

FIRST EVANGELICAL
FREE CHURCH

2008-2009
MOPS
STEERING
TEAM

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REMINDERS:

Please turn your cell phone ringer off or on vibrate. If you have to answer a call please exit

Babies 3 months and younger are welcome during the meeting. Older children should be in

The food drop off doors will be open again. Look for the door marked "D".

Services at First Free:
Saturday: "Alternative"
Borderlands @ 5pm
Sundays: Traditional
@8:30am and Contemporary
@10:15am

Dear God,
Thank you for the unique personality and vision that belongs to my child.



Enjoy The Ride!

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TUESDAY, NOV. 25, 2008

GIVE THANKS

With Thanksgiving coming up the day after tomorrow I have been thinking of how I am showing and teaching my kids to be thankful. Are they appreciative of what they have, and not only that but do they realize how much that they have compared to so many other kids around the world? Am I teaching them that it is better to give than to receive? I have witnessed my children not being content with what they have, can you relate? I regret to say that we have spent way too much on toys and "stuff" for our kids, only to have them shove it under their beds after the nostalgia wears off? I am reminded of the way they their eyes lit up when they received the, "I can't live without it" toy. Paige just had to have the Robot dog last Christmas; Santa spent a pretty penny on that one let me tell you. Paige really could have cared less about it; in a couple of days after she realized that it was hers, and then on to the next mission. Why can't they be content with what they already have? Why can't that joy remain within them for a couple of years rather than hours? Why can't they just be content with what they have and not always want more? A couple of weeks ago I took Noah to Sapora Play land with my nephew, and after they

played for a while, Noah noticed the toy machines and so did the group of boys that he was playing with. Once one customer dropped the first coin the effect was like dominos; every kid wanted more and more including mine. He kept asking me for more change, and then my nephew asks, "can I have a quarter?" I was like, "okay but this is my last one." Well of course Noah was one short on his goal of collecting all the shimmering, high quality necklaces in the toy machine. Okay here we go time to put my referee shirt on. "No Noah you have to let Christian have the last one, he doesn't have anything yet," I said in my most polite public tone. I'm sure that you can guess what happens after that? Yes, you're right he continues to request a quarter. You would have thought that it was a diamond in that plastic, whatever you call those things that I can never seem to get the lids off of. I was getting so embarrassed and really tried to keep my cool especially after we had just watched the DVD on anger that morning. Needless to say I didn't give in to him, and yes my nephew did get his toy. Meanwhile Noah was still begging, "I want a quarter." Noah really didn't care about anything

else other than getting the object of his obsession; in reality though I think he just wanted his way. What is it that you're thankful for this thanksgiving? How can you show your children or even everyone in your world that you are thankful for what you have? It's difficult sometimes as a mom to remember to teach our kids to be content with what they have isn't it? We are bombarded daily with the next new whatever that we've just got to own or we won't be complete. I am so thankful for my healthy kids and my wonderful husband, and for our health, but most of all for our faith that constantly reminds us that accumulating things doesn't make you happy. I try to remind my kids as well as myself, that it isn't "stuff" that makes you happy; it's being content with what you have, and giving what you have to others. I know what it feels like to want something more than anything, only to find momentary satisfaction when I finally possess that something. I hope that I can learn to truly be thankful for non material things in life, and that my kids can as well. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good! His faithful love endures forever. 1 Chronicles 16:34

Moppets Information

If you have a child 0-18 months we ask you to bring a box or refill of wipes for their classroom. If your child is 18months—5 years please bring a bulk snack item (ie. a big box of goldfish or bag of animal crackers). Please NO individual packages for snacks. All nametags will continue to be kept outside your child's room until the new system is put in place. We all know we are in the midst of flu season. To keep all of our children healthy, I cannot stress how important how

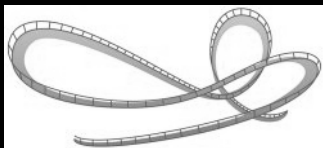
important this is, we ask you to please wash your child's hands with soap and water before entering their room. All children and staff are asked to refrain from attending when ill. Children should not be admitted into class with any of the following symptoms and/or illness; fever or vomiting in the last 24 hours, impetigo, runny nose (unclear), rashes, skin infection-boils, ringworm, measles, mumps, conjunctivitis, diarrhea, coughing/croup, head lice, including

the presence of eggs or nits. Remember to label all diapers, bags and sippy cups or bottles. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please see one of your steering team members or Teresa Hubbard. FYI - we have a pager system. If you'd like to use it is located in the baby room. Just leave your keys. If you are needed the childcare workers will page you!



Visit our Website @
www.firstfreewomen.org

“...how wide
and long and
high and
deep is the
love of
Christ...”
Eph. 3:18



Slow Dance

Have you ever watched kids on a merry go round?
Or listened to the rain slapping on the ground?
Ever followed a butterfly's erratic flight?
Or gazed as the sun into the fading night?
You better slow down, don't dance so fast,
Time is short, the music won't last.
Do you run through each day on the fly, when you
ask "how are you", do you hear the reply?
When the day is done, do you lie in your bed with the
Next hundred chores running through your head?
You better slow down, don't dance so fast,
time is short, the music won't last.
Ever told your child "we'll do it tomorrow"
And in your haste not see his sorrow?
Ever lost touch, let a good friendship die,
cause you never had time to call and say "hi"?
You better slow down, don't dance so fast,
time is short, the music won't last.
When you run so fast to get somewhere,
you miss half the fun of getting there.
When you worry and hurry through your day,
It is like an unopened gift...thrown away.
Life is not a race, do take it slower,
hear the music before the song is over.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MOPS



We are going to be having our Christmas Brunch on Dec. 9th..

You are welcome to invite a guest if you would like. If your guest has children that will be in childcare please give names and ages of kids to Tammy or Ericka, as well as your guests name so we can let Teresa know ahead of time.. Thanks!

Mark your calendars for our Valentines Dinner on Tuesday night, February 10, 2009. We will not have a meeting in the morning on that day. Bring your spouse and have him experience MOPS for one night...tickets will be sold per couple for this event. The dinner will be from 6:00 pm to 8:30pm.



Prayer Booth Reminder...

If you would like your Mops Steering team to pray for anything, we would like to remind you that we have a prayer box where you can drop in your prayer requests and we will pray for you...

Thanks so much to all of you who sold and/or purchased Butter Braids for our Mops group!!

Better Moms Make A Better World.

I believe that who we are as moms really does shape our world in such a huge way. What we instill in our children will continue to be instilled in our children's children. We have a opportunity to leave a legacy with our children. I think about my mom and the values and morals she instilled within me and now I can in turn give that to my children as well. It is so rewarding and fulfilling to see our children begin to possess those values and characteristics that are pleasing to us and most of all God. When we

truly realize who we are as women and mothers we can make a better world. I love that MOPS International exists to encourage, equip, and develop every mother of preschoolers to realize her potential as a woman, mother, and leader in the name of Jesus Christ. I remember when I first came to MOPS and I was very hesitant to come because I only knew one person. I enjoyed the speakers and the friendly people that were here. I have met a lot of people over the years here at

MOPS. I think that God has used MOPS in my life to help me to realize my potential, and also to increase my confidence as a woman and mother and a leader. MOPS helps us to realize that were not alone in this Adventure Of Mothering. We are all on the same ride so to speak and we need to hold on and not let go of our faith that keeps us moving. Andrew Murray said, "The secret of home rule: first being ourselves what we want our children to be."