekly episodes, which strive to be inclusive, are ideal for bedtime. Some may balk at the mention of meditation, but the fun exercises (such as taking "dragon breaths") build helpful life skills.

Biba Playground Games

Outdoor play equipment becomes the site for children's real-life "missions," thanks to this free mobile app. By scanning augmented-reality tags in one of 5,000+ parks, players can blend digital and physical play. Reviewers say this app is a great way to get kids moving.

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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.



Look for these upcoming events in Children's Ministry at RLC!

- March 1 **Serve Sunday** for clients of Keystone! Help assemble Hygiene packs- bring in travel sized shampoo/conditioner, deodorant, soap. **Ask your dentist to donate toothbrushes and toothpaste!** Serve together on the mezzanines at 10:00
- April 4 **First Communion Workshop** from 9-noon for parents and kids 3rd grade and older. Online registration required. Kids of any age are welcome to attend this workshop with the special adult in their lives if parent feels they are ready to understand what communion is all about.
- April 5 **Palm Sunday processional** into the Worship Center with palms at 9 & 11.
- April 9 **Sample Seder for First Communion** students and their families at 6:00 in the Activity Center. This special time together gives those participating a special time together before First Communion at the Maundy Thursday Worship service at 7.
- April 10 **Family Good Friday Worship** at 10:00 in the Activity Center. This kid-friendly service is meant to help kids and their families understand what Good Friday is and why it makes Easter so special.
- April 26 **Intro to Luther League** at 10:00 for all 4th graders and parents. Find out what comes after Cornerstone on Sundays next fall when your student is a 5th grader! Join us in the Great Hall!
- April 26 **Cornerstone Family Picnic** at noon. Gather with other families for a fun and informal picnic in the Activity Center to celebrate friendships. Freewill offering will be held.
- May 10 **Last day of Cornerstone** for this school year! Celebrate with your child's small group!
- May 17 **Kids sing** at our One Worship service at 10:00 in the Worship Center!

First Communion Workshop

If you have a child that is in 3rd grade or older and feel they are ready to receive their First Communion, we have a workshop for students and their parent(s) or significant adults on Saturday, April 4 from 9-noon. This workshop is offered once each year and is open to any child that a parent feels can understand what this Sacrament is all about, geared toward 3rd grade and above. If you have an older child that has not yet gone through this, they are also welcome!

Adults and kids go to different stations to bake communion bread, open their Bibles to learn what communion is all about, do a service activity and go through what happens when they take their First Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 9.

Register your student online today on the RLC website.



First Communion and Sample Seder

First Communion is celebrated with a symbolic Seder Meal at Maundy Thursday, April 9 at 6:00. Families of those receiving their First Communion are invited to this Seder Sampler, including baptismal sponsors, grandparents, etc. This symbolic meal is representative of Jesus' Last Supper. When the Seder Meal is completed, families will enter the worship center for Maundy Thursday worship at 7:00 where they will receive communion as a family. Reserved seating in Worship is available for First Communion students and their families. Register your child for the First Communion Workshop and Seder Meal on the RLC website, www.rosevillelutheran.org. Go to Ages and Stages tab at the top, then Children's Ministry and you will see First Communion Workshop to register. Please sign up by Friday, March 27. More information will be sent out specifically to families of 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders in coming weeks.

Questions?

Contact Julie Hanson, Director of Children's Ministry at jhanson@rosevillelutheran.org.



Family Good Friday Worship April 10 at 10:00

This family-friendly worship service is always a great event to reflect on what Good Friday is and how this day can be “good”! Bring your family, friends and neighbors! It’s a great way to introduce the events of Holy Week to kids and make your Easter celebration even more meaningful!

Join us on April 10th in the Activity Center at 10:00.



Save the date for a Cornerstone Family Picnic

Let’s continue what we got a taste of last October with our caramel apple event—join other families in the Activity Center for a fun family picnic on April 26th starting at noon.

Kid-friendly food, conversation and friendship!

VBS
@
RLC



June
15-19
From
9-noon

Climb aboard for mountains of fun at Rocky Railway! On this faith-filled adventure, kids discover that trusting Jesus pulls them through life's ups and downs. Each day kids will travel to different areas to do fun activities and learn about God's great love!

Kids ages 3 years old (by Sept. 1, 2019) through the completion of 4th grade are invited on this railway adventure.

VBS @ RLC is daily from 9:00 am - 12 noon, June 15-19.

Cost is \$ 25 per child. Friends are welcome!

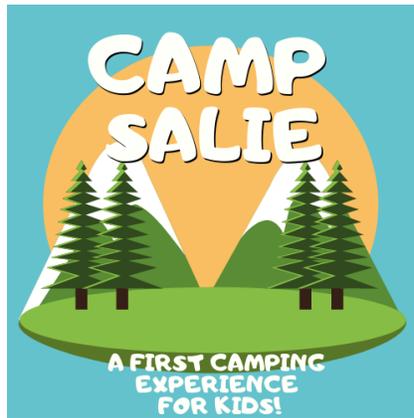
Register online today for Vacation Bible School at RLC! Register by May 1st to get a T-Shirt at www.rosevillelutheran.org

Questions? Contact Julie Hanson at jhanson@rosevillelutheran.org

Lots of volunteers are needed to make this an amazing week for the kids! If you are able to give us a morning or 3, please go online and register as a volunteer. Volunteers don't need to pay – they pay with their time!

Join our VBS team and make this the best week of the summer!

Join us
July
7-9



If you just
completed 2nd-
4th grade,
Camp Salie
is for YOU!

We offer an opportunity in July to allow kids completing grades 2-4 to experience bible camp for the first time in a setting that is close to home, located north of the Twin Cities, near Wyoming MN. Up to 10 boys and 10 girls are welcome to enjoy bible study, devotions, crafts, music, campfires, and awesome food together with RLC youth counselors and adults. It was a rewarding and very successful first experience for the kids! We'll meet at Camp Salie at supertime on July 7, and finish at 5:00 pm on July 9 to accommodate parents and their work schedules! To register and get more information, go to the RLC website, under the Ages & Stages tab, under Children's Ministry, and Summer Opportunities. Register today to reserve your spot! To make this camp happen, we need adult/parent volunteers. Please let Julie Hanson know if you are able to share a day or half day with us. If we do not get enough adult help we will not be able to safely offer this camp.

